

Jan 6 Girls Basketball



Steinert's Adrianna Boucher (right) chases down a loose ball along with Hamilton's Tiara Upshur during tonight's game (Photo by John Blaine/purchase photos by e-mailing jbsportsphoto@aol.com).

Nottingham gives ND a battle in wake of Mahon's resignation

By Rich Fisher

Fish4Scores.com

Jan. 6: All things considered, not a bad debut for Lauren Kelly.

Yes, the Nottingham girls' basketball team dropped a 47-36 decision to visiting Notre Dame tonight, but the entire team was somewhat discombobulated from the resignation of head coach Leon Mahon earlier in the day.

With Kelly thrust into the head coaching role after serving as freshman coach, Nottingham hung tough with the Irish and only trailed 24-22 at halftime.

“At the beginning of the half, they had six or eight unanswered points that got the lead up to double figures,” Kelly said. “After that we went back and forth, but we were never able to close that gap. We hung with them for most of the game, it was just that one stretch that kind of made the difference.”

Captains Imani Alston and Dalia Lopez, who helped Kelly familiarize herself with the varsity plays, also helped on the court as Imani scored a game-high 14 points and Lopez added nine.

Kelly admitted the start of the contest had her a bit nervous.

“It did feel a little different, but my nerves were not as high during the game once it started,” she said. “I think at the start it was the unexpected.”

“I didn’t know how it would go. But once we got into it, we were in it for the majority of the game. For me, it became less focusing on my own nerves and more focusing on what needed to be done.”

“The girls really did pull together in such a hard time. It was very confusing for them with everything that was going on, for the freshman and the varsity. But they all hung in there.”

The loss was Nottingham’s sixth straight since a season-opening win at Princeton.

Steinert beats Hamilton for second time in a week

Last Friday, Steinert had to contend with Alexis Johnson for half a game.

This time, the Spartans did not have to worry about Johnson at all and cruised to a 42-32 victory at the Hornets Nest tonight.

The Spartans opened a 27-11 halftime lead and never looked back, as Adrianna “Boosh” Boucher tallied 11 points, Mackenzie Ewell scored nine, Gabbi Bennett added seven and Ashley Gonzalez tabbed six.

It was the Spartans second win over Hamilton on consecutive Fridays, as they beat the Hornets in last week’s ESCIT consolation. In that game, Johnson hurt her knee at the end of the half, and has now missed Hamilton’s last two games.

Steinert improved to 5-2 while the Hornets dropped to 1-6.