

Six Bulldogs Reach Double Figures in 80-65 Win over Navy

Louisiana Tech plays UC-Irvine on Sunday at 7:30 p.m. CT

[box score](#)

IRVINE, Calif. - In its second game in the 2K Sports Classic benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer, the Louisiana Tech men's basketball team never trailed in an 80-65 win over Navy on Saturday at the Bren Center in Irvine, Calif.

Six Bulldogs scored in double figures with senior guard DeAndre Brown leading all scorers with 15 points, all coming in the first half. Louisiana Tech improved to 4-1 on the season while Navy dropped to 1-4.

"Our guys did a good job of getting a lead, but Navy kept fighting back," Tech head coach Kerry Rupp said. "It was a good hard fought win. We were faced with all sorts of pressures up and down the floor. I'm really proud of the guys for the way they competed."

Brown was 5-of-13 from the field with every shot coming from three-point range. He started the game hot from beyond the arc as he nailed five of his first six shots.

Junior Olu Ashaolu recorded his fourth double-double of the season with 12 points on 5-of-9 shooting and 11 rebounds. Freshman guard Kenyon McNeill continued a great start to his career with 12 points, eight assists and five rebounds.

Junior guard Brandon Gibson scored 11 points on 5-of-9 shooting while adding six rebounds. Sophomore guard Darius Redding scored a season-high 10 points and a career-high four assists.

Junior center Romario Souza made his Louisiana Tech debut and was a perfect 5-for-5 from the field and hit 2-of-3 free throws to score 12 points in 15 minutes of play.

"He did a great job and defensively he was good," Rupp said. "I thought Deuce (James Johnson) came in and gave us some good energy as well. In the end all of these big guys will have to produce for us."

Tech shot a season-high 52.9 percent from the field including 37.5 percent from three-point range.

Tech jumped out to a 12-0 lead on four-straight three-pointers, three by Brown and one by Redding. Navy then went on an 11-2 run to cut the Bulldog lead to 14-11 with 13:32 remaining. The barrage of three-pointers continued for Tech as seven of its first nine field goals were from beyond the arc.

The Bulldogs led by its largest margin 33-16 with 6:02 remaining in the half, before allowing a 21-6 run to take a 39-37 lead into halftime.

Navy tied the game at 39-39 to start the half, but then Tech went on 14-2 run to lead 53-41 with 13:50 remaining in the game. Navy then answered with a 14-5 run to cut its deficit to three points, 58-55 with 7:29 remaining. McNeill hit a big three-pointer during a run of 11 unanswered points by the Bulldogs to lead 71-57 with just over two minutes to play. The Bulldogs hit 7-of-8 free throws in the final 2:03 of the game to win their fourth-straight contest.

Navy had a balanced scoring effort as well and was led by Jordan Sugars' 11 points. The Midshipmen shot 36.7 percent from the field and 25 percent from three-point range.

LA Tech takes on the host school, UC-Irvine, on Sunday at 7:30 p.m. CT.

Sunday's game will be broadcast on 99.3 KPCH with the "Voice of the Bulldogs" Dave Nitz calling the action. There is no livestats the game. For men's basketball live twitter updates, follow @LATechSSchoon.