

Angels pull out two close games and move to 7-1 for the season

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Managing Editor

This past weekend Meredith's basketball team defeated Hood College and College of Notre Dame in two consecutive games.

Friday, Jan. 17, the Angels defeated Hood College, 82-71, after going into overtime. At halftime, Meredith was trailing Hood College by three points, but the Angels came back in the second half of the game. Ruth Stephenson's short jumper at the buzzer tied the game 67-67 and sent the contest into overtime.

"Ruth Stephenson's shot was just what we needed to turn it around," Coach Carl Hatchell said.

Leading scores for Meredith were Jenn Schwachenwald with 16 points; Tina Harkness with 15 points; Ruth Stephenson, Tracy Sumner and Beth Vernon, each with 10 points; Jessica Lineberry with nine points; and Laurie Mulqueeny with eight points.

Hatchell said, "Jenn Schwachenwald made a big difference with her size,

presence and defense in helping contain their big post players."

"We did some really good things in the Hood game but were not as sharp as usual. I was very pleased for the team to fight through the adversity of coming from behind and winning in overtime," Hatchell added. "I was very proud of our team's effort to come from behind after trailing almost the whole game."

Saturday's game against the College of Notre Dame proved to be a challenge as well for the Angels. At halftime, Meredith trailed by seven points with a score of 40-33.

"We were down seven at the half and came back to tie or lead by one point five times during the second half, only to fall behind by 10 points each time," said Hatchell.

With only four minutes to go, Tina Harkness scored a basket to take the lead. The College of Notre Dame scored only two points and no field goals in the last seven minutes of the game.

Meredith's success with free throws helped gain the lead in the second half.

According to Hatchell, the college scored 19 of 23 free throws during this half.

Tina Harkness had a perfect 10-10 and Tracy Sumner had a perfect 4-4 as well.

The final score was 83-72.

The leading scorers for this game were Beth Vernon with 19 points; Tracy Sumner with 18 points; Tina Harkness with 17 points; Ruth Stephenson with nine points; and Jessica Lineberry and Jenn Schwachenwald with eight points each.

"Overall, trailing in both games late, being on the road, and both being tight games can only help us in the long run," Hatchell said.

He also added, "I think you learn more as a team from the close games instead of the blowouts. We have a veteran team and usually the experienced players can make adjustments easier. Oftentimes, that experience can find a way to win, and this week-end we did."

The team, according to Hatchell, still has room for improvement. "If our team wants to achieve its goal of another bid to the NCAA

tournament, we are going to have to improve in our team defense and offensive consistency," Hatchell said.

He added that the teams on the schedule for this season are tough and being an independent team makes getting the NCAA bid even more of a challenge.

"We don't have the luxury of winning a postseason tournament to get in. If we falter in the regular season, our chance will be gone,"

Hatchell added.

"I feel very fortunate to have such a great group of individuals on our team this year" Hatchell said. This 7-1 start has been our best in a long time, and much of that can be contributed to them and who they are. No coach could be prouder of his team than I am right now."

SGA Corner

ELECTIONS information is now available in Student Activities.

Elections filing starts next week!

BE sure to fill out the ALCOHOL POLICY SURVEYS that are in your mailboxes. Return them in the drop box located on the commuter file cabinet.

Upcoming Basketball Games

Thursday, Jan. 23, at Averett College, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 25, at Peace College, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 28, vs. Newport Apprentice, 7 p.m.

Come support the Angels!

SUSTAINABLE SEAS: The Vision, The Reality

THE SURGEON GENERAL
"When I go down deep in the ocean
HERO OF THE PLANET
there may be a lot of unknowns, but I
QUEEN OF THE DEEP
feel comfortable about the risks.
HER DEEPNESS
-Sylvia Earle, Ph.D.

Jan 24, 2003 @ 10am, Jones Auditorium