

BROADSIDE

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12 Home Wins and Counting

Mason's Offense Explodes in the Second Half to Defeat Northeastern 64-53



Ricky Malebranche and Reann Ballslee were crowned Mr. and Ms. Mason during halftime at the Homecoming basketball game against Northeastern.

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Staff Writer

On Saturday, the men's basketball team (17-8, 10-5) defeated the Northeastern University Huskies (16-9, 11-4), winning their 12th consecutive home game 64-53.

The game's opening play started with a steal by senior guard Dre Smith. Senior forward Darryl Monroe scored first for the Patriots. Northeastern battled the Patriots throughout the first half with intense defense causing the Patriots to go through a couple of droughts. With a little less than six minutes left to play in the half, Monroe hit a shot to end a 10-2 Northeastern run.

Mason went on a 6-0 run of their own, including senior guard John Vaughan taking the ball down the court with an easy layup and freshman forward Michael Morrison's crowd-erupting slam dunk assisted by Smith. During the run, Morrison continued the high-intensity play with a powerful block shot. The first half ended with a 20-17 Husky lead. During the first half, Mason scored 14-of-17 in the paint and kept the game close, trailing only six points.

During the second half, the Patriots came out with continued intensity on both sides of the court. Early in the half, sophomore guard Cam Long hit Mason's first 3-point shot since the second half in their loss to James Madison

University, retaking the lead after a 7-2 run. With Vaughan hitting a 3-pointer, Mason was able to score 11 points in the first four minutes.

Later in the half, Vaughan hit another open shot from beyond the arc, followed by a layup by freshman guard Andre Cornelius, giving the Patriots an 11-3 run in a matter of three minutes, extending the lead to six. The run continued as Morrison was fouled while making a baseline jump shot. Although Morrison missed the 3-point play, the Patriots grabbed the missed free throw and Morrison was fouled again. This time, he converted both free throws which extended Mason's lead to 10.

After a Northeastern timeout and a surprise engagement of two Green Machine members (Ben Pereyra and Staisy Kibart), the Huskies went on a quick 6-2 run in attempt to cut the lead. Despite the efforts of Northeastern, Mason's great defensive pressure kept the Huskies from coming back. With 3:22 left in the game and four seconds remaining on the shot clock, Monroe hit a layup, extending Mason's lead to 12 points, the largest of the night. The game dwindled down with Mason making 9-of-17 from the free-throw line as the Patriots remained in third place of the CAA.

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Sophomore guard Cam Long had 16 points and 10 rebounds which helped Mason defeat Northeastern this past Homecoming weekend.



Freshman guard Andre Cornelius defends against a Northeastern player.



Mason's new mascot, The Patriot, performs with the cheerleaders during a timeout.