

Nuggets come back to beat Rockets

Max Klansky scored five of his 11 points in the final minute as the Nuggets earned a 46-41 come-from-behind victory over the Rockets in a recent eighth grade Amherst Youth Basketball game.

Klansky's three-pointer in the final 30 seconds secured the win for the Nuggets, who trailed for most of the first three quarters as the Rockets' Eric Stolzenburg (game-high 28 points) dominated inside.

Eric Wilczynski led seven Nuggets in scoring with 15 points. Max Pergament had six points. James Dryden, Jake Tyno and Anthony Castronova scored four points apiece and Joe Bennett had two points.

Matt Coloprisko had seven points for the Rockets, who only had six players dressed and had to face the Nuggets' game-long, full-court press.

The Rockets held a 14-8 first quarter lead and pushed it to 10 points in the first half. They led, 35-33, after three quarters. John Strohmeier had four points and Joey Rigler had two points.

Supersonics 26, Celtics 24

Christian Boswell played a strong overall game, including 12 points and nine rebounds, as he led the Supersonics to victory over the Celtics.

Neither team was able to break open the game. Both teams played strong team basketball and exhibited good sportsmanship.

The Celtics jumped out to a 6-4 first quarter lead on jump shots from Anthony Bonati and Jesse Feldman. The Supersonics responded with points on the strong inside play and rebounding of Boswell and Nate Joseph, who played strong on the boards.

The teams picked up the pace in the second quarter as the Supersonics' Zak Jehle and Brandon Maranto scored two points each and Boswell added six points from driving and rebounding. Boswell also made a steal and drove the length of the court for a basket.

The Celtics answered with baskets from Joey Mason, Todd Therrien, and Jessie Feldman.

As time expired, Feldman banked in a three-pointer from near half court, giving the Celtics a 15-14 half-time lead.

The Celtics' Bonati added five points in the third quarter while the Supersonics' Jehle responded with three points. Joseph and Boswell added two points each to give the Supersonics back the lead, 21-20.

In the fourth quarter, the Supersonics' Jehle added three points and Boswell added two. The Celtics added two foul shots from Therrien and a basket from Bonati.

With time running out, the defenses played hard.

The Supersonics' ball-handling guards, Kyle Knobel, Ezra Littman, and Maranto as well as Jehle, did an outstanding job passing and protecting the ball, especially in the face of an end of the game full-court Celtic press.

With five seconds left, Littman was fouled, giving him the chance to attempt foul shots to seal the victory.

Instead of a chance to add to the two-point lead, the Celtics got the ball back when a Supersonics teammate committed a lane violation. The Celtics got the ball in and called a timeout to set up a last play. The Celtics one last chance to score with one second left fell short, preserving the Supersonics win and added to an exciting finish.

The score was a tribute to the strong defense and team play of both teams. For the Supersonics, Nathaniel Hess, Jehle, and Ben Stoler hustled for loose balls and rebounds.

For the Celtics, strong defensive efforts came from Travis Davidson, Joel Gough, Arun Venkatarman, and Zach DiMarco.

Boswell had a game-high 12 points. Jehle scored eight points, Joseph added four, and Maranto had two.

Bonati led the Celtics with 11 points. Feldman added seven points, Therrien had four, and Mason had two.

Cavaliers 39, Lakers 37

In a game long see-saw affair, the Cavaliers defeated the Lakers.

Matt Radle scooped a driving layup with five seconds left, giving him 20 points for the game, to secure the victory. Backcourt mate Brett LaDuca scored six of his eight points in a very exciting fourth quarter, while center Andrew Nusall scored eight points of his own.

The Lakers' Sammy DiVita led the team with 11 points, including two long three-pointers. Ed Shi chipped in nine points.

Knicks 51, Heat 48

The Knicks battled the tough Heat team in this hard-fought game between two Eastern rivals. The Heat won the team's earlier match-up.

The teams traded baskets in the first quarter, which ended in a 16-16 tie. The Knicks were led by the outside shooting and spectacular drives to the basket by Pierce Young, who had 12 first quarter baskets. Edwin Young controlled the boards for the Heat and answered with 10 first quarter points.

The defenses of both teams clamped down in the second quarter and points were hard to come by. Andrew Pryshlak and Billy Hyland pressured the ball for the Heat, while Sam Guerin turned in a gutsy performance as he was playing with an injured wrist and foot. Jeff DiLuca and Ivan Tso played great defense for the Heat. The Knicks took a 26-25 halftime lead.

Good team basketball helped the Knicks build their lead to six points at the end of the third quarter. Scoring for the Knicks in the quarter were Kevin Hall and Young with four each, and Kyle Black, Christoph Kothe and Vincent Mazraany with two points each.

The battle on the boards was getting fierce, with Hall, Mazraany, Hyland and Andrew Milbrand working hard to box out the Heat's two big men, Young and Michael Lupp.

