



Amaryah Corpening barreling down the court in Kimmel Arena on Feb. 13 against Charleston Southern.

PHOTO BY EMMA JORDAN

Women's basketball tops Charleston Southern

SAMUEL ROBINSON
Sports Staff Writer
srobins8@unca.edu

UNC Asheville's women's basketball achieved a thrilling overtime win against Charleston Southern University team last Tuesday in Kimmel Arena. The win improves the Bulldogs record to 10-3, now tied for second in the Big South Conference.

"That was awesome. Khaila Webb is awesome, we're going to miss her. This was one of the best games I've ever seen here," said Dee Wilbanks, a retired fitness instructor.

Wilbanks has attended games since UNCA was called Asheville-Biltmore College, prior to adopting the current name in 1969.

Freshman guard Nadiria Evans came off the bench in the early stages of the game and quickly con-

verted a layup that put the Bulldogs up 14-3. Just as it began to look like UNCA would run away with the game and cruise to a second straight victory, fatigue from a prior game set in and the Bulldogs lacked the precision they started with. UNCA dominated High Point University in a 78-59 win Feb. 11, but only had a day to recover before hosting CSU.

"I said to the girls, 'It's good to win having not played our best basketball.' Some of that is credit to Charleston Southern's game plan, some of that is it being our second game in three days," said Brenda Mock Kirkpatrick, head coach. "I told (the team) in a few weeks our goal would be three games in three days, so that part we've got to get over."

Junior guard Jessica Wall made two crucial free throw attempts to put the Bulldogs up three points

with six seconds left in regulation. Charleston Southern inbounded the ball quickly and raced up the court. Junior guard Njeri Nelms drilled a three-pointer as time expired to tie the game at 60 and force overtime.

The Bucs got off to a red-hot start in overtime, taking advantage of a controversial unsportsmanlike foul call on sophomore guard Zip Scott. Officials declared Scott did not go for the ball and the Bucs were given possession of the ball after two free throws.

Despite quickly giving up five straight points in overtime, UNCA came thundering back. Scott grabbed a rebound raced down the court to convert a layup at the other end to pull the Bulldogs back within three. On the next Bulldog possession, Wall hit a three-pointer that tied the game at 65.

Junior forward Tiffany Wilson

was forced to play a big role in the fourth quarter and overtime with senior Bronaza Fitzgerald in foul trouble. Wilson scored the bucket that tied the game at 67 and set the stage for junior guard Ali Trani's late game heroics.

Trani sunk both free throws to tie the game at 69 with 50 seconds left. Despite playing their second game in three days, the Bulldogs showed no signs of weariness in overtime. Smothering team defense led to a push off foul call against Charleston Southern and gave the Bulldogs possession with 10 seconds left. Immediately after the foul, Mock called a timeout and drew up a play for what would be the final possession.

UNCA got the ball to Wall, a reliable playmaker who forced up

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21