

Broncos Win 23rd Game of the Year At Purdue; Advance to Semifinals of CBI

West Lafayette, Ind. – Coming back to Indiana to play in front of almost 40 friends and family, Santa Clara sophomore Brandon Clark's two free throws with 8.6 left on the clock helped the Broncos win 86-83 at Purdue University in the second round of the College Basketball Invitational presented by Buick. Santa Clara will play on the road again Wed., March 27 and is awaiting an announcement of who it will play next.

Santa Clara has won 23 games for just the fourth time in the 106-year school history of basketball; and 23+ games for the second time in three years, having won 24 in 2010-11 when the Broncos won the CIT.

Santa Clara is 23-11 and Purdue finishes the year at 16-18. The Broncos are 1-4 vs. Purdue all-time and 3-13 vs. Big Ten teams all-time.

"Everyone stepped up tonight," said Bronco head coach Kerry Keating. "Niyi Harrison wasn't with us at the beginning of the year due to back problems and tonight he was huge with 11 rebounds. Kevin Foster got going in the second half and really helped us. I am so proud of our guys - no one else can claim a Big Ten Conference road win in the CBI."

"We played like we trusted each other and we were able to keep our composure at the end when they made a run," added Keating. "Brandon Clark has been a key part of our team this year and a great addition. We got the momentum to keep going now."

Santa Clara shot 49.2 percent from the field (29 of 59), including 40.9 percent from beyond the arc (9 of 22). The Broncos shot 67.9 percent from the free throw line (19 of 28, including 12 of 15 in the second half). They collected 36 rebounds, 16 assists, 10 steals, five blocks and had 19 turnovers.

Santa Clara was led by Kevin Foster's season-best 34 points. He was 11 of 24 from the field and 9 of 13 from the free throw line. Foster added eight assists and one steal.

Raymond Cowels III added 13 points, including three threes. Marc Trasolini added 10 points, four boards and two steals. Niyi Harrison led all players with 11 boards.

Purdue shot 43.5 percent from the field (30 of 69), including 9.1 percent from beyond the arc (1 of 11). The Boilermakers shot 78.6 percent from the free throw line (22 of 28). They collected 37 rebounds, 15 assists, nine steals, two blocks and had 11 turnovers.

The Boilermakers were led by Terone Johnson, who scored 22, and brother Ronnie Johnson, who added 27 with six assists and three steals. Raphael Davis grabbed nine rebounds.

After the Broncos won the tip, Foster drew first blood with a field goal from eight feet out 18:35. Foster was fouled by D.J. Byrd under the basket at 18:04 and made one free throw. Foster scored inside at 17:32 after a Cowels III steal.

