

Uzoh powers Tulsa to CBI victory

TULSA, Okla. (AP) – Ben Uzoh scored 22 points, including 11-of-14 free throws, to power Tulsa to a 69-60 victory over Utah in the quarterfinals of the College Basketball Invitational Monday night.

The Golden Hurricane (22-13) advanced to the semifinals on Wednesday against Houston, which beat Valparaiso 91-67 on Monday.

Tulsa built a 35-20 halftime lead, mainly by making all 17 of its first half free throw attempts but also by limiting the Utes (18-15) to 26 percent shooting (6-of-23).

Utah battled back in the second half behind the inside power of 7-foot-1 center Luke Nevill, who scored nine of his 12 points in the second half. The Utes twice cut Tulsa's lead to five points, the final time at 59-54 with 2:01 to play on a 3-pointer by Luka Drca.

Tulsa guard Brett McDade responded with a strong drive to the basket to give the Golden Hurricane a 61-54 lead with 1:46 to play, and Tulsa made 8-of-10 free throws from there to preserve the win.

Uzoh added four rebounds and a block, Ray Reese added 16 points and Calvin Walls had eight points and nine rebounds, including a crucial put-back that gave Tulsa a 52-43 lead at 6:25.

Johnnie Bryant led Utah with 19 points, making 5-of-10 3-pointers. Nevill had 12 points and nine boards.

Utah shot 36.5 percent to Tulsa's 38.3, but the Golden Hurricane made 29-of-36 free throws to 15-of-22 for Utah.

Tulsa also had a 37-32 rebound advantage