The Lenoir-Rhyne Women's Basketball Team (12-4, 7-1) rallied from a 12-point, first-half deficit to beat Mars Hill (3-13, 0-8), 70-61, Saturday afternoon at Stanford Arena in South Atlantic Conference action. Sophomore guard Jazmine Charles

(Lexington, N.C.) finished with a team-high 16 points while sophomore guard Jenni Gust (Colfax, Wis.) tied a personal high with 15 points off the bench as L-R kept pace with Anderson (13-5, 7-1) atop the SAC standings.

Mars Hill's Ansley Ricker (Greeneville, Tenn.) led all scorers with 20 points but the Lions could not hold a 12-point lead in the first half.

The Lions jumped out to a 30-18 advantage with just under three minutes left before intermission and entered break with a 34-27 lead. However, L-R began to close the gap in the second half and finally took the lead for good at 55-53 on a three-pointer by freshman guard Jordan Hiatt (Mount Airy, N.C.) with 7:02 left in the contest.

The Bears, who held a 46-30 advantage on the boards, increased their margin to as many as 10 points late in the second half en route to the win.

Senior guard Caroline Laughter (Hickory, N.C.) added 12 points and three rebounds to go along with a team-high five assists for Lenoir-Rhyne in the victory as well. Armeka Booker (Oak Ridge, Tenn.) chipped in with 15 points for the Lions, who lost their eighth straight contest and continue to search for their first league win of the year.

In the next round of South Atlantic Conference games on Wednesday beginning at 6:00 p.m., Lenoir-Rhyne hosts Anderson in a league showdown while Mars Hill remains at home to face Newberry.

L-R 70, MARS HILL 61

Score by Periods 1st 2nd Total

Lenoir-Rhyne..... 27 43 - 70
Mars Hill..... 34 27 - 61

L-R: AWURUONYE 4, LAUGHTER 12 (5 ASSISTS), BONGIORNO 3, KATT 6, CHARLES 16 (7 REBOUNDS, 4 ASSISTS), GUST 15, HIATT 5, PATTON 4, BRINKLEY 5. FG: 29-61, 3FG: 3-13, FT: 9-15. 46 REBOUNDS, 13 ASSISTS, 25 TURNOVERS.
THREE-POINTERS: CHARLES 2, HIATT.

MARS HILL: ESPINOSA 7, BOOKER 15 (6 REBOUNDS), RICKER 20, WARREN 6 (5 ASSISTS), WARD 3, METCALF 5, WILMOTH 5. FG: 20-56, 3FG: 3-14, FT: 18-25. 30 REBOUNDS, 13 ASSISTS, 19 TURNOVERS.
THREE-POINTERS: RICKER 2, METCALF.

Lenoir-Rhyne Men's Basketball Makes It Two Straight

The L-R Men's Basketball Team (12-4, 5-3) won its second consecutive game, 80-67 over Mars Hill (3-13, 0-8), Saturday afternoon in a South Atlantic Conference contest at Stanford Arena. Lenoir-Rhyne sophomore guard Denzel Dillingham (Hickory, N.C.) led the way with a game-high 21 points and was one of four players to score in double figures for the Bears in the win. Mars Hill, still looking for its first league win of the year, was paced by Jalen Witherspoon's (Monroe, N.C.) 17 points in the loss.
Lenoir-Rhyne opened up a 42-34 halftime lead and never trailed the rest of the way as the Bears shot 57 percent (32-of-56) from the field in the victory. A three-pointer by Dillingham with just over two minutes left in the game gave L-R its biggest advantage at 73-54 and the Bears were able to cruise the rest of the way.
Dillingham finished with four three-pointers and pulled down seven rebounds as well. Lenoir-Rhyne junior reserve forward Allan Jones (Clemmons, N.C.) added 16 points on

seven-of-10 shooting while junior guard Jarvis Perry (Willingboro, N.J.) totaled eight points, eight rebounds and eight assists.
For Mars Hill, Khouraichi Thiam (Dakar, Senegal, Africa) tallied a double-double - 13 points and a game-high 14 rebounds - while Will White (Goldsboro, N.C.) finished with 15 points in the setback.
Lenoir-Rhyne next hosts Anderson in a South Atlantic Conference game on Wednesday beginning at 8:00 p.m., at Shuford Memorial Gymnasium. Mars Hill, meanwhile, hosts Newberry on Wednesday at 8:00 p.m., as well.

L-R 80, MARS HILL 67

Score by Periods 1st 2nd Total
Lenoir-Rhyne..... 42 38 - 80
Mars Hill..... 34 33 - 67

L-R: BEASLEY 10 (9 REBOUNDS), TERRELL 6, J. PERRY 8 (8 REBOUNDS, 8 ASSISTS), McCLURE 4, DILLINGHAM 21, W. PERRY 3, NOYES 10, JONES 16, CROUCH 2. FG: 32-56, 3FG: 5-13, FT: 11-18. 38 REBOUNDS, 21 ASSISTS, 17 TURNOVERS.
THREE-POINTERS: DILLINGHAM 4, McCLURE.

MARS HILL: THIAM 13 (14 REBOUNDS), WHITE 15, HAYNES 3, WRIGHT 5, HOLT 7, WITHERSPOON 17, TATE 4, FIELDS 3. FG: 24-55, 3FG: 8-18, FT: 11-20. FG: 26

REBOUNDS, 14 ASSISTS, 15 TURNOVERS.
THREE-POINTERS: WHITE 2, HOLT 2, WITHERSPOON 2, FIELDS, WRIGHT.

Photo Courtesy: Jazmine Charles, L-R Athletics