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**(Neb.)-Mountain Lions Upend Chadron State, 78-61**

By: Dennis and Kathi Brown Posted at: 01/27/2013 06:40 AM

CHADRON – Abby Kirchoff scored 23 points and three others joined her in double figures as the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs women’s basketball team upended Chadron State 78-61 Saturday night.

The Eagles hung tough with the Mountain Lions (13-4, 10-3 RMAC) for much of the game as the lead changed hands 10 times in the opening half. However, UCCS shot over 41 percent from the field in the second half and made 13 of 15 from the charity stripe to pull away.

Chadron State (3-14, 3-10 RMAC) finished the game shooting just over 41 percent but the Mountain Lions hit 46 percent of their shots and sank 11 more free throws.

Kattie Ranta led the Eagles with 18 points and 10 rebounds and Dallas Shaw finished with 11 more.

Including Ranta and Shaw, six others scored. Kate Simonton added nine points, Hattie Guzman finished with eight and Lisa Durden added five points, five rebounds and a team-high four assists.

The Eagles will host Regis and Metro State in a pair of Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference games Friday and Saturday in Chadron. Tip-off is set for 6 p.m.