L-R Women Pull Into First-Place Tie

Written by Staff Reports Saturday, 09 February 2013 21:22

The Lenoir-Rhyne Women's Basketball Team (14-6, 9-3) moved back into a first-place tie at the top of the South Atlantic Conference standings after picking up a 55-49 road victory over Carson-Newman (12-7, 6-6) Saturday afternoon at Holt Fieldhouse.

L-R junior forward Nneka Awuruonye (Charlotte, N.C.) led all scorers with 14 points in addition to nine rebounds while junior guard Krystal Patton (Chilhowie, Va.) added 13 points and hit all 11 of her free throw attempts as the Bears swept the season series from the Eagles. Carson-Newman was held without a player in double figures but Courdne Miles (Burlington, N.C.) did score nine points in the losing effort. L-R fell behind a 23-15 score at intermission and trailed by as many as 10 points early in the second half before mounting the comeback in the win.

A pair of free throws by Patton with 15:11 remaining gave the Bears a 30-25 lead and finished off a 15-0 run by Lenoir-Rhyne and the visitors never trailed again.

Holding a 51-49 advantage with five seconds remaining, Awuruonye and Patton both hit a pair of free throws, respectively, to increase L-R's final margin to six points.

Lenoir-Rhyne limited Carson-Newman to just 32 percent shooting (19-of-60) for the game and held a 51-27 advantage on the boards en route to its second straight victory.

Lenoir-Rhyne remains on the road to face Catawba in a South Atlantic Conference contest Wednesday in Salisbury, N.C., beginning at 6:00 p.m. Carson-Newman, meanwhile, stays at home to take on Mars Hill in a league contest Wednesday at 6:00 p.m., as well.

L-R 55, CARSON-NEWMAN 49

Score by Periods

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L-R: MITCHELL 6, PATTON 13 (3 ASSISTS), AWURUONYE 14 (9 REBOUNDS), CHARLES 8, LAUGHTER 6, BONGIORNO 2, KATT 2, HIATT 3, BRINKLEY 1. FG: 14-42, 3FG: 3-9, FT: 24-31. 51 REBOUNDS, 7 ASSISTS, 25 TURNOVERS.

THREE-POINTERS: CHARLES 2, LAUGHTER.

CARSON-NEWMAN: BROWN 7 (9 REBOUNDS), McLAUGHLIN 3, BURSTROM 6, JAMES 4, MILES 9, MILLER 1, PEACHER 6, MARKUS 5, MOODY 8. FG: 19-60, 3FG: 3-14, FT: 8-19. 27 REBOUNDS, 8 ASSISTS, 11 TURNOVERS.

THREE-POINTERS: McLAUGHLIN, MARKUS, MOODY.

SANDERS' THREE DOWNS BEARS

The Carson-Newman Men's Basketball Team (16-4, 9-3) won its fifth straight game with a 61-58 victory over Lenoir-Rhyne (14-6, 7-5) Saturday afternoon in a South Atlantic Conference contest at Holt Fieldhouse.

The Eagles' Ishmael Sanders (Cleveland, Tenn.) hit a three-pointer with one second left to break a 58-58 tie and lift Carson-Newman to the win.

Sanders finished with a team-high 19 points and five treys while Antoine Davis (Rustburg, Va.) added 16 points as the Eagles remained a game out of first place in the league standings. L-R junior guard R.J. McClure (Canton, N.C.) led all scorers with 22 points but the Bears suffered their second straight defeat. McClure also hit three treys and connected on all seven of his free throw attempts in the losing effort.

Junior guard Denzel Dillingham (Hickory, N.C.), the team's leading scorer for the season, added 11 points and junior forward Mark Terrell (Keswick, Va.) finished with 10 points in the setback for the Bears.

Carson-Newman totaled nine three-pointers in the game, which featured five ties and six lead

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changes. The Eagles also shot 52 percent (12-of-23) from the floor in the second half. On Wednesday night at 8:00 p.m., Lenoir-Rhyne plays Catawba in Salisbury, N.C., while Carson-Newman hosts Mars Hill in the next round of South Atlantic Conference games.

CARSON-NEWMAN 61, L-R 58

L-R: J.PERRY 7 (5 REBOUNDS, 3 ASSISTS), McCLURE 22, DILLINGHAM 11, BEASLEY 4, TERRELL 10, KUNZ 4. FG: 21-53, 3FG: 4-20, FT: 12-12. 31 REBOUNDS, 8 ASSISTS, 12 TURNOVERS.

THREE-POINTERS: McCLURE 3, DILLINGHAM.

CARSON-NEWMAN: JOHNSON 2, HENEGAR 9 (7 REBOUNDS), BROOKS 6, DAVIS 16, SANDERS 19, PEREZ 2 (5 ASSISTS), CRANE 7. FG: 21-44, 3FG: 9-23, FT: 10-13. 27 REBOUNDS, 10 ASSISTS, 10 TURNOVERS.

THREE-POINTERS: SANDERS 5, DAVIS 2, CRANE, HENEGAR.

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Photo Courtesy: Krystal Patton, L-R Athletics