FIRING FROM THE OUTSIDE

Hokie Offense Not Enough

Monarchs Blitz
Gobblers 108-48

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For the Virginia Tech women, scoring almost half as many points as a nationally ranked team isn’t half bad.

After her team lost to Old Dominion University 108-48 Friday night, Coach Carolyn Owen said philosophically “I can’t complain.”

ODU, which has lost only one game in fourteen, and that to Queens College, may be in the same division with Tech (2-1) but it’s in a class by itself in the state of Virginia.

While the Hokie faithful clamored in the closing minutes for 60 points, Tech was unable to get that last basket against the ODU reserves, exulted by the first string players shouting “defense!”

Nancy Lieberman, the 5-9 sophomore forward-guard who was the youngest member of the U.S. Olympic team, played 20 minutes, but was high scorer with 20 points. Four other ODU players joined her in double figures.

Forward Peg Bunger and center Karen Garbis both scored 18 points for Tech, accounting for 36 of the Hokies’ 48 total.

“We got on into our offense,” Owen said of her team’s performance speaking encouragingly of Tech’s offensive efforts. Not only the ODU first string, but the second line players were too much for the Tech defense.

“They’ve got some kids who can pour shot that ball on the bench,” Owen commented accurately. ODU’s field goal percentage of 57% outdistanced Tech’s 31%.

Lieberman and fellow star 6’5” center Inge Nissen sat out the last nine minutes of the first half, after leading ODU to a 28-6 margin.

Tech did not hit double figures until almost 14 minutes had run off in the half. However, they improved their shooting and turnover rate considerably in the second half, scoring twice as many points (32) and losing only seven balls, as opposed to 22.

ODU out-rebounded Tech 61-38, again led by Lieberman, with 11. Bunger also pulled down 11 for Tech.