

Lady Tornados fall to Anderson



Thea Dunn

Micheala Watkins #23, and Asheley Watkins #21, both juniors play the first 2011-2012 SAC game against Anderson on Wednesday. The Lady Tornados are 4-2 in their season and 0-1 in SAC.



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Holli Flippo knocked down five three-pointers and recorded her second 20-plus point performance on the season, but Breonda Shannon's double-double led visiting Anderson as Brevard fell in their South Atlantic Conference opener on Wednesday evening, 73-67.

Flippo led the Tornados with 20 points, going 5-for-8 from the three-point line and added a team high five rebounds in the loss. Micheala Watkins paced the Tornados defense with six steals and added 14 points, while Anna Schlobohm scored 10 points in the game for Brevard.

A layup by Watkins in the opening minute was matched by a jump shot by Amanda Parris, setting the stage for a competitive first half which saw the teams tie nine times and the lead change hands nine more times in the first 20 minutes.

Five straight points by Maci Siniard at the 3:00 mark broke the ninth tie of the first half, giving the Trojans the 30-25 advantage, and though Lindsay Brendle answered with a layup, Diaz knocked down a three-pointer and Simpson went in for the layup as the Trojans held the 35-27 advantage at the break.

Anderson pressed the advantage into double-digits, going up by as many as 16 at the 12:17 mark on a three-point play by Diaz, but Asheley Watkins brought the Tornados back to within striking distance with a floater in the paint at the 10:25 mark to bring the game within single digits. A layup by Tilde Ahlin and a three-pointer by Lauren Woods pushed the lead back to 14 at 61-47 heading into the media timeout.

With 44 seconds remaining, a foul sent Diaz to the free throw line and she converted both attempts to give the Trojans the 67-66 lead. A missed Brevard shot attempt and foul sent Shannon to the line, where she extended the lead to 69-66.

Watkins was fouled on the next Brevard possession, hitting one of her two attempts from the charity stripe, but Simpson and Shannon went 4-for-4 from the free throw line in the final 11 seconds and Asheley Watkins' three-point attempt rattled out as the Trojans held on for the 73-67 victory.

Brevard remains at home as they welcome #23 Tusculum College to Boshamer Gymnasium on Saturday, December 3rd. The Brevard Student-Athlete Advisory Committee is hosting their annual toy drive for the Toys For Tots organization at the game, with free admission given to any fan who brings a brand-new toy to contribute to the drive. Tipoff for the South Atlantic Conference game between the Tornados and the Pioneers is set for 2 p.m.