



Photo by Garrett Garms, University Photographer

Dominic Alston powers down a dunk against Allen University. Alston had 9 points and four rebounds in the 80-61 victory.

Rams sting Yellow Jackets; defense anchors WSSU in rout

Jordan Holloway
SPORTS REPORTER
jholloway106@wssu.edu

In front of more than 2,300 screaming Rams fans WSSU soundly defeated the Allen University Yellow Jackets 80-61.

The Rams defense was suffocating at best holding the Yellow Jackets to a dismal 28 percent shooting performance from the field and 27 percent from three-point land.

The Rams (3-0) opened up the game on a 19-0 run anchored by the 3-point shooting of senior forward Shelton Carter. He was 4 for 9 in the first half for 12 points all from 3-point land, and also contributed with two rebounds and one assist.

"It felt great to be on the good side of a lead like this, said Head Coach Bobby Collins.

"I thought Lamar Monger got us off to a fast start by drawing the charge early in the game."

Monger, in his first start for the Rams scored 13 points with 10 of those coming in the second half. He also snatched down three rebounds and dished out three assists.

The Yellow Jackets (5-4) were scoreless for the first eight minutes and 41 seconds of the first half.

"It was our first home game and we wanted to show the fans what they are going to be seeing all season," said Andrew Jackson, point guard for the Rams.

The Rams defense was forcing its will on the Yellow Jackets forcing 18 turnovers and blocking eight shots. Senior center Paul Davis led the way for the Rams defense with four blocked shots and sophomore power forward Stephon Platt followed up with three blocks of his own.

It was more than a block party for the Rams as the team also stole the ball eight times; sophomore guard Marcus Wells led the way with three steals of his own.

"It all started with our defense, it was a great team defensive effort," Collins said.

The Rams showed their strength on the inside by physically dominating the Yellow Jackets big men. The Rams not only out rebounded Allen 47-42 they completely owned them in the paint outscoring the Yellow Jackets 44-10 in points in the paint.

Platt in his first start for the Rams this season scored eight points and pulled down two rebounds.

"He has earned some more starts and he can score down low and I really feel that we may have found something here with him," Collins said.

The win improves the Rams record to 3-0 which is their best start since the 2003-2004 campaign when they won eight of their first 10 games. Next up for the Rams is a meeting with Bluefield State where the Rams hope to defend home court again like they did against the Yellow Jackets.

Rams get second win of season

SALISBURY, NC

The Winston-Salem State Rams (2-0) definitely brought their defense with them when the team took a 77-63 win over the Pfeiffer Falcons (2-2). The Rams used a stifling, high-pressure defense to help hold the Falcons to shooting just 30 percent from the field while a scorching hot shooting performance by the Rams keyed the win for the Rams.

As a team, the Rams shot 39.6 percent from the field and a whopping 40.7 percent (11-of-27) from the three-point line. For the second straight game, four WSSU players reached double-digit scoring in the game. WSSU redshirt-junior guard Dominic Alston led the way for the Rams with 20 points while redshirt-senior guard Shelton Carter added 18 points in the win. Junior guard Lamar Monger continued his strong play with 14 points while red-shirt-sophomore forward Stephon Platt added 11 points.

"It's been a long time coming. I've been waiting to see Dominic shoot the ball the way he shot it, both he and Shelton," WSSU men's basketball head coach Bobby Collins added. "If you give those guys time, they can both shoot the ball."

Three was definitely the magic number for the Rams as the team connected on 10 first half 3-pointers to push the team to the early lead. Things looked much different for the Rams in the early goings, however, as both the Rams and the Falcons went score-

less for the first three minutes of the half. The two teams combined for no field goals and only one point through the first three minutes of the half. The Rams would soon break out of their slump in a major way, mounting a furious 29-8 run to take a 30-8 lead with just over seven minutes left in the half. The Rams utilized a brutal long-range attack to key the effort, connecting on six three-pointers during the run. With the team's long range efforts putting points on the scoreboard, the Rams continued to dominate the Falcons, going up by as many as 25 points at the 6:33 mark. With a solid spot in control of the game, the Rams took a 45-27 lead into the locker room at the half.

In the second half, the Rams found themselves in an early battle as the Falcons came out of the locker room with an inspired effort, but the Rams would hold off the effort and fight their way to the win. Though their opponents continued to put up the solid effort, the Rams maintained their lead for the entire half. Thirteen points were as close as the Rams would allow as the team held a 63-50 lead with just over five minutes left to play.

With the win, the Rams improve to a perfect 2-0. "It's been a long time since we've been a dominant team," WSSU head men's basketball coach Bobby Collins said. "As long as we're shooting the ball well, we're going to be hard to beat."

WSSU Athletics

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