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# Angels Defeat Peace 74-69

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The Meredith Angels beat their cross-town rivals on Saturday. Meredith had lost their last game to Peace by 20, but they were set on keeping their winning streak alive.

The Angels started the game off on a run, winning the tip-off and scoring off their first possession. Peace basketball has a strong inside presence, so the Angels knew their outside shots had to be on. And they were. The angels were hit their shots consistently, and point guard Nicole Hall was distributed the ball evenly.

Peace came into this game shooting 28.6% from the three-point range, so Meredith played a zone defense and forced Peace to move out of the paint and shoot from the outside. As a result, they struggled offensively and were unable to get into a rhythm.

Weatherspoon Gym was full of energy, giving the Angels that extra push to play harder. They felt the adrenaline and came out with more force than they ever have before. Despite the successful first half, Peace College caught up and was only down by three. Peace has been notorious for having terrible first halves, and coming back hot after halftime.

The tendency held true on Saturday. Peace came back and took the lead in the second half and the game seemed like it was going to go down to the wire. Peace College coach Kelly Johnson kept switching his players, taking advantage of their deep bench. Even so, the Angels kept themselves in the game. Elizabeth Turner scored some big threes late in the game and Caroline Hines had two important defensive stops which translated into points on the other side. The Angels made 80% of their free throws and with 10 seconds left in the game, the players and fans knew they had the game.

The win, 74 to 69, wasn't significant merely because it was against Meredith's archrivals. The victory was huge because it symbolized a turning point for the team. This season's team consists of young players who used this year as a growing experience. It was difficult season, only winning four of their games. They still struggle with rebounding, but they have more heart than some veteran teams do. The Angels came into this game, not hoping that they could win, but believing that they would. There was a fire in them when the game began, and that fire never went out. The Angels play their next and last home game against Salem College Feb. 15 in Weatherspoon Gym at Meredith College.