**12/11/2006 – Week #07 – Back On The Winning Track**

**The Week In Review**

The University of Michigan men's basketball team played two games this week, and they won both of them. On Thursday (12/07/2006), they won at Miami (OH), 62-56, then on Saturday (12/09/2006), they beat Delaware State (DSU) in Crisler Arena, 70-43. The wins raise Michigan's overall record to 10-1.

The Wolverines played pretty well for most of the game at Miami, with a few slumps that let Miami get close. However, they managed to hold off Miami each time they made a run, and they held the lead for the entire game. The win at Miami was Michigan's first road win of the season, which was important to get out of the way.

The Delaware State game was a blowout, although it was fairly close for much of the 1st half. Michigan held Delaware State to 4 points in the first 10 minutes of the 2nd half, and that was the ball game.

**Game Statistics**

First, let's look at the shooting statistics from the Miami game:

| Team | Field goals | 3-Pointers | Free throws |
|---|---|---|---|
| Michigan | 21-44 (47.7%) | 5-7 (71.4%) | 15-25 (60.0%) |
| Miami | 18-50 (36.0%) | 7-17 (41.2%) | 13-17 (76.5%) |
| Advantage | Michigan | Michigan | Miami |

These stats are closer than they look. Sure, Michigan shot better than Miami from the floor, but they only had 3 more field goals, and Miami had 2 more 3-pointers. Similarly, Miami shot better from the free-throw line, but Michigan had 2 more free throws than Miami. Those 3 extra field goals and 2 extra free throws made the difference.

Now, let's look at the non-shooting statistics from the Miami game:

| Team | Rebounds | Assists | Turnovers | Blocks | Steals |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Michigan | 34 | 7 | 13 | 4 | 1 |
| Miami | 30 | 11 | 13 | 3 | 7 |
| Advantage | Michigan | Miami | Even | Michigan | Miami |

Once again, these stats are all pretty close, but the key stat was the extra 4 rebounds.

Moving on to the Delaware State game, let's look at the shooting statistics:

| Team | Field goals | 3-Pointers | Free throws |
|---|---|---|---|
| Michigan | 25-46 (54.3%) | 7-15 (46.7%) | 13-16 (81.3%) |
| Delaware State | 16-48(33.3%) | 4-15 (26.7%) | 7-9 (77.8%) |
| Advantage | Michigan | Michigan | Michigan |

The game was a blowout, and these stats show it, especially the overall field goal shooting percentage.

Finally, let's look at the non-shooting statistics from the Delaware State game:

| Team | Rebounds | Assists | Turnovers | Blocks | Steals |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Michigan | 35 | 16 | 15 | 4 | 4 |
| Delaware State | 17 | 9 | 13 | 1 | 7 |
| Advantage | Michigan | Michigan | DSU | Michigan | DSU |

Those 12 extra rebounds sure helped, but the main stat was shooting percentage.

**Individual Statistics**

Coach Amaker went with his regular starting lineup in both games, and here's how they did:

| | Field Goals | | 3-Pointers | | Free Throws | | Points | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Player | Miami | DSU | Miami | DSU | Miami | DSU | Miami | DSU |
| Lester Abram | 3-10 | 2-3 | 0-0 | 1-2 | 6-9 | 1-1 | 12 | 6 |
| Ron Coleman | 3-6 | 3-5 | 2-3 | 2-4 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 8 | 8 |
| Dion Harris | 6-9 | 5-10 | 3-4 | 4-6 | 5-8 | 2-2 | 20 | 16 |
| Brent Petway | 2-4 | 4-5 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 4-6 | 4 | 12 |
| Courtney Sims | 3-5 | 4-4 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 3-6 | 4-5 | 9 | 12 |
| Totals | 17-34<br>50.0% | 18-27<br>66.7% | 5-7<br>71.4% | 7-12<br>58.3% | 14-23<br>60.9% | 11-14<br>78.6% | 53 | 54 |

As a group, the starters did very well. Their percentages are great, and they scored a lot of points.

Individually, only Harris hit double figures in both games, although Coleman and Sims came close. Abram and Petway each had one good game and one mediocre game.

Coach Amaker only played 4 bench players at Miami, and 5 bench players against Delaware State. Here's how they did:

| | Field Goals | | 3-Pointers | | Free Throws | | Points | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Player | Miami | DSU | Miami | DSU | Miami | DSU | Miami | DSU |
| Reed Baker | DNP | 0-0 | DNP | 0-0 | DNP | 0-0 | DNP | 0 |
| Jevohn Shepherd | 0-0 | 3-9 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 6 |
| DeShawn Sims | 0-0 | 1-3 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 2-2 | 0 | 4 |
| Jerret Smith | 1-5 | 0-2 | 0-0 | 0-2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 |
| Ekpe Udoh | 3-5 | 3-5 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1-2 | 0-0 | 7 | 6 |
| Totals | 4-10<br>40.0% | 7-19<br>36.8% | 0-0<br>0.0% | 0-3<br>0.0% | 1-2<br>50.0% | 2-2<br>100.0% | 9 | 16 |

As a group, the bench players did OK. Their shooting percentages are decent, except for 3-point shooting, and they did chip in a few points.

