

Titans can't get to line in defeat

LOYOLA-CHICAGO 70,
DETROIT MERCY 64

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The key statistic in Detroit Mercy's 70-64 loss to Loyola-Chicago on Wednesday night?

Try 21-7.

That was the free-throw disparity in the Titans' key Horizon League loss. And you can guess which team had 21.

"They shot 21 free throws and we shot only seven," UDM coach Perry Watson said of the Ramblers' 14-for-21 night. "We also had 16 turnovers.

"Those are the things I think did us in."

That and the performance of Loyola's Blake Schilb. The Horizon's preseason player of the year had 21 points and seven assists in a sterling performance for the Ramblers (12-7, 4-3 Horizon) at Calihan Hall.

He killed the Titans (5-12, 2-4) with one big stretch midway through the second half with score tied at 44.

He came through with three triples in an 11-5 run to make the score 55-49 with 10:24 remaining. On the last three-pointer, the 6-foot-7 senior put a wicked crossover move on Zach Everingham, causing the defender to lose his balance. He also had an assist for a lay-up.

"He's a great player," said UDM guard Brandon Cotton, who scored a game-high 22 points. "He's a tough cover for anybody. He just played a great game."

It looked like Cotton would have a 30-point night at the beginning. At the first time-out in the first half, he was 3-for-3 with two three-pointers and had eight points. He finished with 17 points in the first half but managed only five in the second half.

"They made adjustments," Cotton said. "They started face-guarding me ... making it hard to catch the ball."

Ryvon Covile had 10 points and 12 rebounds for the Titans. Chris Hayes had 14 points on 7-for-10 shooting.

Leon Young scored 14 points for the Ramblers.

Detroit
Free Press 201