Atlanta, Ga. – The CAU Panthers (5-1, 2-1 SIAC) did not let a late start get them down. They jumped out the gate shooting well against perennial Division II contender Clayton State (4-2, 1-0 Peachbelt). In particular Julius Sudds (DeSoto, Texas) who connected on two early shots, including a fast break dunk at the 16:50 mark of the first half to give the Panthers a 6-5 advantage.

CAU later regained the lead at the 7:48 mark of the first half at 21-19 on the second of back-to-back layups by David Brown (College Park, Ga.), who led all scorers with 15 points in the first half.

Stellar three-point shooting and a rigid defense which forced 10 first half turnovers led to the Panthers opening up a 33-25 lead on the second of back-to-back goals from beyond the arc by Brown. Brown ended the half with yet another 3 pointer with 0:57 left in the first half.

Najee Lane (Trenton, N.J.) opened up the second half with back-to-back layups to extend the Clark Atlanta lead to 42-29.

Clayton State cut the lead to 47-43, going on a 14-5 run with 7:29 left in regulation. Clark Atlanta then went on a 14-7 run over the next six minutes to gain a 61-50 advantage and withstand a late Clayton State run.

The Panthers won 66-61 and were led by Lane who finished with 19 points and 7 boards, followed by Brown with 17 points.

Brandon Robinson (Lake Wales, Fla.) led the Lakers of Clayton State with 16 points followed by Timothy Downs (Greenville, S.C.) with 15.

The Panthers will be off for the holidays and return to action at home January 2 against Paine College. Tip is 8:00 pm for the men.

-CAU-