

Mount Mercy rally falls short

Written by Metro Sports Report
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MARSHALL, Mo. - The Mount Mercy women's basketball team staged a furious rally in the fourth quarter Saturday, but time ran out on the Mustangs.

Mount Mercy lost to Missouri Valley, 68-64, in a Heart of America Conference game on the road.

The Mustangs trailed by 22 points after three quarters, 55-33, but they pulled within two points at 66-64 with six seconds left on a pair of free throws by Brianna Thomas.

Mount Mercy sent Missouri Valley to the foul line with five seconds left and the hosts cooperated by missing both of their free throws, but Missouri Valley grabbed an offensive rebound after the second errant foul shot and was fouled again with three seconds left.

This time, Shanelle Tolley cashed both free throws to make the final score 68-64.

Mount Mercy outscored Missouri Valley, 31-13, in the fourth period.

Sofia Popp scored 24 points for Mount Mercy (2-7, 1-5). Thomas finished with 11 points and Sandra Mia scored 10. Popp contributed eight rebounds and four steals. Mia had six steals.

Mount Mercy shot only 24.2 percent from the field, including 1 for 22 on 3-pointers, but hit 78.6 percent of its free throws (33 of 42).

Mikayla Homola scored 17 points for Missouri Valley (2-8, 1-6).

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MOUNT MERCY (64): Brianna Thomas 4-13 2-2 11, Chailey Cabalis 0-3 8-10 8, Abbi Kinnaird 2-10 2-3 6, Paris Sheck 0-0 0-0 0, Grace Stalzer 0-0 0-0 0, Sofia Popp 6-12 12-15 24, Sandra Mia 2-10 6-6 10, Randi Wright 0-6 3-6 3, Aleah Cook 1-2 0-0 2, Kyleigh Milan 0-2 0-0 0, Taesandra Parker 0-1 0-0 0, Kennedy Fulwylie 0-3 0-0 0. Totals 15-62 33-42 64.

MISSOURI VALLEY (68): Mikayla Homola 8-16 0-2 17, Ariel Miller 4-8 3-6 12, Shanelle Tolley 2-9 6-8 10, Madison Belanger 5-10 0-0 10, Sierra Adams 1-4 0-0 2, Hannah Stephens 2-6 3-3 7, Shalina Harper 2-3 0-0 6, Payton Funk 2-7 0-0 4, Darcy Baird 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 26-64 12-19 68.

Halftime - Missouri Valley 39, Mount Mercy 16. 3-point goals - Mount Mercy 1-22 (Thomas 1-6, Cabalis 0-1, Cook 0-1, Mia 0-2, Wright 0-3, Popp 0-4, Kinnaird 0-5), Missouri Valley 4-19 (Harper 2-3, Miller 1-2, Homola 1-6, Stephens 0-1, Adams 0-3, Funk 0-4).