11/21/2000 – Week #02 - The Early Non-Conference Games

Well, that was an ugly loss, wasn't it?

In case you missed it, and you didn't miss much, UM lost to Oakland University on Friday (11/17/2000) by the score of 97-90. Oakland is hardly a basketball power, and they made UM look bad. It was not a very good start to the regular season.

Here are some observations:

- It's tough to beat a team that can shoot 53% on 3-pointers.
- It's tough to beat a team that can get off 29 3-pointers.
- UM is going to be in trouble in every game where the big guys are in foul trouble.
- UM has got to get more than 3 points from Leon Jones, 4 points from Josh Asselin, 4 points from Josh Moore, and 5 points from Gavin Groninger.
- UM has got to get more than 7 minutes from Josh Moore.
- UM has got to get more than 3 rebounds from Josh Asselin.
- Avery Queen has got to practice his shot a lot more, or shoot less. So far, his shooting percentages have been: 0-5 (0%) vs. Grand Rapids Hoops, 1-4 (25%) vs. Wayne State, and 3-11 (27%) vs. Oakland. That works out to 4-20 (20%) for the year.

On the positive side:

- LaVell Blanchard returned to action after missing both exhibition games with a mild ankle sprain, and he played very well, with 19 points and 13 rebounds.
- Freshman Bernard Robinson Jr. continued his impressive play, with 19 points and 6 rebounds.
- Freshman Maurice Searight was a perfect 7-of-7 from the field.
- Chris Young scored a career-high 15 points.
- UM did fight back a couple of times, including an 11-0 run in the 2nd half.

The home non-conference schedule begins on Tuesday (11/21/2000), when UM takes on Western Michigan at 7:00 in Crisler Arena. Be there, if you can. The Wolverines also have a home game on Saturday (11/25/2000) at 2:00 vs. Wagner. See you next week with commentary on both of these games