



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 27, 2007



Kevin Johnson displays perfect form from free throw line in Panther Win

Clutch Free Throw Shooting Seals the Win for the Panthers

If the first half was any indication, the Panthers of Clark Atlanta University now, more than ever, realize that the road to the 2008 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) title will be filled with bumps, detours and lots of stiff competition. In their first game since the Thanksgiving Holiday, the Panthers played host to conference foe, the Tigers of Stillman College, in a conference game. And in a first half where both teams scratched and clawed, the Panthers were able to take a 36-34 lead into the intermission.

While the Panthers shot a respectable 45% from the floor in the first frame, the red hot Tigers connected on 15 of 24 shots for an even more impressive 62.5 field goal percentage. However, the Panthers were able to outpace the Tigers by converting on four of 12 three-point shots (33%) in the first half. The Panthers were also better from the free throw line in the first 20 minutes going four of five from the charity stripe (80%).

In the second half, the intensity level was raised even higher. Although their percentage was slightly off from the first half, the Tigers still remained impressive from the floor. In a second half where the Tigers shot 55.2% from the field and 42.9% from three-point range, the Tigers posed a serious threat to the unbeaten label that the Panthers brought into the contest.

Led by junior Randy Layman-Henry, who tied the game-high scoring total of 22 points, and Marquell Jones and Brandon Ward, who finished with 18 and 14 points, the Tigers left most fans wondering how in the world this team could be winless.

The answer to that question, at least in tonight's game, came through the performance of junior guard Najee Lane, who missed only one field goal on the evening (10 of 11), and finished with 22 points. Couple Lane's escapades with the inside work of Panther center Ale Burt who closed the contest with 21 points and 10 rebounds and the script for a Panther win was well into its final draft.

However, the final chapter in the Panther win would come from the free throw line. And providing most of the story line were guards Kevin Johnson and Kevin Townley. Late in the game, Johnson would go to the free throw line eight times. He converted on seven of those eight attempts. The senior Townley made three of four field goals down the stretch.

In their toughest challenge so far this season, the Panthers prevailed 75-73 over a solid team from Stillman College. The win was the second consecutive for the Panthers who are back in action on Thursday night, November 29, at 8 p.m., when they host the Golden Tigers of Tuskegee in the Epps Gymnasium.