



CAU Sports Information
February 9, 2008

PANTHERS HANG TOUGH BUT FALL TO CONFERENCE LEADER

The current leader in men's basketball of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) is Benedict College. Coming into tonight's matchup, the Tigers were 15-4 overall and had suffered only two conference losses (12-2 in the SIAC). Needless to say, the challenge for the Panthers of Clark Atlanta University (CAU) to beat the Tigers in Columbia, SC, was daunting. The long odds, however, did not deter the Panthers in their effort to overthrow the conference front-runner.

After the first half of play, the path to a Panther upset was well in sight. CAU outscored Benedict in the first frame, 32-26. Converting on 11 of 28 shots, the six-point halftime lead by CAU provided clear evidence that reputation alone would not be enough for the Tigers to claim the win.

Unfortunately for the Panthers, the conference leader responded to the challenge. The Tigers utilized the second half to stage the come-from-behind win through a 14 of 30 field-goal performance. Of the 14 baskets, five were of the three-point variety.

The Panthers did not just knuckle down and yield in the second half. In fact, CAU upped its shooting percentage to 44% (11 of 25) in the last 20 minutes. Benedict simply strung together a better second half and went on to win the game, 65-58.

The Tigers are now 16-4 overall and 13-2 in SIAC play. Despite the loss, the Panthers remain in a comfortable position to ensure a good seeding for the 75th Annual SIAC Basketball Tournament beginning in early March. CAU is now 9-11 overall and 8-7 in conference play.