

## **Chicago State beats St. Bonaventure 98-95**

### **Missed free throws come back to haunt St. Bonaventure**

[box score](#)

AUSTIN, Texas - Almost single-handedly, David Holston spoiled the start of St. Bonaventure's basketball season.

Holston scored a tournament record 43 points to lead Chicago State to a 98-95 win over St. Bonaventure in the opening round of the 2K Sports College Hoops Classic on Thursday night at the Erwin Center on the campus of the University of Texas.

After a helter-skelter first half, the Bonnies led 50-44 at intermission. Chicago State's guard-oriented attack pushed the tempo at every chance.

The game remained close throughout the second half, as each time St. Bonaventure seemed ready to run away, Holston kept the Cougars close. The Bonnies' largest lead was five points at 78-73 with 6:36 left following a dunk by Paul Williams.

Chicago State fought back and eventually tied the game at 88-88 with 2:51 left, then took the lead for good on a dunk by Cam-Ron Clay with 2:06 to play. Clay then made it 92-89 with 1:22 left. The Cougars went up 94-89 with 26 seconds remaining on a free throw by Aaron Williams, and the closest St. Bonaventure came after that was two points. Zarryon Fereti made a three-pointer with 17 seconds left to cut the Bonnies' deficit to 94-92, but Holston was fouled and made two free throws to put Chicago State back ahead by four.

Much like last season, the Bonnies were undone by free throws. St. Bonaventure missed 19 free throws on the night including 12 in the second half alone, and finished the game 22-41 (.537) at the line.

In addition, the Bonnies were also plagued by turnovers, committing 18 on the night.

"Chicago State willed their style upon us," said Bonnies coach Anthony Solomon. "Intangibles made a difference tonight ... it was little things." Holston's 43 points broke the prior 2K Classic record of 35 set by Pete Lisicky of Penn State. The 5-foot-6 guard made seven of his 11 shots from three-point range and went 13-21 from the field and 10-12 at the free throw line.

"Holston and their other guards dictated the game, especially late," said Solomon. "He made some very tough shots. It was a back-and-forth game, and they made the plays that they had to."

Williams led the Bonnies with a career high 25 points and 13 rebounds. Lee also finished with a double-double, 20 points and 10 rebounds. A.J. Hawkins scored 14 points while Tyler Relph tied his career high with 13 points. Tyler Benson added nine points, Zarryon Fereti had eight and Jermaine Calvin had four points and six assists. The Bonnies out-rebounded the smaller Cougars 42-32.

"When you look at most of our stats, you'd have to say they were pretty good, but we needed to be better in certain areas in order to change the outcome," Solomon said. "We will get another chance tomorrow (Friday) night."

The Bonnies will face Alcorn State in the 2K Classic consolation game on Friday at 6:30 ET. Alcorn State lost to Texas 103-44 in Thursday's second opening round game.

