

Bears Rally To Beat Mars Hill, 66-61

Written by Staff Reports

Saturday, 28 January 2012 18:04

The Lenoir-Rhyne Women's Basketball Team (14-5, 6-4) rallied from a 16-point, second-half deficit to defeat Mars Hill (10-9, 3-7), 66-61, Saturday afternoon in a South Atlantic Conference game at Stanford Arena.

L-R senior guard Cameron Sealey (Mount Holly, N.C.) led all scorers with

23 points and hit all 12 free throw attempts while sophomore guard Krystal Patton (Chilhowie, Va.) added 16 points and finished 11-for-12 from the charity stripe as the Bears completed the season sweep of the Lions.

Mars Hill was led by Jackie Simon (Hackensack, N.J.) with a team-high 14 points while Armeka Booker (Oak Ridge, Tenn.) and Kristen Metcalf (Black Mountain, N.C.) added 11 points each in the loss.

Lenoir-Rhyne jumped out to an 11-4 lead on a lay-up by junior guard Whitley Culler (Mount Airy, N.C.) just 4:31 into the contest before Mars Hill took control with a 25-6 run.

Mars Hill held a 36-23 advantage at halftime and pushed its lead to 16 points at 50-34 on a jumper by Simon with 11:18 remaining in the contest.

However, Lenoir-Rhyne began to mount its comeback from there and eventually took the lead, 59-58, on a pair of free throws by Patton at the 2:34 mark of the second half.

The free throws were part of a 9-0 run by the Bears as Lenoir-Rhyne took a 63-58 lead with 39 seconds left and held on for the win.

Lenoir-Rhyne's comeback was aided by its performance from the free throw line. The Bears shot 80 percent (31-of-39) for the game including 83 percent (25-of-30) from the charity stripe in the second half.

Culler added 10 points and seven rebounds for Lenoir-Rhyne, who held a 44-39 advantage on the boards and forced 23 turnovers in the victory.

Lenoir-Rhyne remains on the road to face Anderson in a South Atlantic Conference game on Wednesday beginning at 6:00 p.m. Mars Hill, meanwhile, plays at league-foe Newberry on Wednesday at 6:00 p.m., as well.

LRU 66, MARS HILL 61

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Score by Periods 1st 2nd Total

Lenoir-Rhyne..... 23 43 - 66

Mars Hill..... 36 25 - 61

LRU: BRINKLEY 3, CHARLES 6, SEALEY 23, CULLER 10 (7 REBOUNDS), LAUGHTER 3, GUST 3, KATT 2, PATTON 16 (8 REBOUNDS). FG: 16-56, 3FG: 3-8, FT: 31-39. 44 REBOUNDS, 22 TURNOVERS, 8 ASSISTS.

MARS HILL: TUCKER 6, CARLSON 7, SIMON 14, DEAL 4, RICKER 6, BOOKER 11, METCALF 11, BUCKNER 2. FG: 21-57, 3FG: 4-20, FT: 15-21. 39 REBOUNDS, 23 TURNOVERS, 9 ASSISTS.

Photo Courtesy: Cameron Sealey, LRU Athletics