The Lenoir-Rhyne Men's Basketball Team (11-4, 4-3) rebounded with a key road victory over Tusculum (4-11, 2-5), 59-52, Wednesday night in South Atlantic Conference action at Pioneer Arena. L-R

sophomore guard Denzel Dillingham (Hickory, N.C.), the team's leading scorer, led the way with 17 points including 13 in the second half as the Bears rallied from a seven-point halftime deficit (33-26) to take the victory.

Junior guard R.J. McClure (Canton, N.C.) added 14 points and finished eight-for-eight from the free throw line for Lenoir-Rhyne, who snapped Tusculum's streak of 709 consecutive games with a three-pointer.

The Pioneers' Darius Carter (Cascade, Va.) came off the bench to score a team-high 14 points while Keith Jumper (Lexington, S.C.) added 12 points despite the loss.

Trailing 37-28 just over two minutes into the second half, Lenoir-Rhyne reeled off 14 straight points capped off by a pair of free throws by Dillingham and never trailed again.

With the score tied at 42 at the 8:58 mark of the second half, L-R junior forward Mark Terrell (Keswick, Va.) hit a field goal which proved to be the game-winning shot.

Lenoir-Rhyne senior forward B.J. Beasley (Charlotte, N.C.) added nine points and nine rebounds as the Bears connected on 18-of-22 free throw attempts after halftime to seal the win.

Lenoir-Rhyne next plays at Mars Hill in a South Atlantic Conference game on Saturday in Mars Hill, N.C., beginning at 4:00 p.m. Tusculum, meanwhile, takes on league-foe Newberry on the road Saturday at 8 p.m.

**L-R 59, TUSCULUM 52**

| **Score by Periods** | **1st** | **2nd** | | **Total** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lenoir-Rhyne..... | 26 | 33 | - | 59 |
| Tusculum..... | 33 | 19 | - | 52 |

**L-R:** BEASLEY 9 (9 REBOUNDS), TERRELL 2, J. PERRY 7 (4 ASSISTS), McCLURE 14, DILLINGHAM 17, NOYES 4, JONES 6. FG: 18-48, 3FG: 4-11, FT: 19-24. 29 REBOUNDS, 12 ASSISTS, 17 TURNOVERS.
THREE-POINTERS: McCLURE 2, J. PERRY, DILLINGHAM.

**TUSCULUM:** JUMPER 12 (7 REBOUNDS), MILLER 2, CALL 6, FLYNN 3, NICK SPINKS 5 (4 ASSISTS), CARTER 14, NEAL SPINKS 10. FG: 19-41, 3FG: 0-7, FT: 14-24. 29 REBOUNDS, 12 ASSISTS, 21 TURNOVERS.
THREE-POINTERS: NONE.

**L-R Women Suffer First League Loss**

The Tusculum Women's Basketball Team (10-5, 4-3) handed Lenoir-Rhyne (11-4, 6-1) its first South Atlantic Conference loss of the year, 72-54, Wednesday evening at Pioneer Arena.
Tusculum's Breaira Barksdale (Baltimore, Md.) led all scorers with 16 points and hit three treys in the second half as the Pioneers snapped the Bears' six-game winning streak.
Senior guard Caroline Laughter (Hickory, N.C.) finished with a team-high 14 points for Lenoir-Rhyne, who fell into a first-place tie with Anderson at the top of the league standings.
Tusculum held a 25-19 edge entering intermission then took control in the second half of action.
The Pioneers led by as many as 23 points on a three-pointer by Jama Hammontree (Greenback, Tenn.) with 7:36 remaining for a 59-36 advantage.
L-R, which shot just 31 percent (18-of-58) for the contest, cut the led to 12 points with just over a minute left but the deficit was too much to overcome.
April McCann (Chattanooga, Tenn.) added 15 points and 11 rebounds for the Pioneers, who held a 48-36 edge on the boards and shot 51 percent (16-of-31) in the second half.
Freshman guard Jordan Hiatt (Mount Airy, N.C.) tallied 11 points off the bench for the Bears,

who were limited to just 50 percent (14-of-28) shooting from the free throw line.
In the next round of South Atlantic Conference games on Saturday, Lenoir-Rhyne faces Mars Hill on the road beginning at 2:00 p.m., while Tusculum plays at Newberry starting at 6:00 p.m.

**TUSCULUM 72, L-R 54**

**Score by Periods 1st 2nd Total**
Lenoir-Rhyne..... 19 35 - 54
Tusculum..... 25 47 - 72

**L-R:** AWURUONYE 5. BONGIORNO 3 (4 ASSISTS), KATT 1, CHARLES 6, LAUGHTER 14 (5 REBOUNDS), GUST 3, HIATT 11 (6 REBOUNDS), PATTON 3, BRINKLEY 7, MOBLEY 1. FG: 18-58, 3FG: 4-15, FT: 14-28. 34 REBOUNDS, 10 ASSISTS, 11 TURNOVERS.
THREE-POINTERS: LAUGHTER 2, HIATT, PATTON.

**TUSCULUM:** THURMAN 7, BARKSDALE 16 (4 ASSISTS), BAXTER 7, McCANN 15 (11 REBOUNDS), HAMMONTREE 9, ANDERSON 13, McMILLION 5. FG: 24-50, 3FG: 6-13, FT: 18-31. 46 REBOUNDS, 12 ASSISTS, 20 TURNOVERS.
THREE-POINTERS: BARKSDALE 3, HAMMONTREE 2, BAXTER.

**Photo Courtesy: Denzel Dillingham, L-R Athlteics**