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SPORTS INFORMATION



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Lady Senators blasts Erskine, 77-49

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CLINTON----The Lander University women's team used a 50-point, second-half performance to defeat rival Erskine College, 77-49, Wednesday, in the first round of the Little Four Tournament at Presbyterian College.

Lander, 3-2 overall, will meet Presbyterian College (6-0) tonight at 8 for the tournament championship. Presbyterian, the No. 4 team in the South Atlantic Region, defeated Newberry, 75-46, to advance to the championship.

"I am seeing a lot of improvement and that is what you hope to do at this time of the season," said Lander coach Rosalind Jennings. "We had a lot more intensity the second half. We picked up our defensive pressure and that sparked the offense. Our defense created a lot of scoring opportunities."

Faye Wright, a 5-10, senior center from Abbeville, led the Lady Senator attack with 19 points, 14 rebounds and two blocked shots. Jenny Taylor, a senior from Myrtle Beach, and Shorrell Harrison, a freshman from Greenville, added 11 points each. Twynette Bryant, a senior from Arcadia, Fla., grabbed 13 rebounds.

After trailing 5-0, the Lady Senators went on a 12-2 scoring spree to take a 12-7 lead at the 15:08 mark of the first half. Erskine, however, came back to tie the game at halftime 27-27.

Lander, which improves to 3-2 overall, shot 52 percent from the field and connected on 19-of-27 free throws in the second half to outscore Erskine, 50-22.

The Lady Fleet's Rachel Rodrigues gave Erskine a 29-27 lead in the second half then Lander went on a 17-2 run to take a 44-31 lead with 13:02 left in the game.

Valerie Warren led Erskine with 19 points and seven rebounds.

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Jennings feel tonight's game will be a big test.

"Presbyterian is an excellent team," she said. "They are big, quick and well-coached. They have good outside shooters. This game will give us a chance to see exactly where we are."

The Lander men's and women's teams will host Columbus College on Saturday, Dec. 7, in the Finis Horne Arena. The women's game will begin at 5 p.m. and the men's game will follow.

The men's game can be heard live on WMTY-FM 103.5.