

Cougars Defeat Cowboys to Move on to CBI Semifinals Abe Lodwick scored a career-high 16 points.

PULLMAN, Wash. - Brock Motum scored 25 and Abe Lodwick added a career-high 16 points as Washington State University men's basketball defeated Wyoming, 61-41, Monday in the quarterfinals of the College Basketball Invitational (CBI) presented by Zebra Pen, at Beasley Coliseum.

Washington State improves to 17-16 on the season, while Wyoming ends its season at 21-12. The Cougars will travel to Corvallis, Ore., to take on Oregon State (21-14) for the fourth time this season in the CBI presented by Zebra Penn Semifinal Round at 7 p.m. PT Wednesday. In the other semifinal game, Pittsburgh (19-16) will travel to Indianapolis, Ind., to take on Butler (22-14) Wednesday. The winners will meet in a best-of-three series beginning next Monday.

Motum led all scorers with 25 points on 9-for-16 shooting from the field and 7-for-8 from the free throw line, while adding seven rebounds. Lodwick added seven rebounds as well to his career-high 16 points. The redshirt senior tied his career high with four made 3-pointers and was 6-for-9 from the field. He also tied his season high with four assists.

Leonard Washington led the Cowboys with 14 points, while Adam Waddell also contributed 13 points. Larry Nance, Jr. was ejected after picking up two technical fouls back-to-back in the second half. He finished with just two points and four rebounds.

The defensive battle got off to a slow start, with the first points coming Abe Lodwick at the 17:55 mark in the first half. The Cougars led by as many as 10 points with 1:30 to go in the first half, 26-16, but the Cowboys used a 5-0 run to end the half and cut WSU's lead to five after the first 20 minutes of action.

The slow pace continued in the beginning of the second half, as WSU extended its lead to 34-23 at the 16-minute mark, opening the half with an 8-2 run. With WSU's lead at nine, Mike Ladd hit 3-of-4 free throws and Motum added two to extend the lead to 39-25 with 10:26 to go in the game.

Wyoming put together a run of its own to cut the lead to 10, 47-37, with 5:58 to go in the game, capped by a 3-pointer by Francisco Cruz. Just as it appeared the Cowboys had the momentum, Nance, Jr. was called for a foul on Motum when the two went for a rebound, and followed it up with back-to-back technical fouls after reacting to the call. WSU's Reggie Moore made three of his four free throw attempts and Motum made his two to give WSU a 15-point lead, 52-37.

The Cougars continued to build to their lead, reaching their largest point differential of 20 points at the 20 second mark on a layup by Dexter Kernich-Drew. WSU held on to that lead, winning 61-41.

Washington State and Oregon State will meet for the fourth time this season, as WSU holds the 2-1 advantage, winning both regular season games, while the Beavers knocked the Cougars out of the Pac-12 Tournament with a first-round victory. The game, played at 7 p.m. at Gill Coliseum will be televised on HDNet.