

California Community College Athletic Association Women's Basketball Championship

Mt. San Antonio 65, Foothill 57

Zequoia Williams scored 16 points and Carmen Deal had 13 points and 19 rebounds as the Mounties rallied from an eight-point halftime deficit to knock off Foothill and capture the school's third straight state championship.

Blaire Egardo added 12 points for Mt. SAC (37-1), which ran the table after suffering a season-opening loss to Orange Coast. The state title was also the fourth for the Mounties in the past five seasons. Mt. SAC has won 11 straight state tournament games in that span, failing only to make the field in the 2004-005 season.

Jasmine Lowe scored 17 points and Claudia Nelson had 12 points and 10 rebounds for Foothill (33-3), which was making its' first appearance in the title game. The game was also the ninth time that the top seeds from each region met in the final, with the South winning seven times.

The Owls took a 30-22 lead into halftime on the strength of Lowe (eight points and five rebounds) and a 35-26 rebounding advantage.

However, the Mounties rallied in the second half behind Egardo, tournament MVP Jazlyn Davis and Deal, erasing a 36-24 deficit with a 16-0 run to take its first lead of the game with 11:56 remaining.

Mt. SAC held the Owls scoreless for just over six minutes before Jessica Montgomery sank a pair of free throws with 10:47 remaining. Foothill then finally got a field goal, from all-tourney point guard Nelson with 10:20 left, to tie it.

The Mounties went ahead for good, 44-42, on a follow shot by Williams with 8:17 remaining during a 15-4 run from which Foothill was unable to recover.

The Owls did muster a late seven-point run, starting at the 2:10 mark, that narrowed the deficit to four points, 59-55, with 53 seconds remaining. Mt. SAC finished by making good on six of ten free throw attempts.

SCORING RECORDS:

MVP Davis became the first 40-point single game scorer in tournament history, hitting that mark just ahead of Fresno's all-tourney selection Vanessa House in Saturday's classic semifinal.

The opposing guards combined for 85 points. Davis finished with a record 44 points and House with 41 -- to occupy the No. 2 spot in tourney history.

ALL TOURNAMENT TEAM

MVP: Jazlyn Davis, Mt. San Antonio

Blaire Egardo, Mt. San Antonio

Carmen Deal, Mt. San Antonio

Claudia Nelson, Foothill

Jasmine Lowe, Foothill

Vanessa House, Fresno City

Lena Gipson, Fresno City