

ANALYSIS AND SOME THOUGHTS

Comparison of offense and defense stats to opponents in both 18-19/19-20

While there are some slight differences in our offensive and defensive stats between the past 2 seasons, they are statistically very similar. Our synergy rankings and ratings, both of which are based on points per 100 possessions and then compared to the rest of the Division 3's in the country, are slightly better in 19-20. Comparative statistics say we were better in 19-20 than in 18-19 even though the record was better in 18-19 and we had 2 more wins. The schedule was tougher in 19-20 especially out of conference.

Game notes analysis relative to needed areas of improvement for 1920-21

- **Rebounding Off & Def (105+117)**-This was our only reporting statistical area that we were negative versus our opponents. Even though we got a little better as the season progressed, this was the one area that obviously kept us from being a championship team. It is also an area that we potentially could be very good at. We are long, strong, and athletic and to the eye are everything a good rebounding team should be. Good rebounders have a lot of qualities that are not easily visible to the eye: toughness; aggressiveness; heart; determination-are some examples. If we continue to work on a culture based on these qualities, perhaps this can be one area that helps the program take the next step.
- **Post Play Off & Def**-Synergy Off pp100p=0.762 30% Below Average 2019-20
(66+49) Synergy Def pp100p=0.871 40% Average 2019-20

Synergy Off pp100p=0.811 30% Average 2018-19
Synergy Def pp100p=0.837 53% Good 2018-19

Post play is another statistic that we were in the negative with. These #s are from Synergy and are reasonably accurate and they meet the eye test. There were numerous notations in the game notes. The coaching staff feels that it is a weakness as well and it is a limiting factor in our offense. This is similar to rebounding in that we have players who should be good post players offensively and defensively and potentially we could be strong in this area. How to improve this is an off-season topic of consideration.

- **Offensive Execution(112)**-I will defer on this topic and only cite the following from my game notes and coaches discussions: ball and player movement; the speed of ball and player movement; passing skills; post play; ball stoppers; reading the defense; proper cuts and positioning. There were lots of times when each of the above occurred. An expression teams often use is trust in the offense.
- **Finishing Drives(65)**-We made a little progress with this but still have room for improvement.



- **Guarding the Dribble(58)**-We could be a little bit better at this especially with so many teams attacking off the dribble. The 3 other teams in the playoffs ran offenses that attacked off the dribble.
- **Help Defense(49)**-I thought this was a strength for us in 18-19 and a weakness in 19-20. Not sure how everyone else feels about this. I felt that we did a good job covering this in practice with explanation and drilling. We especially had problems with the wrong person helping and with helping the helper.

Random Other Thoughts:

1. **Turnovers**-We were pretty good at taking care of the ball in our ½ court but not so good vs pressure. We were plus vs our opponents with the assist to turnover ratio.
2. **Transition defense**-In several games we had some problems with transition def but most of them were early in season and some were with teams that ran on scores.
3. **Transition offense**-We were pretty good in a fast paced game and in transition against a lot of teams but how much better would we have been with: passing ahead more; finding the rim runner from the wing; getting the guard through the logo after scores or with defense already back; being a better defensive rebounding team; skip passing wing to wing; transitioning better into offense? In 5 of our 7 losses we played good enough defense to win the game but only averaged 61.2 ppg (not including Susq OT). In Scranton 3 and Hamilton we did not play defense well enough to win.
4. **Communication**-We were just average with our communication on defense.
5. **Drag skip pass**-What happened to the drag skip?
6. **Team focus**-As a team we have to learn how to focus and concentrate in practice, scouting, and games.
7. **Championship goal**-How close were we to being a championship team? This is a better question than three years ago when we were trying to get to .500 and the playoffs. One of the things that kept us from reaching this level was our lack of focus on the process. If better focus on the process makes us a little bit better in every area, then our chances of reaching our goals are pretty good.
8. **Future**-How does our future look. Not an easy question but some thoughts:
 - Our younger players are pretty good.
 - We improve our team and individual weaknesses-focus on the process.
 - We add some recruits, especially guards.

