Hokies Beat Madison

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By Carl Guastaferro

Virginia Tech's women's basketball team outhustled a strong Madison College team to defeat the Dukes 56-46.

Things got off to a bad start as the Gobblers lost their star forward, Debbie Thomas, when she severely twisted her ankle just four minutes into the first half. However, the resourceful Hokies readjusted their offense and shifted the offensive chores to Barb Morris. She responded by gathering numerous rebounds and sinking 12 points to lead the Hokies attack.

In the first half, Madison College held control of the game and commanded a seven point lead before the Hokies got on track. With Madison ready to break open the game, Tech reeled off five straight points in one minute to go in the locker room only two points behind Madison 26-24.

The second half was definitely Virginia Tech's as the Hokies tied it up 15 seconds into the second half with a layup by Kathy Hall. Tech never fell behind the Dukes again. The Gobblers pulled ahead and widened the margin to 11 points before Tech ran into trouble again. This time it was foul trouble, with playmaker Kelley Bradley branded with four fouls.

With Bradley out, the Hokies quickly lost ground and the Hokies' lead was reduced to seven points, 53-46. However, Madison could not take advantage of the situation and were held scoreless in the last three minutes of play. Barb Morris shot two free throws with six seconds left to end the game with Tech on top 56-46.