

ST. CATHARINE, Ky -- TaCouya Allen scored 12 points while Jessica Pace and London Elie each netted 11 as No. 6 Cumberland avenged its only loss of the season with a 60-54 victory over St. Catharine Saturday at Lourdes Hall.

The CU women (22-1, 13-1 Mid-South) overcame a sluggish start and a big run by the home team in the second half to pull away in the final minutes.

Cumberland trailed 48-47 with 3:21 remaining before scoring 13 of the final 19 points of the contest, including five from Pace and three by Elie.

Simone Ryan recorded 10 points off the bench for CU, eight in the first half, while Josette Campbell filled the stat sheet with eight points, seven rebounds, five assists and two blocks. Elie and Pace each grabbed seven boards as well, helping the Bulldogs overcome foul trouble. Cumberland was whistled for 22 fouls in the game compared to 13 for St. Catharine (14-7, 8-6), with the Patriots committing four of those offenses in the final two minutes.

The Bulldogs led 28-23 at the half and raced out with a 15-5 run to start the second period, with Campbell and Allen both nailing 3-pointers and Briannica Tye's basket giving CU a 43-28 advantage with 14:15 remaining. But the Patriots came storming back, tying the game at 45 with a 17-2 spurt over the next nine minutes. Cumberland made just 1-of-11 field goals and missed both free throw attempts during the stretch, allowing the home team back into the game.

Cumberland begins a four-game homestand Thursday, Feb. 7 against Campbellsville University at 6 p.m. The Bulldogs also take on Lindsey Wilson next Saturday and face Shawnee State and the University of Rio Grande the following week.

The club has just six regular season games remaining before the Mid-South Championships begin Feb. 28 in Frankfort, Ky.