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Sweet Sixteen for the Gaels in WNIT

By Caitlin Graveson



Morgan Hatten had a career night against the Bears. Photo Tod Fierner

For the past four seasons, Saint Mary's women's basketball qualified for the WNIT and they have improved in post-season play each year, including this year-they have reached the Sweet Sixteen.

The Gaels beat Seattle University 68-51 at home on March 21, before advancing to take on Northern Colorado on March 23.

The Gaels (22-10) came out slow against the Bears, falling behind 10 early. Saint Mary's rallied to finish the first half to cut the deficit, 27-30. Their momentum carried to the second half and they completed a 26-4 run to build a 46-34 lead. The Bears made a late-game push, but the Gaels held on to win 68-58.

Senior guard Morgan Hatten had a career-high to lead the Gaels with 21 points in the win. Junior guard Jackie Nared finished with a double-double adding 16 points and 10 rebounds.

With the win, the Gaels will face WCC-rival BYU in the Sweet 16 in Provo today, March 27.

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back

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