

Fans encouraged Cougars to take down #1 team

Men's basketball pulls off homecoming victory

By RESTY GREY
SPORTS EDITOR

Students fueled a fired-up Cougars Men's Basketball team into a second half rally against No. 1 Vanguard in its homecoming event on Saturday, November 22.

CSUSM students arrived in a spirit bus provided in their admission. The crowd was given headbands and foam paws to help draw attention to themselves, both encouraging the Cougars and helping to deter Vanguard's plans to upset the homecoming event.

The momentum helped to rally Cougars from a seven point deficit after the first half, outscoring Vanguard by eight in the second.

"It's incredible to have this kind of support and what an incredible atmosphere it was for homecoming," Coach Jim Saia said. "Beat-

ing the Number 1 team in the country at home court."

Since then, Cougars went on the road to win in two games in Fullerton and two games in Salt Lake City, Utah, making them 10-0 on the season.

Cougars are averaging 8 three-pointers a game and shooting just under 400 percent from the field.

Guard Blake Nash leads all Cougars in scoring, averaging above 20 points and 4 assists per game and playing more than 30 minutes a game.

Guard Akachi Okugo is shooting just below 500 percent from the three, tying his teammate, guard Tyson Kygar, who has 21 three pointers on the season.

Despite boasting a smaller stat line than his other fellow starters, Forward Wade Collie manages to contin-



Photo by Bruce Sherwood

Fans and cheerleaders rally in support of homecoming victory.

ue to see the court for his contributions away from the stat sheet. Collie is utilized as a two-way athlete, flourishes in his role as a stretch forward and often being able to cause gaps in the opponent's defense.

Center Declan Daly leads CSUSM in rebounding, averaging 8 rebounds per game. His defensive presence causes a significant amount

of trouble for opponents' offense in the front court.

Cougars are averaging above 80 points a game while holding opponents to just below an average 75 points a game.

Cougars will play one more game on the road Tuesday, Dec. 2 against Azusa Pacific before hosting Bethesda on Saturday, Dec. 13 at MiraCosta College.

CSUSM Events Calendar

Dec. 3 through Dec. 13

By MACKENZIE CLARK
SPORTS ASSISTANT

Men's Basketball: 7-0

7:30 p.m. on 12/13/2014,

Opponent: Bethesda

7:30 p.m. on 12/16/2014,

Opponent: Trinity Western

Women's Basketball: 1-4

7:30 p.m. on 12/4/2014,

Opponent: Vanguard