

Lady Hawks close out

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: QU stays calm in final minutes to put finishing touches on William Jewell

WILLIAM JEWELL 64
QU WOMEN 76

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QUINCY — With time dwindling and the William Jewell women's basketball team chasing in order to foul, Quincy University's Nikia Edom caught the ball on the left wing with no defender within an arm's length.

Heck, there wasn't a Cardinals defender within two or three arms' lengths.

So Edom did what you're taught to do when left that wide open. She shot. She

made it, too, draining a 3-pointer to finish off the Lady Hawks' 76-64 victory in the Great Lakes Valley Conference opener Thursday night at Pepsi Arena and put a stamp on one of her best shooting performances of her career.

"Any given night, it can happen," said Edom, the junior guard who scored 22 points and made 6 of 7 3-pointers. "We did a good job of moving the ball around, and I knocked down some shots."

All of the Lady Hawks did when it mattered most.

Although Quincy (6-0, 1-0 GLVC) led for nearly 33 minutes, William Jewell did its best to stick around. The Cardinals trimmed a 12-point deficit down to four with eight minutes remaining when the

Lady Hawks displayed a closer's mentality.

They went on a 10-2 run spanning more than four minutes and were strong with the ball down the stretch. Quincy committed just two turnovers in the fourth quarter and went 4 of 4 from the field and 2 of 2 from the free-throw line in the final 3:43.

"We always stay calm," senior point guard Maggie Cunningham said. "We never really got too worked up. We never got too panicky and worked well as a team."

What it led to was open looks. Edom hit a pair of 3-pointers in the final three minutes, while Cunningham made two clutch free throws.

"You have to stay focused," Edom said.

CLOSE continues on 2B



Quincy University's Anika Webster, left, pulls down a rebound over William Jewell's Maddie Nelson during their game Thursday at Pepsi Arena. | H-W Photo/Phil Carlson



Quincy University's Thomas Jackson, center, threads a pass to teammate Joseph Tagarelli during their game Thursday night at Pepsi Arena. | H-W Photo/Phil Carlson

Efficient and unselfish

MEN'S BASKETBALL: Hawks kickstart GLVC campaign with overwhelming victory

WILLIAM JEWELL 60
QU MEN 89

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QUINCY — Had Von Washington III taken advantage of the open look from 3-point range, no one on the Quincy University men's basketball coaching staff would have quibbled with the decision.

Passing up that shot turned out to be a much better choice.

Washington's unselfish play led to Jordan Wilson knocking down a 3-pointer from the right wing a little more than midway through the second half Thursday night and epitomized why the Hawks won their Great Lakes

Valley Conference opener for the first time since 2012. Quincy had 22 assists on 30 field goals and rolled to an 89-60 victory over William Jewell at Pepsi Arena.

"When you get everybody involved, it's always better," Washington said.

It's brought out the best in the Hawks.

Tuesday night, Quincy (4-3, 1-0 GLVC) beat an NCAA Division II opponent for the first time this season when it knocked off Lindenwood 88-72, piling up 15 assists while shoot-

ing 51.8 percent from the field and 65.2 percent from 3-point range.

Two nights later, the Hawks remained highly efficient. They scored on their first seven possessions against the Cardinals, made their first seven shots and never trailed, shooting 51.7 percent from the field and 48.4 percent from 3-point range.

"We see with our offense if we move we're going to get open shots," said Washington, the junior guard who scored a game-high 18 points on 6-of-11

shooting with two assists and no turnovers. "The more that we see we're going to get open the harder we're going to run our offense and the more we're going to look to shoot.

"Coach still preaches go to the basket, go to the basket. But when guys drive, you can see everybody's eyes light up and they spot up waiting for that kick out."

It's turned a struggling perimeter game into a strength.

The Hawks were shooting 29 percent from 3-point range through five games, but they've improved to 38.5 percent after going 30 of 54 in the past two games combined. They had made 30 in the first five games total.

HAWKS continues on 2B

Johnston out as Canton coach

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL: Caldwell tabbed as Lady Tigers interim for near future

By **MAT MIKESSELL**
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CANTON, Mo. — Just three games into its season, the Canton girls basketball team is under new direction.

Kirsten Johnston was relieved as the Canton coach Wednesday, and assistant coach Danielle Caldwell was named interim coach for the Lady Tigers.

"I can confirm that," Caldwell said to The Herald-Whig.

Johnston was in her first season at the helm for the Lady Tigers, who have a 1-2 record after a 63-45 loss to Monroe City on Tuesday. Canton's next game is at Palmyra at 6 p.m. Friday.

She is listed as a Title I teacher at Canton Elementary School on the Canton R-V School District website.

Canton Principal Jesse Uhlmeier declined to comment on Johnston's status as a coach or a teacher when reached by telephone Thursday afternoon.

Calls to Johnston were not returned Thursday.

Caldwell said the Canton School District will hold a board meeting Dec. 9 to

discuss the situation. One possible outcome is that Caldwell will remain the interim throughout the season.

Until then, Caldwell is focusing on the players.

"Our goal is just trying to weather the storm right now and win ballgames," Caldwell said. "It's a little bit of a shock, but we have good senior leadership and I think they are handling it pretty well."

Caldwell was a four-year letterwinner in basketball at Canton High School, graduating in 2008.

Johnson replaced Lindsay Uhlmeier, who resigned after guiding the Lady Tigers to a 11-13 record in 2014-15.

Johnston also is no longer the softball coach at Canton. In her only season, Johnston led the Lady Tigers to a 24-5 record and a fourth-place finish in Class 1. It was the second straight season Canton reached the state tournament after finishing in third place in 2014.

Johnson is a 2010 graduate of Scotland County High School in Memphis, Mo., and played softball for two years at Culver-Stockton College.

Mizzou selects Odom as coach

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Missouri promoted defensive coordinator Barry Odom on Thursday to replace the retiring Gary Pinkel as head coach.

The school said in a release that Odom agreed in principle to a five-year deal that will need to be approved by the school's board of curators next week.

"Coach Odom was the clear choice to serve as our next coach," athletic director Mack Rhoades said. "He is a man of high integrity and possesses all the qualities you look for in a successful head coach."

Pinkel announced last

month he had cancer and was retiring after the season and also had a public farewell news conference. The Tigers finished 5-7, but the defense ranked ninth in the nation, the first top-10 finish for the school since the NCAA began tracking defensive statistics in 1978.

"I'm tremendously honored to have this opportunity," Odom said. "Mizzou means the world

to me and to my family, and we couldn't be more proud and excited to be in this position."

Odom added, "I can't wait to get started."

ODOM continues on 3B



Odom
Mizzou coach