The Highlanders single handily defeated the Campbell University Camels Thursday by a wide margin of 72-53.

The Highlanders defended home court in one of their last home game of the season, which aired on ESPNU. Highlanders improve their record to 16-12 overall and 9-6 with this win and move up to 3rd place in the standings.

The Highlanders started the game out with a fire lit under them after consecutive losses to High Point and UNC Asheville.

Starting the game out strong with a 9-0 run, forcing multiple turnovers, and making nearly every shot they took. The crowd let their feelings known and proved that they would give their team a significant advantage during the game. A steal and slam dunk in transition by Ed Polite Jr. got the crowd roaring even louder to cap off the nice run for the Highlanders.

Carlik Jones had the hot hand in the early goings of the game, contributing seven of the Highlanders' opening 11 points of the game.

The Highlanders kept piling on the pressure and extended their lead even further before Campbell was forced into their first timeout of the contest, attempting to cope with the early onslaught on the court and deafening atmosphere.

The Dedmon Center crowd was screaming and cheering at any positive point for the Highlanders, every rebound, steal, and basket was met with a chorus of cheers.

Radford extended their lead to 21 points, being up 25-4 midway through the first period of play before slowing down the tempo to more of a “half-court style of offense.” Playing at a much slower pace and controlling the clock but seemingly allowing the Camels back into the game.

Campbell trimmed the deficit to just 10 points as Radford seemed to get a little complacent
with their lead. The Highlanders went on another run in the final few minutes of the half to put themselves back firmly in the driver's seat 37-22 going into halftime.

Radford was clearly re-energized to start the second half, making a quick and fairly routine stop as things were going in the game.

Kicking things off in the second half with a reverse alley-oop from Polite Jr. to huge cheers from the crowd, Radford set the tone with that play but went back to their slow and steady tempo on offense and stayed overbearing on defense, smothering the Camels on every possession.

The Highlanders held a 51-38 lead midway through the second but never let their focus slip or their intensity drop. The Camels attempted to gain some ounce of momentum but were cut down at every juncture.

Randy Philips’ monster block on Campbell star guard Chris Clemons summed up the game on defense for the Highlanders.

The redshirt Freshman Carlik Jones led all Highlanders in scoring with 17 points and added five assists to the stat sheet while sophomore forward Devonnte Holland had a personal season-high of 12 points.

The Highlanders will look to get a result in their final home game of the season against Presbyterian for senior day and their last two games of the season against Liberty and Longwood.

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