



## **Texas State gets past Idaho to Advance to Quarterfinals**

*Bobcats pick up their 22<sup>nd</sup> win of the Season*

SAN MARCOS, Texas – A tight game for the first 27 minutes, the Texas State men's basketball team used an 18-6 run to take control on its way to a 64-55 victory over Idaho Wednesday night in Strahan Coliseum in front of 3,086 fans for the CollegeInsider.com Tournament second round contest.

The Bobcats will host a quarterfinal contest on Saturday at 4 p.m. against St. Peter's of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference. The Peacocks defeated Albany on the road in the first round 59-55 and received a bye into the quarterfinals.

With the win, Texas State improves to 22-13 on the season while the Vandals conclude their year at 19-14. The two postseason victories are the most the Bobcats have recorded since 1979, when that squad won the first games of the NAIA National Tournament.

Idaho jumped out to a 6-2 lead two minutes into the game. After an old-fashioned three-point play by Immanuel King, Nijal Pearson knocked down two free throws to give the Bobcats their first lead of the game at 7-6.

Seven quick points from the Vandals was countered immediately with a 7-0 run from Texas State that was capped off with a layup from Tyler Blount.

After trading the lead, Idaho scored five straight to take a three-point lead with just under 2:30 to go. Ojai Black knocked down a jumper and two free throws to close out the scoring in the period and send the Bobcats into halftime leading 24-23.

Texas State made its first seven shots of the second half but led by just one after the Vandals' Pat Ingram knocked down his second three-pointer of the contest. Pearson countered with a triple of his own to kick start the Bobcats' 18-6 run that spanned 7:12. During that stretch, Pearson scored eight points with two three-pointers.

Over the next 1:53, Idaho outscored Texas State 9-1 to cut the Bobcat lead to 58-53 with 3:20 remaining. Neither team was able to score for the next 80 seconds until Pearson knocked down his third trey of the game and the last made field goal for either team.

Bobby Conley converted 3-of-4 free throws in the final 1:30 to seal the victory.