

All-Ireland delight for Wonderful WIT

All-Ireland Colleges 'A' Basketball Final

WIT 63
CIT 59

WIT ladies basketball team upset favourites CIT to win the All-Ireland Colleges Ladies 'A' final at the National Basketball Arena last week.

The Waterford side's only previous success in colleges basketball was a division two title in 2006.

Having defeated reigning champions Trinity College in their semi-final WIT expected a tough battle with the Leesiders in the final and they were not disappointed!

The match was a thrilling encounter streamed live on the internet by Basketball Ireland.

WIT started strongly led by American duo Katie Fox and Jazmen Boone. Boone in particular held major sway in the first quarter ably assisted by Marie Micoud and WIT went in at the end with a ten point lead.

However the Cork Ladies, coached by Irish International Ladies coach Mark Scannell, roared back into contention to lead by one point at half time 29-30 despite valiant efforts by local Wildcats player Ciara Twomey to steady the faltering WIT ship.

WIT Coach Jim Dudley introduced local talent Yvonne Corcoran into the fray in the third quarter and she repaid his faith by sinking a huge three pointer from way downtown to help see WIT into a one point lead at the end of the third quarter.

Aoife Brett and Cliona Mairtin made huge contributions in defence in this quarter.

The lead constantly shifted during the third quarter with never more than three points between the teams.

With just a minute left Wildcats star and Victory Scholar Jazmen Boone pulled down a rebound and having run the length of the court was fouled when she attempted to score. The resultant points gave WIT a two point cushion with 25 seconds remaining.



WIT Ladies celebrate their success in the Colleges 'A' Basketball Final.

Coach Dudley left his team in a full court press and WIT got a steal and Boone was fouled and went to the line to shoot two. She missed the first but swished the second to leave WIT three points ahead with 17 seconds on the clock, a lifetime in a top class basketball match!

With time ticking down Wildcats Star and Victory Scholar Katie Fox sank the second of two free throws to leave WIT four points ahead with just six seconds to go.

who brought the ball up court drawing a foul from the retreating Cork side putting her on the free throw line. Clutch Time at the Arena! Fox made the second free throw leaving WIT ahead by four with six seconds to go.

The final hooter brought scenes of jubilation as the WIT ladies celebrated their success.

Basketball Ireland President Gerry Kelly presented WIT Captain Katie Fox with the cup and Jazmen Boone (34 points) with her well-deserved MVP award.

WIT: Katie Fox 7, Jazmen Boone 34, Aoife Brett 2, Marie Micoud 8, Cliona Martin. Rachel Taheny, Yvonne Corcoran 7, Chloe Morrissey, Jane Crowley, Claire Manning, Ciara Twomey 4, Laura Heffernan.