

# NOTES | GAME #8



## NO. 4 NC STATE 79, NO. 5 SYRACUSE 63

Despite leaving the game due to injury in the second half and playing just 25 minutes, NC State's Markeisha Gatling led all players with a career-high 28 points. The All-ACC first-team selection, who entered the game leading the nation in shooting percentage at .677, went 13-of-20 from the floor in Friday's win.

NC State senior Kody Burke was honored during the pregame ceremonies with the Kay Yow Award as the 2013-14 ACC Women's Basketball Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Burke responded with a 21-point, 16-rebound performance, including a 3-pointer from the right wing with 13:10 remaining that gave the Wolfpack its first lead of the second half at 49-48 and was part of a 25-1 NC State run in which it seized control after trailing by nine points (48-39) with just over 15 minutes to play.

The 14th-ranked Wolfpack improved to 25-6 with Friday's win. This marks the ninth time that NC State has registered at least 25 wins in a season and the sixth straight year in which it has won at least one ACC Tournament game.

NC State now holds a 4-0 edge in all-time head-to-head meetings with Syracuse. Today's game marked the second time this season that the Wolfpack has wiped out a nine-point second-half deficit to defeat the Orange, as it also did so in a 67-61 homecourt victory over Syracuse on Jan. 5.

Friday's win was NC State's 11th this season over a top-100 RPI win

Syracuse guard Rachel Coffey had four steals in Friday afternoon's game versus NC State. The four steals fell one short of a career high for the senior guard. As a team, the Orange had a total of nine takeaways.

Orange sophomore guard Brianna Butler made three 3-pointers in today's contest. Butler, who entered the game leading the ACC with 3.2 3-pointers per game, now has at least one 3-pointer in 28 of her 31 games this season. She has made multiple three-point baskets in 25 of Syracuse's 31 games this season.

For the second straight day, sophomore guard Brittney Sykes led the Orange in scoring, as she registered 14 points. Sykes, a second team All-ACC selection, also pulled down eight rebounds in the loss. For the tournament, Sykes averaged 12 points and 6.5 rebounds per game. Sykes now has 38 career double-digit scoring games.

Friday's game marked just the second time in the 37-year history of the ACC Women's Tournament that men coached both teams. The first took place on March 1, 2012, when Wake Forest (coached by Mike Petersen) defeated Virginia Tech (coached by Dennis Wolff) in a first-round contest.

With a winter storm still affecting the Greensboro area, Friday's game became the second straight tournament contest to be interrupted by power failures, as multiple outages stopped play for a total of approximately 15 minutes in the second half. A power outage halted play during Friday night's second-round game between North Carolina and Wake Forest held up play for 23 minutes.