



**2008 NCAA
SOUTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL**



No. 2 AUGUSTA STATE Jaguars

VS.

No. 7 JOHNSON C. SMITH Golden Bulls

**AUGUSTA STATE 58
JOHNSON C. SMITH 54**

Quarterfinals -- Game Two -- 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 15, 2008

Augusta, Ga.

Christenberry Fieldhouse



2008 NCAA SOUTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL



QUOTES

Augusta State Head Coach Dip Metress

"Obviously, we didn't play beautifully today. We defended well in the first half, and we put ourselves in position to win the game. I'd rather win ugly than lose pretty. We got a win, and we put ourselves in the exact same position as last year."

"Their zone bothered us a little, and we didn't shoot that well. But we were able to get some offensive rebounds late that really helped us."

(On playing Wingate in the semifinals): "Wingate is very, very good. they put a lot of guys out there that can score. I just look forward to the challenge tomorrow. Whoever you draw is who you get. They are good, and we are good."

Augusta State's Garret Siler

"We have take each team as they are the best team out there. We have to play with that underdog mentality."

Augusta State's Tyrekus Bowman

"You can't overlook any team in the Regional. Obviously, they've made it this far, so they have to be pretty good. They showed tonight that they can play with the best of us."

Johnson C. Smith Head Coach Stephen Joyner

"The first half was not what we expected. We thought we were a little rusty, but even though we were behind, Augusta State was not getting away from us. So we still felt comfortable that we could get some offensive momentum in the second half and do well. We found ourselves in the ballgame, but not able to get over the hump."

"We had a better understanding of what they wanted to do. Back in November, they tore us up inside and then got the outside game going. This time, we certainly were more familiar with them, and we tried to take away their inside game, and that seemed to work well for us."

"Ryan opening things up on the outside was key. That enabled us to penetrate their defense, whether it was zone or man, and get some good scoring opportunities."

Junior guard Ryan Scott

"We just had to execute more and play harder on defense in the second half."

Senior forward Jerry Hollis

"We were down by three for the last four minutes of the game. We thought all we needed was one stop, and then get it over the hump. We were down by two for a little, but we just couldn't get it over the hump."



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Joey Warren, Athletic Media Relations Director

NCAA TOURNAMENT

South Atlantic Regional -- Quarterfinal No. 2

Augusta State 58, Johnson C. Smith 54

JAGUARS SURVIVE, ADVANCE TO REGIONAL SEMIFINALS, 58-54

AUGUSTA, Ga. -- The second-seeded Augusta State Jaguars had their lowest scoring output of the season, but it was still enough to hold off seventh-seeded Johnson C. Smith 58-54 in the quarterfinals of the NCAA South Atlantic Region tournament. With the win, the Jaguars (23-6) advance to Sunday's semifinals where they will meet third-seeded Wingate.

Tyrekus 'AJ' Bowman put up nearly 40% of ASU's points as he scored 22 to go with 11 rebounds. Garret Siler also had a double-double with 13 points and 11 boards while Ben Madgen added 11 for the Jaguars. ASU shot 40% (23-62) for the game but hit only five of 20 three-point attempts. For Bowman, the double-double marked his fifth of the season while Siler tallied his 10th of the 2007-08 campaign.

Jerry Hollis led the Golden Bulls with 14 points on 6-of-13 shooting to go with 11 rebounds. Ryan Scott also scored 14 with four rebounds and three steals while Edmund Rainey added 11 and seven boards. Johnson C. Smith (21-10) struggled from the field, hitting 23-62 (37%) and three of 13 three-pointers.

Augusta State jumped out early with a 23-10 run to open the game, capped by four straight points from Madgen. That lead grew to as many as 14 with 4:26 to play after a Bowman jumper before the Golden Bulls answered with shots from Rainey and Dante Drummer to cut the lead to 33-22 at the half.

Johnson C. Smith began the second half with a 7-2 run highlighted by a driving layup from Rainey. That was part of a larger 25-17 Golden Bulls run that cut the lead to 50-47 following three straight layups from Hollis and a three-pointer from Scott with 7:12 to play. Hollis struck again later on as JCS cut the lead to one 52-51, but Garret Siler answered with a turnaround jumper in the lane with 1:36 to play. Following a Rainey free throw that cut ASU's lead to two with under a minute to play, Ben Madgen hit two free throws to put the lead back to four.

Johnson C. Smith cut the lead to two with 14 seconds left as Scott drove the lane for a nearly uncontested layup. Following the foul, Bowman hit both free throws to ice the game.

ASU's previous low was 62 scored against Clayton State in a loss in the PBC Tournament. The 54 points scored by JCS was also a season-low for the CIAA Tournament champions, who also saw their seven-game winning streak come to end.