

Women's Basketball Edges Forward

by Amy Buckner

Behind the hot shooting of guard Erin Broome, the women's basketball team snatched a victory from the hands of the Covenant Scots Saturday night, 77-72.

The women jumped to a sizeable advantage early on, leading 46-31 at the half. During the second half the team's lead dwindled quickly with the Scots closing in and tying them at 67 with 4:21 remaining in the game. At the 1:20 mark, Broome sunk a three pointer that iced the victory for the women.

At the conclusion of the game, seniors Lisa Brooks and Jennifer Hobbs were recognized for their outstanding careers at Montreat.

Monday night, the women faced King College in Bristol, Tennessee. The team fell

to King 73-56. According to Head Coach Billy Conley, the girls started slowly and could never find their rhythm.

Forward Lisa Griffin related, "We just did not play up to our potential. We made a few good runs but just fell short."

Broome again played an outstanding game, scoring the 1,000th point of her career. Broome has played strongly for the team during the latter part of the season. In four out of the last five games, she has scored 110 points.

The team will now look ahead to the conference tournament and hope that their season will culminate in a winning fashion. Conley stated, "We are playing the waiting game now, to see where we will play for the tournament. Several important games are being played tonight including one involving Bluefield College which will affect us tremendously."

Cavs Drop Three in a Row

Gabriel Winds Down Career Setting Nets Ablaze

by Christian Malone

Despite Senior guard Aron Gabriel's setting McAlister Gym ablaze with two unbelievable performances last week, Montreat dropped three of four games. However, they clinched seventh place for the upcoming TVAC tournament.

Last Tuesday, Gabriel broke two of his own Montreat records by scoring 38 points and hitting 11 three-pointers, leading Montreat to an 88-75 win over Virginia Intermont.

Saturday night, Gabriel scored 20 and took control late. Covenant led by double digits most of the game until Gabriel hoisted the team on his shoulders for the last four minutes, and brought them back one three-pointer at a time.

Down 13, Gabriel started bombing, and the Cavs starting making big plays on both ends of the floor, chopping away at the lead. With 3.1 seconds left, Kevin Laws' baseline jumper tied the score at 64. But as the buzzer

sounded, Covenant's Jeremy Luther put a 50-foot arrow through the center of both the net and the chests of Montreat squad and fans.

Center Jeff Sheets replied, "That was a jaw-dropping performance by Gabby. He gave us the momentum we needed to come back." A tired Gabriel exhausted, "It's tough to have this happen, as far as we came back from. It hurts."

Monday night, it was deja vu as the Cavs fell at the buzzer again 64-62, this time at the hands of King's Larry Powell. Jason Baker led the Cavs with 15, while Tyrone Jones added 14 (including the shot that made it 62-62), Laws 13, and Gabriel 10.

As the seventh spot in the TVAC tournament, they'll play either Covenant or Bluefield in the first round, either of which will provide a battle for Montreat. Captain Bennett pronounced, "They're both tough, but I know we can play with either team." Coach Steve McNamara added, "Whichever one we play, we'll have a tough game on our hands."

Cavs Baseball Whips Mounties

by Christi Waddell

The Cavalier baseball team broke into the win column this weekend behind the solid pitching performances of Seniors Shane Hatcher and Jamie Jessee. The Cavs swept the North Greenville Mounties by winning 5-0 in the first game and 12-1 in the second.

Hatcher struck out a season high 9 batters in collecting his first win of the season. Coach Chaplain stated, "Hatcher really threw the ball well. When he got into trouble he just kept fighting through it. That's why he has done so well over the years."

Senior Chris Robertson led the team offensively by going 2x2 at the plate with 4 RBI's. Robertson hit a base clearing double in the second inning that brought home 3 runs.

Game 2 saw the Cavs put together an offensive outburst by winning 12-1 and collecting 13 hits. The team put a 7 spot on the board in the third for their biggest inning of the year.

The highlight of the game was Shane Hatcher's run scoring double in the 5th. Hatcher stepped to the plate after getting the call and confidently laced a double into the left-centerfield gap to score Robertson who had reached on an infield single.

"There was no doubt that I would mash the ball given the chance. It felt good to be given the opportunity to hit," stated Hatcher.

The Cavs travel to Limestone College on Tuesday and then go to meet Southern Wesleyan on Friday and Anderson College on Saturday. The first home series is March 2nd, which is also a conference opener.

Montreat's own Jon Abel will appear at Just As You Are, a new coffee house just across from Vincent's Ear, tomorrow night at 8:30.

An Editorial. . .

Can God's Grace Ever Be Overemphasized?

by Jeffrey D. Lang

In the February 8, 1996 edition of the Newspaper, Mr. Mark Wright bemoaned a dearth of law and punishment within the Montreat College community.

In Wright's estimation, alcoholic consumption and consensual sexual activity are sins, which RA's, he contends, should have the "AUTHORITY" to "act on," punish, and eradicate- in love. Wright proof-texts his position, citing Matthew's gospel 18:15-17 and the Galatian epistle 6:1-2 as the basis upon which Christians (I assume righteous Christians) are to seek out and "discipline" sinful Christians.

I take issue with Wright's intolerant and extremist contentions. One must first pose the question, "Is proof-texting ever appropriate?" Doesn't literalism always destroy the text? Further, the Biblical passages Wright notes must be understood within their historical contexts- the ecclesiastical issue of order in the first century churches. RA's are neither elders nor deacons, Montreat College is not

a church, and we are not living in the Middle East of 50 c.e.

Many moderate and liberal Christians, some of whom are students at Montreat, do not concur with Wright's implicit definition of sin as bad deeds which deserve punishment. Operant conditioning is a fine method for training rhesus monkeys and pigeons, but is hardly an adequate definition of sin in 1996. Wright asserts an overemphasis, at Montreat, on the conception of God's grace manifested to sinners in Christ. Yet, that is precisely the gospel of Jesus: grace, not law; love, not hatred; inclusion, not exclusion; and hope, not Hell.

Montreat College is maturing and evolving into an exciting future. That the college is modifying its rules and relaxing its legalistic rigidities is deserving of our approbation. Let us labor at Montreat and elsewhere to usher in the Reign of God's Shalom, proclaiming His/Her Grace manifested in Christ Jesus!

Newspaper

Editor

Zola M. Griffin

Instructor

Brian D. Fuller, MFA

Contributors

Shazette Davis, Linda Shirlen,
Queen Musengwa, Christian Malone,
Jeff Sheets, Amy Buckner,
Christi Waddell

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