

MAYFIELD, Ky. – Cumberland used a 16-4 run to end the game as the Lady Bulldogs pulled off a 62-46 victory Saturday at Mid-Continent.

CU (9-11, 4-4) played lethargic until the final 10 minutes of the contest when they executed much better offensively and picked up the pressure on defense, limiting the Cougars (7-14, 2-6) to just 13 points in the last nine minutes.

Jessica Pace posted her second straight double-double with 19 points and 10 rebounds, while Courtney Atkinson posted 12 points and Casie Cowan netted 13 off the bench, nine in the second half.

Cumberland led 46-42 with 5:23 to play after MCU's Chantiera Johnson hit a baseline layup, but a Blue bucket started the game-ending run for the Bulldogs on the ensuing possession. Cowan then hit a 3-pointer from the wing, the only one of the game for the squad, and Pace made a short jumper in the lane with 3:35 remaining.

Tasia Blue added another basket and two more free throws before Samantha Harper finished a fast break with a layup and Cowan hit two free throws with a minute left to put the game away.

The Bulldogs scored 21 points off 21 Mid-Continent turnovers and shot 42 percent from the field in the second after hovering around the 30 percent mark for almost all of the opening period.

Both teams started slowly, with CU making just 1-of-6 from the field with three turnovers in the first six minutes of the contest. Pace netted the first five points for CU, but the Bulldogs went more than four minutes without a point in the middle of the period.

Atkinson ended the drought with a bucket at the 8:16 mark and the teams traded field goals until a 9-2 spurt by the visitors gave Cumberland a 25-16 edge. Cowan made a layup to start to run, Atkinson added a pair of field goals and Pace had an old-fashioned 3-point play.

MCU's Ginger Gilbert nailed a trifecta off an in-bounds play with 1:12 to play in the half and Cowan's 3-pointer at the buzzer was no good, giving the Bulldogs a 25-22 lead at the break. Pace posted 10 points and six rebounds and Atkinson added eight points for CU, while Gilbert lead the Cougars with eight points, including a pair of 3-pointers.

Cumberland hosts Lyon College on Thursday at 6 p.m. before hitting the road again next Saturday to face currently top-ranked Freed-Hardeman.

IN THE MEN'S GAME -- Chris Ferguson's 18-footer with 9.3 seconds left was the game-winner as Mid-Continent won a see-saw affair 77-75 over Cumberland in Saturday's second game.

Ferguson made 7-of-12 shots after the break and the Cougars (5-16, 4-4 TranSouth) won their third straight contest, a game that featured 22 lead changes and 20 ties.

The Bulldogs (13-7, 4-4) shot 55 percent in the second half, erasing a nine-point deficit with 6:50 to play behind 3-pointers from Michael Sweat, Kyle Upton and Daniel McFadden.

Sweat posted his second straight 20-point outing with 20 points and four 3-pointers, while Lamar Brinkley added 15 points and eight boards. Mid-Continent also shot lights-out after intermission (50 percent), with Marcus Bowins making three of the team's four trifectas in the second half.

Steve McBorrough netted 14 points for the Cougars and Bowins finished with 13.

The Bulldogs started the game slowly on offense and could not buy a layup in the entire half, but put together a 14-5 run in the middle of the period to take a 24-19 advantage. Seven different players scored during the stretch, including a putback by Ajuma Jaramogi and a 3-pointer from Sweat. Brinkley's bucket finished the spurt, but consecutive trifectas by Charles Tillman pushed MCU back ahead.

CU women down Mid-Continent, KY

Saturday, January 28, 2012

Marcus Johnson made two free throws with 1:30 remaining in the half for the final two points by either team. CU did not score over the last 2:58 of the period and trailed 36-34 at the break.

Cumberland plays Monday at Auburn Montgomery at 7 p.m. and hosts Lyon College on Thursday at 8 p.m.