

**Lady Gators set to make third straight appearance in Top 28 Monday**

**CAMPTI, La.** - The top-ranked Lakeview Lady Gators will play in the Marsh Madness Top 28 Tournament for the third straight year Monday at 1 p.m. when they take on the fifth-ranked Midland Lady Rebels in the Division IV non-select semifinals at the University Center in Hammond, Louisiana on the campus of Southeastern Louisiana University

The district 3-1A champion Lady Gators (28-4) enter Monday's game on a 20-game winning streak under fifth-year head coach DeWaskie Fuller. The Lady Gators cruised to a pair of victories in the playoffs beating 17<sup>th</sup>-ranked Franklin, 60-24, in the second round and then ninth-ranked Homer, 50-13, in the quarterfinals.

The Lady Rebels (24-11) have been convincing as well in their path to the semifinals. Midland defeated 28<sup>th</sup>-ranked Ringgold, 57-17, in the first round. Then rolled by 12<sup>th</sup>-ranked West St. Mary's, 60-24, in the second round before going on the road and beating fourth-ranked Merryville, 50-37 in the quarterfinals.

The Lady Gators previous two trips to the Top 28 saw them beat Oak Grove in the 2023 semifinals, 36-30, before falling in the state championship game to Oakdale 53-48. The 2024 trip was a tough one as they lost to Arcadia 60-29 in the semifinals.

"It's always hard to get here," said Fuller. "So, it's nice to get another opportunity. But right now, our only concern is Midland and then we will see from there."

With a win Monday, the Lady Gators will play Friday at 4 p.m. in the Division IV non-select state championship game against the winner of the other semifinal featuring second-ranked Arcadia (30-4) or third-ranked White Castle (25-10).