Peace dominates in basketball game | Softball coach joins Wednesday, a disappointing loss for Angels

JESSICA MAURICE Staff Writer

On Wednesday the Meredith College Angels traveled across town to take on rivals Peace College. In a game showcasing the talent that each team has, Meredith ending up suffering a disappointing loss. Peace College just slid by Meredith with a final score of 56-53.

Excitement was building as tip-off time approached. Seven o'clock arrived and with the support of the Angels in the crowd, Meredith won the tip and the game was underway. Peace captured a slight lead in the first ten and a half minutes.

Meredith got a break when Peace's Brandi Williams got called for her first technical foul. Meredith started a come back which tied the game up at the nine minute mark even at 14 a piece. There were more exchanging of baskets and the first half was over with Meredith trailing Peace 25-33.

The second half started a minute left in the game with Peace having possession of the ball and the team dominated for the next seven minutes of play, only allowing Meredith to score 6 points. At the 14-minute mark Meredith trailed Peace by 11 points. Meredith started a comeback at the 12-minute mark when their offense started coming together with a combination of good ball rotation and keeping the floor open. Meredith's defense also stepped it up by making Peace wind down the shot clock which forced their shots. At the 7:25 mark, Peace's Williams got called for her second technical foul because she threw the ball at Meredith's Amira Issa. NCAA rules indicate that two technical fouls result in a player being removed from the game. Williams was removed and sat on the bench for the rest of the game. Meredith freshman Nicole Hall made both free throws. From that point on Meredith started to chip away piece by piece at Peace's lead. With

Peace was up 56-50. With 25 seconds left on the clock Meredith's Nicole Hall hit a long range 3 pointer. Peace then inbounded the ball and took it down court, where Peace's Lindy Cartwright turns the ball over and Meredith immediately time. The tensions started to amount and the fans were on their feet. There were 18 seconds left on clock and Meredith had posession of the ball. Meredith inbounded the ball and ran the clock to 3 seconds when they shot a 3 pointer and missed. The final 3 seconds ran out and Peace won, 56-53.

Meredith's next home games are February 8 and February 10, both at 7:00 p.m. in the Weatherspoon Gymnasium. Meredith College will rematch against Peace College on February 19 at 2:00 p.m. at home so come out and support the Meredith College Angels basketball team as they continue on their path toward a winning season.

Meredith College vs Peace College 1/26/05 7:00 PM at Raleigh, NC

PEACE COLLEGE 56, MEREDITH COLLEGE 53 **MEREDITH COLLEGE (5-7)**

Nicole Hall 5-15 2-2 13; Amira Issa 5-12 1-3 11; Elizabeth Murphy 3-5 2-410; Whitney Collins 3-5 0-0 6; Nicole Miller 1-9 2-4 5; Krystal Lanier 1-42-2 4; Laurie Mulqueeny 1-3 0-0 2; Meredith Smith 1-1 0-0 2; Sam Phillips 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 20-55 9-15 53. PEACE COLLEGE (7-7, 2-5 USASAC) WILLIAMS, Brandi 5-9 3-4 14; SAUNDERS, Tia 6-17 2-3 14; CARTWRIGHT, Lindy 5-12 1-2 11; SIMONSON, Michelle 2-6 0-2 5; SUTTON, Akeecia 1-7 3-4 5; COWARD. Marquida 2-3 0-2 4; WATSON, E.B. 1-8 0-0 2; LANE, Gina 0-4 1-2 1; LAMAR, (Elizabeth Murphy 2-3; Nicole Miller 1-4; Nicole Hall 1-7; Laurie Mulqueeny 0-1; Sam Phillips 0-1; Whitney Collins 0-1), Peace College 2-15 (WILLIAMS, Brandi 1-1; SIMONSON, Michelle1-2; SUTTON, Akeecia 0-1; WATSON, E.B. 0-6; LANE, Gina 0-4; SAUNDERS, Tia 0-1). Fouled out--Meredith College-None, Peace College-None. Rebounds-Meredith College 38 (Whitney Collins 7), Peace College 51 (CARTWRIGHT, Lindy 10; SAUNDERS, Tia 10). Assists-Meredith College 14 (Elizabeth Murphy 6), Peace College 13 (LANE, Gina 8). Total fouls-Meredith College 19, Peace College 12.

Meredith community this semester

ROBIN GARY Staff Writer

There's a new man in town. If you've been to the gymnasium and seen someone run by you, that's him. As a former track and cross county star at St. Andrews College, he keeps in shape by running. But that's not all he's doing here at Meredith.

Allow me to introduce Coach Jim Smith who will be taking the helm of Meredith's softball team this year as the new coach. Though this is his first foray into women's sports at the college level, Smith is no stranger to guiding a team to victory. He spent eight years as softball coach at North Garner Middle School where his team had a sterling record of 84 - 1.

Smith says he was attracted to Meredith by "the strong academics, the recruiting practices and the great staff." He remarked, "A lot of work, effort and time go into recruiting each player," and believes that the group of athletes he has assembled for this season is going to be good. When speaking of the team he says, "The ladies work hard and love to play. They also have talent."

This coach enjoys leading his team. "The best thing about being a coach is seeing my players improve over a period of time." He admits, "The hardest thing [about coaching] is dealing with different attitudes and outside influences."

His coaching style is based on a philosophy he calls, "The Three A's: Academics, Athletics and Attitude." If limited to accomplishing just one thing this season, Smith said, "I want to have a successful season where the players enjoy it and the team improves." However,

the hopes are high for accomplishing much more.

Practice has already begun as our classmates prepare to represent our school by showing their excellence on the diamond. The first game is scheduled for Monday, February 21st here at Meredith where the Angels will take on the ladies of Louisburg College beginning at 3:00 p.m. If you can clear your schedule, please take the time to come out and support our team.

When asked what he hopes his players learn this season, Smith replied, "I want them to learn that hard work pays off." That's a lesson all Meredith students can appreciate.



