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AEC CHAMPIONS!

KATHRYN TAG

Retriever Weekly Staff Writer

The No. 7 seeded UMBC women's basketball stunned No. 1 seeded Hartford on Sunday night when the Retrievers clinched the America East Conference Championship. This is the first NCAA Division I Basketball Conference Championship won in either the men's or woman's program in the school's 20 years playing at this level.

The UMBC Retrievers, (16-16, 6-10), defeated the Hartford Hawks, (24-8, 15-1), 48-46 at the Events Center in Binghamton, NY. Earlier in the conference tournament, the Retrievers climbed over No. 2 Stony Brook in the quarter finals and No. 3 Vermont in the semi-finals.

Coming out of the gate, UMBC looked nervous while Hartford scored first and built their lead to 7-0 before the Retrievers answered with two points from junior Morgan Hatten at 17:11.

With about ten minutes left to play in the first half, UMBC finally settled down and began making a run against the Hawks' lead. Three minutes later, UMBC tied Hartford for the first time in the game at 7:01 with two good free throws from senior Sharri Rohde.

Freshman Carlee Cassidy hit a three-point shot tying up the score again at 6:32 and went back-to-back for another three to put her team out in front (23-20) for the first time in the game. The Hawks answered with a quick lay-up from Diana Delva to bring the score within one, but Hatten came back with a lay-up assisted by senior Brittnie Hughes to



Kirk Van Zandbergen [Athletic Communications]

Top of the World: The Lady Retrievers beat the top three teams in the conference to win their first championship.

take the score to 25-22 with 5:16 left to play. The Hawks added another two points, but UMBC went into the half leading by one.

In the first half Hartford and UMBC matched each other for points in the paint with eight a piece. UMBC came out with seven points off of turnovers compared to Hartford's five. The Retriever bench came out to play and accounted for 11 of UMBC's 25 points in the first half.

see **VICTORY**, page 29



Kathryn Tag [Retriever Staff]

Emotional Leader: Senior Sharri Rohde is overcome after defeating Hartford.

UMBC participates in RecycleMania 2007

JENNI CHOI

Retriever Weekly Editorial Staff

UMBC is participating in the 2007 RecycleMania competition, a nationwide recycling contest amongst colleges. Over 200 schools are participating this year.

The contest runs for 10 weeks, from Jan. 28, to April 7. Campuses compete in four categories: the largest amount of recyclables per capita, the largest amount of total recyclables, the least amount of trash per capita, and highest recycling rate. Winning schools receive bragging rights and some get interesting trophies as well, though they will not get monetary or other tangible awards.

The event aims to foster a fair, friendly and cooperative recycling competition, increase recycling participation by campus communities, increase awareness of schools' waste management and recycling programs,

expand economic opportunities while addressing environmental issues in a positive manner, and lower on-campus waste (by reducing, reusing and recycling).

The competition website, www.recyclemaniacs.org, states that "No schools 'lose'—all participants win through their achievements in waste reduction and recycling."

Two college students created RecycleMania in 2001. In 2004, it partnered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WasteWise program.

WasteWise is a free, voluntary program in which organizations eliminate costly municipal solid waste and select industrial wastes, benefiting their profit margins and the environment. It is a flexible program that allows partners to design their own waste reduction programs tailored to their needs.

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