Cougars Cruise Past Presbyterian, 76-57

Junior Guard Kelvin Lewis Leads Four Players in Double Digits

box score

DURHAM, N.C. – Junior guard Kelvin Lewis scored 15 points to lead four players in double digits and grabbed a team-high nine rebounds to lead the University of Houston men's basketball team to a 76-57 win over Presbyterian in the consolation game Tuesday at the Durham Regional of the 2K Sports Classic benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer.

Playing in Duke's Cameron Indoor Stadium for the second straight day, UH jumped out to an 11-3 lead in the first three-and-a-half minutes and never looked back. The Blue hose pulled to within six points at 19-13 on Bryan Bostic's jumper midway through the first half, but the Cougars scored the next eight points and never led by fewer than 10 points again.

After building a 35-20 lead at the halftime break thanks to 14-of-29 shooting from the field, the Cougars continued to add to their advantage, hitting 59.3 percent of their shots in the final 20 minutes.

Lewis, a native of Fort Worth, Texas, connected on five of his eight shots from the field, adding three 3-pointers in six attempts. Junior guard Aubrey Coleman led the Cougars with 18 points on 8-of-13 shooting, while senior center Marcus Cousin posted a career-high 17 points and seven rebounds.

Making his first collegiate start, freshman point guard Desmond Wade score 15 points with three 3-pointers and dished out four assists with only two turnovers in 39 minutes.

Meanwhile, the Cougar defense recorded 11 steals while forcing 19 turnovers and limited the Blue hose to 40 percent shooting from the field, including a paltry 28.6 percent in the first half. Coleman led the way with four steals, while Wade, junior forward Qa'rraan Calhoun and senior guard DaShaun Williams added two steals apiece.

With the win, the Cougars evened their season record at 1-1, while Presbyterian fell to 0-2.

Al'lonzo Coleman scored 19 points, including 11-of-13 shooting from the free throw line, and added 10 rebounds to lead Presbyterian, while Bostic added 14 points.

The Cougars return to action at 3 p.m., Saturday when they play host to Western Kentucky at 3 p.m., Saturday, at Hofheinz Pavilion.

The game can be heard live on 790 AM The Sports Animal with Tom Franklin calling the play-by-play action. The pregame show is slated to begin at 2:45 p.m. (CST).

That game will be part of a busy day around the UH Athletics Complex. The Cougar Women's Basketball team meets Gardner-Webb at noon with the men's basketball game to follow shortly after there. At 7 p.m., the Cougar Football team plays host to Conference USA rival Tulsa in a pivotal game that could decide the C-USA West Division champion and representative in the 2008 C-USA Championship Game.