

Kohawks pelt Mustangs with 3-pointers

Written by Jim Ecker

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You have to compliment the women from Cedar Rapids and Iowa City who play college basketball at Coe.

They sure can shoot the ball.

The Kohawks set a school record with 15 3-pointers Wednesday night and belted Mount Mercy, 78-58, with an outstanding shooting performance at the Hennessey Recreation Center.

The Kohawks went 15-of-28 from three-point range, snapping the old school record of 13 triples in one game.

Mickey Hansche (Iowa City High) led the way with five 3-pointers. Courteney McCrary (Prairie) was 4-for-4, Jordan Holmes (Kennedy) went 3-for-4, Aleena Hobbs (Washington) was 2-for-3 and Maddie Koolbeck (Jefferson) hit another.

Hansche holds the school record at Coe with eight 3-pointers in a single game, set last season, and she had plenty of help in that department Wednesday.

"That's basically what those guys do," said Coe Coach Randi Henderson. "Aleena can shoot it, Maddie is a really great 3-point shooter, Jordan is capable of shooting it and Courteney has always been capable of shooting it.

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"Today it just happened that all of them were making their shots," she said. "I wouldn't say that's going to be true every day, but today in the second half that was just the way it fell."

The Kohawks were 6-of-13 on 3-pointers in the first half, but trailed 32-30 intermission. Hansche swished two straight 3-pointers to begin the second half to give Coe a 36-32 lead and the Kohawks never trailed again.

Coe shot 9-for-15 on 3-pointers in the second half for a sizzling 60 percent.

In addition to their tremendous outside shooting, the Kohawks owned a commanding 50-29 bulge in the rebounding department.

Hansche finished with 19 points. Hobbs had 17 points and 10 rebounds. McCrary scored 12 points, Holmes finished with 10 points and Allie Wirth snared 14 rebounds.



"We missed a couple of shots in the beginning, but all of us kept shooting," said Hansche. "We moved the ball a lot. We had a lot of ball reversals and we made a lot of shots."

"I think our transition defense was a lot better in the second half," she said. "We started attacking the boards and actually out-rebounded a good team by a lot. I think that was the key."

The Kohawks (3-2) made only 21 of 67 shots from behind the 3-point line in their first four games this season for 31.3 percent, but they fired at a torrid 53.6 percent clip against Mount

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Mercy. Excellent shooting, strong rebounding and tighter defense led to the convincing victory.

"I think we bounced back really well after struggling throughout the first half," said Hobbs. "We regrouped and came together. We definitely lit a spark in the second half."

Abby Herb, another Washington grad, led Mount Mercy with 17 points. Herb and Hobbs, a pair of ex-Warriors, guarded each other at times and both finished with 17 markers. Christa Oldham scored 12 points for the Mustangs (5-5).

Alisa Weiland, another Prairie graduate, hit two 3-pointers and scored eight points for Mount Mercy.

COE (78): Wirth 2 0-1 4, Hobbs 5 5-7 17, Hansche 6 2-2 19, Lehman 0 3-4 3, Hayes 4 0-0 8, Holmes 3 1-2 10, Lynch 0 0-0 0 McCrary 4 0-0 12, Koolbeck 1 0-0 3, Stulken 1 0-0 2. Totals 26 11-16 78.

MOUNT MERCY (58): Herb 6 4-6 17, Oldham 3 5-5 12, Last 0 0-0 0, Zeitler 2 1-2 5, Jantti 0 0-0 0, Herdliska 3 0-0 6, Thompson 0 0-0 0, Weiland 3 0-0 8, Timms 4 1-1 9, Sexton 0 0-0 0, Dolan 0 1-2 1. Totals 21 12-16 58.

Halftime - Mount Mercy 32, Coe 30. 3-point goals - Coe 15 (Hansche 5, McCrary 4, Holmes 3, Hobbs 2, Koolbeck 1), Mount Mercy 4 (Weiland 2, Herb 1, Oldham 1).