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Heil, Miners Upset #21 Drury

DECEMBER 08TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

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ROLLA - The Missouri S&T Lady Miners kept its unbeaten start to the season going by pulling off a 62-53 upset of 21st ranked Drury on Wednesday in Rolla. It was the Lady Miners first win over a ranked opponent since they defeated #21 Michigan Tech back on March 14, 2008 in the opening round of the NCAA Midwest Regional in Springfield, Mo.

S&T (6-0, 3-0 GLVC) becomes just the fourth team in school history to start a season winning its first six contests.

The game started out as a see-saw affair in the first 17 minutes with eight ties and 10 lead changes. The Panthers (5-2, 2-1 GLVC) led by as many as four with 9:10 left in the opening frame. The Lady Miners answered with a 7-0 run to retake the lead thanks to six points from Courtney Kemp.

Drury answered with five straight getting a three from Katie Pritchard and a layup from Abby Bracker to take its final lead of the contest at 22-20 with 4:43 to play.

Hailee Parks tied it with a layup then Taylor Jensen gave S&T the lead back with a layup at the 3:32 mark before Pritchard tied it with a jumper 0:23 later.

The Lady Miners ended the half scoring the final seven points, all from the charity stripe, to take a 31-24 lead into the intermission.

S&T shot 50 percent (9-for-18) from the field and was 12-of-17 at the foul line in the

opening stanza. It was outrebounded 13-to-11 but forced the Panthers to turn it over 12 times.

Parks had eight to lead the Lady Miners while Kemp dropped home six.

Pritchard led Drury with 10 while three others had four apiece. The second half was scoreless for the first two minutes before S&T extended its lead to nine points as Parks scored the first six of the stanza for S&T.

The Panthers cut the lead to 37-36 at the midway point on a three from Pritchard.

Kyasha Hall and Karli Sample answered that three with back-to-back baskets extending the lead to 41-36. Pritchard added another three to make it 41-39, but Toni Knar came right back with a three of her own to extend the lead back to five.

Drury continued to hang around getting as close as three with just over four minutes to play before the Lady Miners salted the game away with an 8-0 run building its largest lead of the night at 58-47 with 2:52 to play.

The Panthers got no closer than seven the rest of the way as S&T hit its free throws to pick up its second straight win over Drury.

Parks led three Lady Miners in double figures with 14 points. Kemp dropped in 11 while Julie Meyer added 10 more. Parks also added nine rebounds.

S&T finished shot 43.5 percent (20-of-46) from the field and was 20-for-28 (71.4 percent) at the free throw line in the game. It was outrebounded by a 32-to-30 margin but held a 34-to-18 edge in the paint.

Pritchard scored a game-high 20 points to lead the Panthers while Erica Groose had 11 points and eight rebounds. Bethanie Funderburk, Drury's leading scorer at 17.7 points per game, was held to just two points on 1-for-6 shooting.

The Panthers finished the contest shooting 18-for-49 (37 percent) from the floor and made 72 percent (13-of-18) from the foul line.

The Lady Miners return to action on Saturday afternoon when they travel to Frankfurt, Ky., for a non-conference contest against Kentucky State beginning at 2 p.m. (Central Time).

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