

San Diego 77, Sam Houston State 72

Second Round: Saturday March 22, 2014

HUNTSVILLE, Texas - Behind a 19-point effort from junior point guard Christopher Anderson, the University of San Diego men's basketball team advances onto the quarterfinals of the CIT with a 77-72 win over Sam Houston State Saturday afternoon.

With the win, the Toreros improve to 18-16 overall, and advance on to the quarterfinals of the CIT. This also secures a winning season for the Toreros. With the loss, the BearKats finish the season with an overall record of 24-11, as they suffer only their second loss at home (other loss was to NCAA Tourney bound Stephen F. Austin).

"I thought our guys got off to a good start, and thought we controlled the first half," stated head coach Bill Grier. "And I thought our guys tonight, responded when we got behind, and made plays down the stretch."

Anderson scored his game-high 19 points on 6-of-10 shooting from the field, while also dishing out 10 assists and recording four rebounds. Junior shooting guard Johnny Dee scored 15 points on 5-of-11 shooting from the field, and he has now moved past the 1,500 career point total, as he currently has 1,510, good for third all-time. Dennis Kramer also had double figures, as he scored 13 points and Duda Sanadze added in 12 points. As a team, USD shot 58.7% from the field and out rebounded the Bearkats 28-25.

In the first half, a Dennis Kramer3-pointer sparked an 8-2 run over the first 3:30 of the game to give the Toreros the early momentum. The Bearkats then answered with a 5-0 run of their own, to pull back to within one at 8-7 with 15:12 to go. The two teams then began to trade baskets over the next eight minutes.

Then with USD leading 20-18, a Jito Kokjumper sparked a 10-3 Toreros run give USD back the momentum and a 30-21 lead with 6:05 to go. USD then continued to pull further ahead and would go on to build up a 10-point lead heading into the break, up 38-28.

In the second half, the BearKats opened up the frame on a 6-0 run over the first 1:20 of the game to pull to within four at 38-34. The Toreros then maintained a 4-6 point lead over the next 10 minutes. Then over the final two minutes, things got really interesting. With the score knotted at 72-all, an Anderson free-throw sparked a 5-0 run down the stretch to lift USD to victory.