



**Bulldogs crunch
Charleston Southern**

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UNCA steals win from Charleston Southern

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UNC Asheville's Lady Bulldogs (8-14, 5-4) rallied back for a thrilling 87-83 overtime win Saturday at home against Charleston Southern (8-14, 2-7).

"This was a good win, well-earned and greatly needed," sophomore guard Chioma Okoli said.

Senior guard Ana Baker broke Vicki Griffin's (1993-1997) school record of 245 career steals as she scored 22 points and grabbed four steals, bringing her career total to 247.



Ana Baker

The Lady Bulldogs collected two double-doubles as freshman forward Linda Aughburns scored a career-high 20 points and grabbed 10 rebounds while sophomore forward Lindsey Montgomery added 13 points and 13 rebounds.

"A lot of different people stepped up and played hard. We stuck together as a team," sophomore forward Arescia Moore said.

The Lady Bucs were led by senior guard Pam Tolbert who scored a career-high 30 points.

The Lady Bulldogs defense struggled as Charleston Southern took a 42-32 half-time lead.

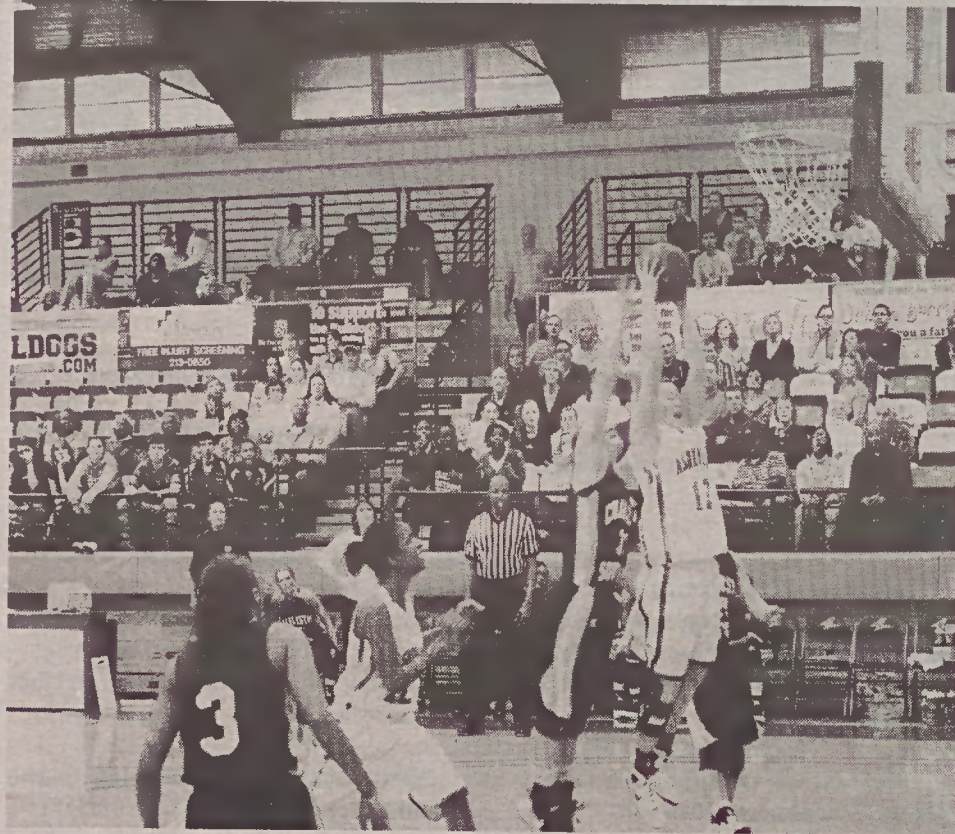
UNCA came out strong in the second half and capped an 11-0 run with a layup from Montgomery to take the lead at the 16:11 mark.

"Our determination to win, our ability to compete and the coaching from our coaches motivates us as a team to come back and fight for the win when we're down," Moore said.

Charleston Southern answered back and went up 61-53 on a layup from freshman forward Ali Schwagmeyer with just over eight minutes left to play.

The Lady Bulldogs rallied back on an 11-3 run to tie the game at 64-64 at the 5:43 mark.

"We played good defense in the second half and out-rebounded our opponent, and those were key in keeping us in the game,"



Ian Shannon - Staff Photographer

Lindsey Thompson stretches out to snatch a rebound against the Lady Bucs.

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-Arescia Moore

Okoli said.

The game went into overtime as neither team mustered enough points to pull away in the closing minutes.

"The game was really intense, and the crowd was really excited when the game went into overtime," sophomore dance team member Sarah Maldonado said. "Those are always exciting."

UNCA freshman guard Lindsey Thompson sparked the Lady Bulldogs with a 3-pointer at the start of overtime.

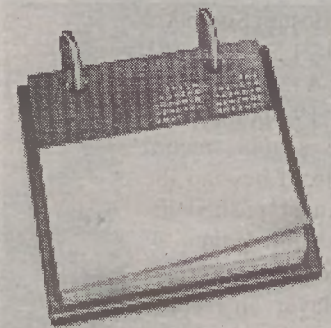
UNCA held the lead and Baker sealed the victory on a free throw with just three seconds left to play.

"This was a really big win, and it's important for us to try and get every win down the stretch so that we can end up in the top half of our conference," Moore said. "We worked hard and executed the game plan as a team and that's why we won this game."

Okoli said the team's work ethic boosts their confidence in winning their remaining games before the conference tournament.

"I'm confident that if we rebound well and play good, consistent defense for 40 minutes in the upcoming game," Okoli said. "We definitely have a great chance of winning."

The Lady Bulldogs start a two-game road trip this Saturday against the Presbyterian Blue Hose.



Sports Calendar

Today
Women's Tennis v. Western

Friday
Track and Field at Dick Taylor
Carolina Invitational

Saturday
Men's Tennis at Lees-McRae
Women's Basketball at
Presbyterian
Men's Basketball v. Radford

Sunday
Men's Tennis v. UNCG

Monday
Women's Basketball at
Gardner-Webb

Tuesday
Men's Basketball at High Point

Feb. 20
Baseball at Courtyard by
Marriott Baseball Classic