Losing Streak Ends For Basketball Team

By Christian Malone

Last Thursday, the Cavalier's 15-game losing streak finally ended as Montreat knocked off Milligan 71-66 at McAlister Madhouse.

Milligan grabbed an early lead, and held it for the next 20 minutes. The Buffaloes had their biggest lead of the game, 35-26, with 3:20 left in the half. But the Cavaliers then responded with a 6-0 run over the last three minutes to cut it to 35-32 before Milligan hit a last-second shot to send the Buffaloes into the locker room with a 37-32 lead.

Two minutes into the second half, the Cavaliers put together a 10-3 run, finished by a Jason Sherill jumper, to tie the score at 42 with 15:02 left. Four minutes later, Will Mangum hit a lay-up to give Montreat a 51-50 lead. After a Milligan basket, Tim Hulse hit a three-pointer to give the Cavaliers a 54-52 lead. Montreat wouldn't give up the lead again.

The Cavaliers then built their lead to seven before Milligan cut it back to one, 62-61. With only 1:30 left in the game, Tony Robinson nailed a three from near the top of the key to make it 65-61.

Luke Tatum, a cramped-up Will Mangum, and then Tatum again went 6-6 from the free throw line down the stretch, and Aaron Gilchrist grabbed two big rebounds to ice the game. The buzzer sounded with the scoreboard reading: Montreat 71, Milligan 66.

Hulse led the Cavaliers in scoring with 25, while Gilchrist scored 17 and Tatum 13.

But on Saturday, the Cavaliers went back to losing ways, falling to Virginia Intermont 80-76 in Bristol, Virginia. The Cobras got off to a quick start and built a double-digit lead, which they held for most of the half. They went into the locker room up 18, 49-31.

But in the second half, the Cavaliers stormed back with a vengeance, and cut the lead down. Leading the comeback was Gilchrist, who scored a career-high 31 points in the game. But it wasn't enough, as the Cobras pulled out an 80-76 win.

In addition to Gilchrist's 31, Tatum scored 17 and both Sherill and Hulse added nine.

Despite their lackluster 2-17 record (and 1-7 record in the TVAC), the Cava-

liers remain optimistic. Center Jeff Sheets said, "We feel we can definitely still make the playoffs at this point. I feel we have to play .500 ball the rest of the way to have a shot, but we can do that. We almost beat Alice-Lloyd, then we beat Milligan, two of the TVAC's top teams. If we play like we did against those two, we'll win several more games."

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Mens Netters Get Underway With New Coach

By Shellie Bowser

Last year's men's tennis team returns this year, not as a club team, but as an official competitive NAIA conference team. They are headed up by new coach Rob Anderson.

Rob Anderson, the Resident Director for Davis Dorm and Student Activities Director, has taken charge of the men's tennis team.

Rob Anderson played tennis in college for The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. He also coached the Palm Beach Atlantic tennis team in West Palm Beach, Florida. While he coached, the team was in transition from being a club type team to becoming an NAIA team.

Rob Anderson also coached the tennis team for one year while they were officially in an NAIA conference.

Rob Anderson has not seen any of the returning or new members of the team actually play. He hopes to assess the strengths and weaknesses of every player and then be able to capitalize on the strengths by placing people where they will be most effective.

The men's tennis team will begin practicing in the beginning of February. The practices will also consist of weight training.

This being the first year for NAIA conference play, the tennis team starts right up with their first match in the be-

ginning of March. Due to the newness of the team, Rob Anderson will gladly allow anyone interested a chance to tryout

Anderson has high hopes for the team. He expressed, "We want to make sure over the next month to prepare mentally and physically so that we will be ready to jump right into our conference play."

The team has many returners, which will take hold of the leadership roles, and the new-comers will add more talent and freshness to the team. The tennis team adds to Montreat's competitiveness in the TVAC conference.