

No. 9 Cincinnati 76, No. 8 UCF 66 Game 1 – First Round, March 6, 2015 Mohegan Sun Arena – Uncasville, Conn.

## **Cincinnati Postgame Notes**

Ninth-seeded Cincinnati advanced to the quarterfinals of the American Athletic Conference championship for the second straight year with a 76-66 win over eighth-seeded UCF at Mohegan Sun Arena on Friday. This was the second straight year the Bearcats beat UCF in the 8-9 game of the American Championship. Last season, Cincinnati advanced to a quarterfinal meeting with UConn by holding on for a 54-52 win over the Knights.

Freshman guard Makenzie Cann had career highs with 23 points and six made threes on nine attempts against UCF. Her previous highs were five made 3-pointers and 15 points at SMU (2/28/15). Cann was second on the team with 43 made threes during the regular season, and was recently christened with the nickname "Sniper." Cann was a finalist for Kentucky Miss Basketball as a senior after a storied career with the Anderson County High School Bearcats.

The Bearcats scored 43 points in the first half Friday night. That is a season-high for point production in any half by the Bearcats in 2015. The previous high for points in a half this season was 41 in the second half of a 70-38 win over Detroit on December 23rd. In the last meeting between these teams, Cincinnati was held to 15 first-half points in a 66-51 loss at UCF on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Cincinnati had the first-half edge in free-throws, making 14-of-16 compared to 2-of-2 for UCF. Cincinnati did not attempt a free-throw in second half until 1:28 remained after UCF began intentionally fouling with just over two minutes left. The Bearcats finished 22-of-29, it was the most this season. UCF was 5-of-7 from the line.

Jasmine Whitfield had 18 points, the most since she scored a career-high 24 on January 7<sup>th</sup> at Houston. It was her 15<sup>th</sup> double-figure scoring game of the season.

Cincinnati had 10 made 3-pointers, matching a team-high from back on November 19<sup>th</sup> at Tennessee-Martin.

Cincinnati's 76 points tied a season-high with the most in regulation. The Bearcats had 76 in a double overtime game against Houston (Jan. 7).

## **UCF Postgame Notes**

UCF was 0-for-9 from 3-point range in the first half while falling behind 43-24 at the break. The Knights made 3-of-22 (13.6-percent) 3-point attempts in the game. In the last meeting between the teams, UCF was 7-of-14 from behind the arc in a 66-51 win at home on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

UCF guard Zykira Lewis was 2-of-7 for four points in the first half against the Bearcats. Lewis, who ranked second in The American during the regular season with a scoring average of 18 points per game, finished with 12 points. She averaged 17 points in the two prior meetings this year with Cincinnati.

Lewis had two 3-pointers Friday night, adding to her single season program record for made treys. She had 86 this year.

Senior guard Andrea Hines, who ranked fourth in The American in assist average (4.2 per game) during the regular season, entered the game needing three assists to move past LaShay King (128 assists in 2005-06) for the 10<sup>th</sup> best single-season assist total in program history. She tied King with two assists in the first half, and finished with four on the night and 130 for the season.

Freshman guard Aliyah Gregory led UCF with 19 points on 9-of-14 shooting. It was her 20<sup>th</sup> double-figure game of the season.

UCF was 5-of-7 from the free-throw line against the Bearcats. That is the fewest makes and attempts since the Knights went 5-of-6 in a 66-55 loss on February 10<sup>th</sup> at Tulane.

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