

Bears Open Regional Play Tonight Against USC Aiken

Written by Staff Reports
Friday, 15 March 2013 07:29

For the fourth time in school history, the Lenoir-Rhyne Women's Basketball Team has punched a ticket to the NCAA Division II Playoffs. L-R (19-9) has qualified for the 2013 Southeast Regional Tournament and will face USC Aiken (21-7) in the first round on Friday at 8:00 p.m.

The regional tournament takes place at Clayton State University's Athletics & Fitness Center in Morrow, Ga. The Bears are the fourth seed while the Pacers are seeded fifth.

The winner will take on the winner of the opening-round contest between top-seeded Clayton State (29-0) and Mount Olive (18-11), the eighth seed, in the semifinals on Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

The regional championship game is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., on Monday night.

Lenoir-Rhyne is making its first trip to the playoffs in three years and qualified for the national tournament in 2003, 2009 and 2010 as well.

The Bears are led this year by sophomore guard Jazmine Charles (Lexington, N.C.), the team's leading scorer at 11.1 points per outing.

Charles, a 2012-13 All-South Atlantic Conference First-Team honoree, also hit a team-leading 40 three-pointers while the Bears' defense has limited their opponents a league-best 55.9 points per game.

USC Aiken, a member of the Peach Belt Conference, won its first 12 games of the year and was ranked as high as No. 3 in the nation this year.

The Pacers are led by Daniela Tarailo (a team-leading 14.7 ppg), an All-Peach Belt Conference and All-Southeast Region selection.

Tickets for the women's basketball regional event are \$8.00 for general admission and students with a valid college ID are \$3.00 Children under the age of two are admitted free.

The winner of the regional tournament will earn a berth to the 2013 NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Elite Eight in San Antonio, Texas, at the Bill Greehey Arena on March 26-29.

2013 NCAA Division II Southeast Regional Women's Basketball Tournament Morrow, Ga. - Clayton State University, host Athletics & Fitness Center Friday, March 15 - First Round

No. 6 Pfeiffer (24-6) vs. No. 3 Anderson (23-8), 1 p.m.

No. 7 Barton (21-7) vs. No. 2 Limestone (25-3), 3 p.m.

No. 8 Mount Olive (18-11) at No. 1 Clayton State (29-0), 6 p.m.

No. 5 USC Aiken (21-7) vs. No. 4 Lenoir-Rhyne (19-9), 8 p.m.

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Saturday, March 16 - Regional Semifinals

Pfeiffer-Anderson winner vs. Barton-Limestone winner, 5 p.m.

Mount Olive-Clayton State winner vs. USC Aiken-Lenoir-Rhyne winner, 7 p.m.

Monday, March 18

Regional Championship, 7 p.m.

Photo Courtesy: Jazmine Charles, L-R Athletics