

Champions show dominance at Rees Series



Photo by Edgar De Leon
Myjeila Velasco, senior business administration major, from team BALLBASAUR, scores a fast break assisting in her teams tournament victory against team Basket Case.

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Before the games even began Saturday night, there were no seats left at the Men's C League game. Socks 'N' Bands had the largest fan base at Southern cheering them on as they faced the undefeated Bricksquad. The fans were no help, though, as Bricksquad jumped out to a 13-3 halftime lead. Bricksquad never let the lead slip away and ended up winning by double digits; Matt Vaughn led the team with 12 points. After the game, teammate Stephen Drummond said the team wants to stay intact and they can't wait for next season.

While Bricksquad was taking it to Socks 'N' Bands, the Wrecking Ballers faced the Jumping Cats in the Ladies B League game. The Wrecking Ballers won the regular season matchup and led 12-10 at halftime. But, after the break, it was a completely different game. The Jumping Cats scored 13 points straight before the Wrecking Ballers could battle back. They were down by four with three minutes left. But the Jumping Cats expanded their lead to 27-21 with 51 seconds left, and that ended up being the final score. Lindsey Conkie scored 12 points and Olivia Robinson scored nine.

The Men's B League game featured a talented, one-loss team, Just the Tip Off, against Not Over the Hill, a collection of older staff and faculty—

including dean of religion, Greg King. Not Over the Hill looked a little outmatched in the first half and were down 23-14 at halftime. Just the Tip Off's lead went up to 27-14, but then Not Over the Hill went on a run. They scored 11 unanswered points capped off with a huge three-pointer by Adam Brown. During the run, the crowd was getting very loud, clearly rooting for Not Over the Hill. Just the Tip Off's Jim Gearing said, "I think the crowd was just rooting for them because they were the underdog."

Just the Tip Off's finally shook the cold streak with a three-pointer with eight minutes remaining. Even though they played pretty sloppy in the second half, every time Not Over the Hill would get close, Just the Tip Off's would hit a big shot. They won 41-29.

The best game of the night was definitely the Ladies' A League matchup between Basket Case and BALLBASAUR. The game was deadlocked at 12 points at the beginning of the second half. BALLBASAUR slowly built a lead and was ahead 20-15 with a minute to play. Basket Case wasn't done yet, though. Allie Gascay buried a three-pointer with 48.5 seconds left, and suddenly, Basket Case was only down two. BALLBASAUR handled the pressure well, though, and hung on for a 24-20 victory, the closest game of the night. Team member Leanne Minimo said the team

never felt nervous during the game, even though they had lost to Basket Case in the regular season.

The main event of the night was the Men's A League game in which David tried to play Goliath—I mean Zach Eller is Single tried to beat undefeated Sweaty Palms. This was no Bible story, Goliath won big. Sweaty Palms set the tone early, scoring the first nine points of the game. Right before halftime, Sweaty Palms' Jimmy Bunch threw down a monstrous dunk on a fast break and his team took a 34-15 lead into the break. It never looked like Zach Eller is Single had a chance in the game. Sweaty Palms played stingy defense and organized offense. If Bunch's first half dunk wasn't enough, his brother, Christian, threw a sick alley-oop late in the second half. After the game, team member Chris Busche said, "All season we've kind of been playing to our opponents' level, but tonight, we finally played on ours." That was clearly evident as the final score was Sweaty Palms 68 - Zach Eller is Single 34.

DID YOU KNOW? OLYMPIC FACTS

RUSSIA BUDGETED \$12
BILLION DOLLARS FOR THE
OLYMPICS, BUT ENDED UP
SPENDING \$51 BILLION.