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LC PANTHERS SPLIT FINAL GAMES WITH INDIANS, BRAVES AT CUMBERLAND PASS

Coach Al Mariotti and his Panther cagers spent Thanksgiving in true pioneer fashion: facing the Indians and the Braves. And they were lucky that they lost only part of their scalps to the Indians.

In the vicinity of the famed Cumberland Pass, the LC quintet Friday night met Cumberland College's Indians on their home court in Williamsburg, Ky. and were defeated, 77-68.

However the Panthers fell back, re-grouped, and fought off the West Georgia College Braves, finally winning, 82-60--a 22 point margin. The victory gave LaGrange third place in the annual Southern States Warm-Up Tournament.

Lincoln Memorial University of Harrogate defeated West Georgia in Friday's first round, 68-58, but fell victim to home-standing Cumberland by a 70-62 score Saturday. Saturday's championship game was also homecoming for Cumberland.

Center Jon Goldman, a 6-3 senior, led the Panthers effort against Cumberland Friday night, scoring an amazing 23 points--six more than his game high last year. Goldman also outscored by one point a Cumberland guard, Wilford Jackson, who came back the second night with 26 points to win the tourney's "most valuable player" award.

Coach Mariotti called Goldman's play, "A real pleasant surprise--a fine job," and for a man of such few words, that's saying a lot. Goldman added 17 more points in the second game.

The Panthers were faced with just too much height against Cumberland. The defense, a mark of a Mariotti team, looked rather good and the LC cagers got their share of the rebounds.

LaGrange was never behind West Georgia in the Saturday game. Aubrey got the first two points and went on to sack a total of 19--high for the Panthers. Bill Shotwell, a 6-5 West Georgia forward, scored 24 points--17 in the first half.

Concerning team play in the tournament, Coach Mariotti said he was "pleased, but not satisfied."

Local sports fans are expected to find out Tuesday night how much the Panthers learned from their Kentucky trip. "Cumberland and Shorter have comparable teams, especially in height, and I think we will have a very good game," added the man of few words.

LaGrange scoring in the two tournament games:

Against Cumberland--Aubrey, 13; Tuggle, 1; Goldman, 23; Mayo, 13; Howell, 11; H. Corless, 6; and Lord, 1.

Against West Georgia--Aubrey, 19; Tuggle, 0; Goldman, 17; Mayo, 8; Howell, 12; D. Corless, 2; H. Corless, 10; Bush, 4; Mosier, 2; Stephens, 4; Rickman, 0; and Lord, 4.

P.S. Shorter defeated Tennessee Wesleyan, 59-58, Saturday night to give the Wave three wins and no losses this season, i.e. going into Tuesday's game with the Panthers.

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