

Late Run Helps No. 16 Syracuse Down Cornell

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Orange run streak over Big Red to 29 straight

box score

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) -- Terrence Roberts had 19 points and 14 rebounds and freshman Eric Devendorf scored three baskets to key a late surge as No. 16 Syracuse held off Cornell 67-62 on Wednesday night in the second round of the 2K Sports College Hoops Classic benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer.

Terrence Roberts (33) had 19 points and 14 rebounds as Syracuse advanced to the semifinals of the 2K Sports College Hoops Classic benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer.

It was Syracuse's 29th straight win over Cornell (1-1).

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The Orange (2-0) will meet the winner of the Lubbock Regional next Thursday night at Madison Square Garden in the next round of the 16-team tournament, which benefits Coaches vs. Cancer.

Syracuse won despite missing 18 straight 3-pointers, including 10 by Gerry McNamara, whose streak of 53 consecutive games with a 3 ended. McNamara finished with 17 points, 13 from the free throw line, and Demetris Nichols had 11.

Freshman Adam Gore led the Big Red with 22 points, going 6-for-10 on 3-pointers. Lenny Collins finished with 20 points and Andrew Naeve had 11 points and 10 rebounds.

In an 82-69 loss to Syracuse a year ago, the Big Red stayed in the game for nearly 30 minutes by hitting a Carrier Dome record 15 3-pointers. This time they made 11, and Gore was the spark plug. He made three 3s and scored 13 points in the first half and continued his hot shooting in the second until picking up his fourth foul with 11:10 left.

Gore's final 3 gave Cornell its first lead of the game, 47-44, with 11:59 to play, but Syracuse's zone defense began to assert itself after having been ineffective on Gore.

Devendorf's baseline drive pulled the Orange within 55-54 with 5:25 left, and Roberts followed his own miss 50 seconds later to put Syracuse ahead for good as Cornell committed three straight turnovers in the lane to fumble away what would have been a monumental upset.

Two free throws by McNamara and two more driving layups by Devendorf put the Orange up 62-57 with 2:28 left, and the Big Red couldn't rally.

Syracuse dominated Bethune-Cookman 68-37 in the opening round with a stifling man-to-man defense, limiting the Wildcats to 26.8 percent shooting and forcing them to miss 13 straight shots early in the game. The Orange continued their smothering ways at the start against Cornell as the Big Red missed their first 12

shots and fell behind 11-2 less than four minutes into the game.

The Orange didn't fare much better, missing eight straight 3-pointers after Nichols began the game with a 3, and Cornell slowly came back.

Gore's 3-pointer from the right side tied the game at 20-all with 6:12 left in the half, but Darryl Watkins hit a short jumper in the lane and converted a three-point play to key a 12-2 run that put the Orange up 35-27 at halftime.