Udoh had 2 more good games, and Shepherd and DeShawn Sims both played well against Delaware State. Smith and Baker didn't do much.

**The Big Picture**

Michigan won 2 more games that they were expected to win, although it's hard to take any road win for granted. They have one more "creampuff" (Northern Illinois), then they play a couple tough teams (#1 UCLA and formerly-ranked Georgetown), with Army sandwiched in between.

Here's the 2006-2007 schedule/results:

| Date | Opponent | Site | Result | Score | Record |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 11/02/2006 (Thu) | Wayne State (exh) | Ann Arbor | W | 85-51 | 0-0 |
| 11/05/2006 (Sun) | Michigan Tech (exh) | Ann Arbor | W | 85-50 | 0-0 |
| *John Thompson Challenge* | | | | | |
| 11/10/2006 (Fri) | Central Connecticut State | Ann Arbor | W | 60-40 | 1-0 |
| 11/11/2006 (Sat) | Davidson | Ann Arbor | W | 78-68 | 2-0 |
| 11/12/2006 (Sun) | Eastern Michigan | Ann Arbor | W | 80-51 | 3-0 |
| 11/15/2006 (Wed) | Wisconsin-Milwaukee | Ann Arbor | W | 66-59 | 4-0 |
| 11/17/2006 (Fri) | Harvard | Ann Arbor | W | 82-50 | 5-0 |
| 11/22/2006 (Wed) | Youngstown State | Ann Arbor | W | 65-56 | 6-0 |
| 11/25/2006 (Sat) | Maryland-Baltimore County | Ann Arbor | W | 66-54 | 7-0 |
| *ACC/Big Ten Challenge* | | | | | |
| 11/27/2006 (Mon) | North Carolina State | Raleigh, NC | L | 67-74 | 7-1 |
| 12/02/2006 (Sat) | Wofford | Ann Arbor | W | 83-49 | 8-1 |
| 12/07/2006 (Thu) | Miami (OH) | Oxford, OH | W | 62-56 | 9-1 |
| 12/09/2006 (Sat) | Delaware State | Ann Arbor | W | 70-43 | 10-1 |
| 12/16/2006 (Sat) | Northern Illinois | Ann Arbor | | | |
| 12/23/2006 (Sat) | UCLA | Los Angeles, CA | | | |
| 12/28/2006 (Thu) | Army | Ann Arbor | | | |
| 12/30/2006 (Sat) | Georgetown | Ann Arbor | | | |
| 01/03/2007 (Wed) | Illinois | Ann Arbor | | | |
| 01/06/2007 (Sat) | Northwestern | Evanston, IL | | | |
| 01/13/2007 (Sat) | Purdue | West Lafayette, IN | | | |
| 01/17/2007 (Wed) | Penn State | Ann Arbor | | | |
| 01/20/2007 (Sat) | Purdue | Ann Arbor | | | |
| 01/24/2007 (Wed) | Wisconsin | Madison, WI | | | |
| 01/27/2007 (Sat) | Indiana | Bloomington, IN | | | |
| 01/31/2007 (Wed) | Iowa | Ann Arbor | | | |
| 02/06/2007 (Tue) | Ohio State | Columbus, OH | | | |
| 02/10/2007 (Sat) | Minnesota | Ann Arbor | | | |
| 02/13/2007 (Tue) | Michigan State | East Lansing, MI | | | |
| 02/17/2007 (Sat) | Indiana | Ann Arbor | | | |
| 02/21/2007 (Wed) | Illinois | Champaign, IL | | | |
| 02/24/2007 (Sat) | Minnesota | Minneapolis, MN | | | |
| 02/27/2007 (Tue) or 02/28/2007 (Wed) | Michigan State | Ann Arbor | | | |
| 03/03/2007 (Sat) | Ohio State | Ann Arbor | | | |
| *Big Ten Tournament* | | | | | |
| 03/08/2007 (Thu) | First Round | Chicago, IL | | | |
| 03/09/2007 (Fri) | Quarterfinals | Chicago, IL | | | |
| 03/10/2007 (Sat) | Semifinals | Chicago, IL | | | |
| 03/11/2007 (Sun) | Finals | Chicago, IL | | | |

**The Upcoming Week**

As you can see in the schedule above, Michigan only has one game this week. On Saturday (12/16/2006, 2:00 p.m.), they play Northern Illinois in Crisler Arena. The Wolverines should win this one. Come on out and cheer them on.

Go Blue!