



EDINBORO UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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EDINBORO, PA. 16444

For Immediate Release
February 24, 1997

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Scots' Women's Basketball Team to Host Millersville In First-Round PSAC Tournament Game

(EDINBORO, Pa.) ~ The Edinboro University women's basketball team will host Millersville University on Tuesday (Feb. 25) evening in the first round of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference postseason tournament. Tip-off is set for 7:30 p.m. at EUP's McComb Fieldhouse. The Scots (19-7 overall, 10-2 PSAC), along with Shippensburg University (10-2 PSAC-West), finished as co-champions of the PSAC-West. Edinboro, who split the season series with Shippensburg, received the No. 1 seed in the West by virtue of their two victories vs. California University. Shippensburg split the season series with California, the No. 3 seed in the West. Millersville (17-8 overall, 8-4 PSAC-East) finished tied for third in the Eastern Division. The Marauders received the No. 4 seed in the East by virtue of their season-finale loss to Kutztown University Saturday, Feb. 22) night. The winner of Tuesday night's game will advance to the PSAC "Final Four," held this weekend at the highest remaining Eastern Division school. Should all four Eastern Division schools lose to the West on Tuesday night, the PSAC Final Four would be held at Edinboro University.

The Coaches

The Fighting Scots are coached by tenth-year veteran Stan Swank. In ten-plus seasons at Edinboro, Swank has compiled a 169-105 (.617) record. With a win Tuesday night, Swank would post his fourth 20 or more win season with the Scots. Swank, a graduate of Purdue University (1976), is assisted by Andrea Williams.

Millersville is led by Mary Fleig, who is 100-76 (.568) in her seven years with the Marauders. Fleig is assisted by Betsy Witman, Darlene Newman and Tonya Matthews.

Last Time In the PSAC's

As a No. 4 seed last season, The Scots defeated No. 1 seeded Kutztown University, 98-83, on the road in the first round of the 1996 PSAC postseason tournament. After advancing to the "Final Four" round of the tourney, the Scots fell to eventual runner-up Slippery Rock University, 67-60.

The Marauders last qualified for the PSAC postseason tournament in 1995, when they dropped a 68-48 decision to Clarion University.

All Time Series

Millersville has won all three of the meetings between the two schools, the most recent being a 65-53 victory over the Scots in the 1990-91 season.

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Scouting The Scots

The Fighting Scots have won their three previous games and have lost only twice since Dec. 30th (64-62 at Clarion on Jan. 29 and 94-76 at Shippensburg on Feb. 8). In their most recent game, the Scots defeated California (Pa.) University, 73-71, to capture PSAC-West co-champion honors and the No. 1 seed for the tournament. Freshman guard Jessica Rowe's layup with six seconds left in the game gave the Scots the victory. Sophomore guard Meghan Miller led the Scots in scoring for the third-straight game, as she scored a game-high 22 points. Junior forward Heather Gates, the NCAA-Division II leader in rebounding, at 14.7 boards per contest, grabbed 14 rebounds in the win over the Vulcans. "It (the California game) was a great win for our team," said head coach Stan Swank. "The game was a playoff-type of game for both teams. It was a great game heading into the playoffs." Gates currently leads the Scots in scoring average (15.1 ppg), rebounds (14.7 rpg), steals (2.8 stlpg) and blocked shots (1.0 blkpg). Miller, the second leading scorer on the Scots (14.6 ppg) currently ranks third in the PSAC in free throw percentage (.802), connecting on 85-106 attempts from the free throw line. Junior center Amy Rapelje (13.6 ppg) leads the PSAC in field goal percentage (.534), connecting on 150-281 field goals. In addition to Miller, Gates and Rapelje, Rowe (11.0 ppg) also averages double figures in scoring. Top three-point shooters for the 'Boro include: Meghan Miller (1.46 3-pt fg/g-fifth in the PSAC) and junior reserve forward Kelly Mankowski (1.39 3-pt fg/g-seventh in the PSAC).

As a team, the Scots average a PSAC-best 80.5 points per contest and are outscoring opponents by an average of 12.3 points per game. The Scots lead the PSAC in three-point field goal percentage (.416) and rank second in the conference in three-point field goals made per game (5.4).

Scouting the Marauders

Millersville had a three-game winning streak snapped Saturday (Feb. 22) evening, when they dropped a 56-46 decision at Kutztown University. Sophomore guard Becky Stoner led the Marauders with 11 points and junior forward Jaime Martzall had a team-best 10 rebounds in the setback. Prior to Kutztown, the 'Ville registered road wins over Philadelphia Textile (84-73 on Feb. 17) and East Stroudsburg (69-44 on Feb. 15).

Although the Marauders do not have a player in the top 15 in scoring in the PSAC, Millersville does have a well-balanced offensive attack. The Marauders are led by senior forward Kia Damon, freshman guard Janell Smith and junior forward Jami Wallig. Damon (11.6 points per game), Smith (11.0 ppg) and Wallig (10.4 ppg) all average in double figures for the Marauders. Wallig (5.9 rebounds per game), along with junior forward Jaime Martzall (5.9 rpg) lead MU in rebounding. Becky Stoner, who averages 9.6 points a game, is currently fourth in the PSAC in steals (2.8 stlpg) and is also fifth in assists (4.1 apg) in the conference.

As a team, Millersville averages 68.4 points a game, while allowing 63.2 points a contest-fifth-best in the PSAC.

Edinboro At Home/Millersville On The Road

Edinboro is 12-2 at home this season, including a perfect 6-0 in conference play at McComb Fieldhouse. Millersville is 7-6 on the road this season.

Quoting Coach Swank

"Millersville is a very quick and scrappy team," said Swank. "They play great defense and are very intense throughout the game. We have been playing well of late," continued Swank, "but we can play even better, especially on offense."