

Friday February 2nd VS Lakehead

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February 3, 2018

1 McMaster

Upon viewing the game between McMaster and Lakehead on the first game of a double header I noticed a few things.

The game plan against Lakehead was to play a fast transition game with lots of 3's and flare shots off of screens. This sounds like a good plan however ultimately relying on the 3 point shot was not a good idea as the team went 4-21 in 3 point shots for an abysmal 19%. The team began the game really focusing on the game plan averaging 8 seconds per possession before a shot was taken. They ended up settling down and playing a more play oriented game later on. The key for the team was the ability to sneak layups in and ultimately they were the most effective having a 52% scoring rating. The key with layups was the fact that everyone was able to do them and ultimately they were the powerhouse of the teams offence boasting 42 points off of layups alone. The percentage and the number would have been perhaps higher if Sasha Simic had not missed every single shot he took (0-4 FG, 0-3 3PT). Thankfully his defensive rebounding skills made him a great asset through out the match.

2 Lakehead

This is where I made more notes and was able to calculate a few more things. The oppositions strengths were their ability to shoot the 3 and shoot it well. Number 8 on Lakehead shot 50% from three point range and a huge part of that was the space he got. The opposition ran a clever single screen that was relatively low making it seem like the player had the intention of driving but really they were pulling up for the shot. I didn't notice this until later so it is not a full statistic but roughly 65% of their shot attempts (not including layups) were coming off of screens and allowing them to either get space to pull off a shot or allow them to drive and enter the paint. Ultimately their strength came from their shoot. With two starters shooting a combined 2-22 or 9% (0-7 FG 0-4 3PT, 1-7 FG 1-4 3PT) the team still managed to post a 43.4% FGP which is extremely

good considering how bad the two starters were. This should be considered an anomaly and should not expect such a poor shooting performance from someone who has a shooting percentage of 47% this season.

3 Random Notes

- Karim Collins has a 13.3% of drawing a foul per possession and should try to go for layups more where most fouls usually occur and he can go to the free throw line more.
- In my personal opinion I think the screens in transition for a 3 should be set higher than they currently are but I don't really have proof that it would work better
- David McCulloch is clutch with his shooting percentage going to 54% in the last 4 seconds of the play where as Miles Seward maintains near his average and shoots a mere 36% with 4 seconds or less.
- Adu-Poku's stats on transition plays are ridiculously good but I'm not really sure why or his effectiveness per touches on that play. This being said the team has a very high percentage of scoring when he touches the ball on a transition play. Will have to watch him more in future games.
- Some bench players have better stats (but not by much) all around than Danylo Kostecki. However he provides excellent spacing with the threat of an open shot being dangerous from him.