

Squad ties single season wins record

LEBANON -- Briannica Tye racked up 16 points six assists and five steals as No. 6 Cumberland outscored the University of the Cumberlands 43-21 over the final 15 minutes of the game in a 71-48 victory Monday at the Dallas Floyd Recreation Center.

It was the final regular season game of the season for both teams before the Mid-South Conference Championships begin Thursday in Frankfort, Ky. The Bulldogs (27-2 overall, 18-2 MSC) will take on Lindsey Wilson in the quarterfinals on Thursday at 1 p.m.

Cumberland tied the school record for wins in a season with Monday's win, equaling the mark set by the 1998-99 squad that finished 27-7 overall and advanced to the program's first-ever appearance in the NAIA National Tournament.

The Bulldogs made 14 of their final 17 shots in the contest and added 13-of-15 free throws in the final 14:50 to turn a one-point game into a 23-point blowout.

Tye netted 10 of her 16 points in the second half while London Elie, Yalonda Davis and Simone Ryan each scored eight points after the break. Elie finished with 12 points and TaCouya Allen posted 11.

Brooke Forsythe led the Patriots (18-11, 11-9) with 13 points off the bench, including 7-of-8 free throws, while Erica Lane registered 12 points for UC.

The teams combined for 15 turnovers and just 33 percent shooting (16-for-49) as well as only 1-of-9 from 3-point range in the first half. Tye made a jumper and Ryan connected on two free throws to start the second period, but Lane hit a 3-pointer and Dace Bicane had a layup for the Patriots, making it 28-27 CU with 15:48 left in the game.

Ryan's two foul shots with 14:50 left in the contest started a 10-0 Bulldog run that included four more points from Ryan as well as a jumper and two free throws by Josette Campbell. UC

answered with five straight points, three from Forsythe, but a 14-2 spurt by Cumberland later in the half put the game away.

Tye had two free throws to start the run, Elie added a layup and Davis connected on two foul shots. A 3-pointer from the wing by Allen forced a timeout by the Patriots, but Tye made a layup and fed Davis for a trifecta. Davis' two free throws with 4:02 left gave the Bulldogs a 58-40 advantage.

The Bulldogs scored the first seven points of the game on 3-pointer by Tye, a layup by Elie and two free throws from Allen. But CU netted just four points over the next seven minutes and the Patriots put together a 9-2 spurt, tying the contest at 13.

Consecutive layups by Lane knotted the contest with 8:39 remaining in the period. Cumberland answered with six straight points, including a fastbreak jumper by Tye and a backdoor layup from Elie. Casie Cowan added her second jumper of the half and Allen got an offensive rebound and hit a 12-foot leaner just before the buzzer for a 24-20 advantage at the break.