

Anderson's jumper sends Spiders to CBI Semis with 74-72 win over CofC

RICHMOND, Va. – Kevin Anderson drilled a pull-up jumper with nine seconds remaining to seal a 74-72 win over the College of Charleston in the CBI Second Round at the Robins Center Monday night. Richmond, which reached 20 wins for the 16th time in school history, advances to the Semifinals Wednesday.

Anderson finished with 21 points and the Second Team All-Atlantic 10 sophomore guard moved into 10th place on the Spiders' single-season scoring with 920. Anderson was nine-of-17 from the field, grabbed four rebounds, dished five assists with one turnover in 38 minutes on the court.

He reached the 20-point mark for the sixth-straight game and eighth time in the last 11.

Richmond (20-15) will learn its next opponent late Monday night as the bracket's four remaining teams get reseeded. Stanford has already dispatched Wichita State tonight, 70-56, with Northeastern at UTEP and Vermont at Oregon State set for 10 p.m. ET tipoffs.

David Gonzalez added 15 points and Ryan Butler scored 10 for the Spiders, while Darrius Garrett played his second big game for Richmond off the bench with six points (on three-of-three shooting), four boards and three blocked shots.

A layup by Tony White with 15:03 remaining cut Richmond's lead to just 43-42, but Richmond embarked on a 16-4 run over the next five minutes and built its largest margin of the game at 59-46. Anderson and Gonzalez each scored five in the spurt.

The Bobby Cremins-led Cougars, who finished second to Davidson in the Southern Conference, would not go quietly and trimmed the lead to just two with 42 seconds left thanks to back-to-back baskets from Dustin Scott and a put-back layup from White.

But with the ball in his hands and his team up 72-70, Anderson milked the clock down to the final seconds before driving to the nearside elbow and drilling his patented floater in traffic for the decisive basket with 9.3 on the clock.

Richmond called timeout and Jermaine Johnson tipped in his own miss on the ensuing possession with three seconds left, Charleston called timeout then fouled Anderson. The sophomore missed the frontend of the 1-and-1, leaving the Cougars only a desperation heave at the buzzer that fell short.

Johnson scored 15 to lead four in double-figures for Charleston, which ended its season 27-9.

The fast-paced game featured just 21 total fouls and 12 combined free throws attempts, while each team turned the ball over just nine times.

Richmond jumped out of the gate quickly and opened a six-point lead at 18-12 when Francis Cedric Martel slammed an alley-oop pass from Anderson. Another dunk by Kevin Smith brought the Robins Center crowd to its feet and put Richmond up 30-23 with 5:56 left in the first.

CofC would cut the lead to 33-31, but the Spiders closed the half with a 62 run and took a 39-33 lead into the break.