

# Women's basketball – Ice cool Bastian nets crucial baskets in first home win



Natalie Bastian drives for the basket in a game earlier this season. Picture Nigel Duncan Media

Natalie Bastian kept her cool to sink crucial free-throws and clinch a first home victory for Caledonia Pride.

Fans inside Edinburgh University's Pleasance Sports Complex erupted at the final whistle.

The narrow 79-78 victory stunned Westfield Health Sheffield Steelers.

And it capped a great comeback by the Scots who were more than ten points adrift at one stage in the game.

American-born Bastian may have claimed the points at the death to seal the history-making win.

But it was a pair of go-ahead triples from Scottish guard Hannah Robb at a critical point in the game which also made the difference.

Bastian, who was a stand-out for Franklin Pierce University Ravens and Most Valuable Player at Sacred Heart Academy, top scored with 24 points and Robb claimed 13 with Tricia Oakes collecting 12.

Brittany Wimborne was best for Sheffield with 22 points for with Helen Naylor next best of 20 and Georgine Gayle on 15.

The home side started well, winning the first quarter 21-15

and were edged 24-22 by Sheffield in the second.

The English side upped their game in the third and won it 18-11 but lost the decisive final session 25-21.

Coach Bart Sengers has worked hard with the team in their inaugural season and this win is a reward for that effort.