At the start of the fourth quarter, it was still anyone's game. The Knicks maintained their slim lead until late in the game, when Ben Georger hit a big three-point shot to give the Heat a 48-47 lead. The tough inside battle continued, and when the Heat's Young fouled out with less than two minutes left, the Knicks were able to get inside and score the last four points to ensure their tough three-point win.

Both teams were led by their respective Youngs. The Heat's Edwin scored 25 and the Knicks' Pierce answered with 24. Lupp added nine points for the Heat and Shane McKay chipped in eight. Hall helped the Knicks cause with 13 points and Mazraany added eight.

Braves 52, Raptors 33

Balanced scoring was the story of the game in the Braves' win over the undermanned Raptors.

All seven Braves scored in the victory.

The Raptors were led by the constant hustle of Evan Lang (seven points) and Matt Scheff (eight points). Jamie Sperazzo had four points while Greg Slawson and Zack Halter each had a bucket.

The Braves started quickly as they were ahead, 17-9, after the first quarter.

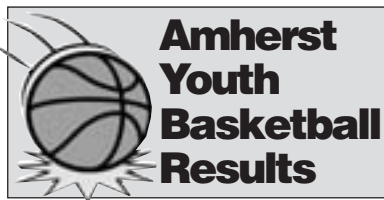
Matt Nicosia (team-high 18 points) had the highest point total of his career. Aaron Adams led the high scoring opening period with six first quarter points. He finished with nine and had a game-high 12 rebounds and controlled the boards throughout.

Matt Cohen played a strong floor game, distributing the ball to all and scoring 11 points. Tim Hartigan finished with six points, Adam Kalnitz had four points and Peter Fiorella and Nick Corbett scored two points each.

Rockets 52, Knicks 52

The Rockets and Knicks battled to the end and the score was indicative of how close the game was throughout.

The Rockets held the early lead with several players contributing to their cause, led by the inside play of



Eric Stolzenburg and Steven Teplitzky and the outside play of Matt Coloprisko, Nick Radice and Matt Scheff.

The Knicks hung close behind the great efforts of Kyle Black, Billy Hyland, Andrew Milbrand and Andrew Pryshlak.

The Knicks were able to build a small lead in the second half with Pierce Young hitting several outside shots and Kevin Hall finding his range close to the basket. Just as the Knicks thought they had some breathing room, the Rockets turned things in their favor with the three-point shot. Radice hit three three-pointers in a row and Scheff added one of his own in a four-minute stretch in the second half. Kevin Goldsmith scored on two offensive rebounds to help the Rockets retake the lead midway through the fourth quarter.

The Knicks fought back from behind to lead by four with less than two minutes to go, but the Rockets once again evened the score with a few seconds left. The Knicks didn't hit their last shot with less than five seconds left and the Rockets grabbed the rebound and called timeout. They got the ball inbounds to Stolzenburg, whose last second long-range shot fell just short.

Both teams had great efforts from all their players. Stolzenburg led the Rockets with 14 points. Radice had 11, Coloprisko added 10 and Scheff had seven. Joe Rigler and John Strohmeier played solid floor games for the Rockets. The Knicks got scoring from six different players, with Young leading the way with 18. Hall added 14, Black and Milbrand added eight each, and Hyland and Pryshlak tossed in two points each.

Heat 56, Cavaliers 47

The Heat were led by Edwin Young (23 points), Mike Lupp (12 points), Shane McKay 11 points), Ben Georger (six points), Mike Murphy (two points) and Jeff DiLuca (four points).

The Cavaliers scoring was led by Brett LaDuca (17 points), Matthew Radel (16 points), Andrew Nusal (10 points) and Jacob Garvelli (two points).

The teams were well-matched and the game was close throughout. In the closing minutes, two steals by Young helped boost the Heat to the win.

Fourth-fifth grade boys

St. John's 29, DePaul 21

Timmy Kreuz and Alex Wehrin led the St. John Red Storm's defensive efforts in containing the offensively explosive DePaul in its 29-21 win this past Saturday afternoon.

Both boys remained focused throughout the entire game. Both knew the intense effort that was necessary if St. John's was to prevail.

Wehrin also led the St. John's offense with 10 points, followed by Ryan Konotopsky's seven points. Konotopsky and Connor Smith continued their all-around excellent team play of setting picks, finding the open man, setting up the offense and helping out on defense to shut down the lanes. Smith added four points.

Max Brightenfield had one of his best games of the season with excellent defense and four points. Stephen Gervase and Cort Williams fought for control of the boards which proved crucial in this difficult defensive battle. Williams also contributed four points from tough positions under the basket.

Matthew Laughlin, although shorter than all of the competition, fought for rebounds and loose balls and was able to come up strong on four separate occasions with the ball. His defensive performance continues to be impressive. Ryan Majewski had another powerful performance as he scored 17 points for DePaul in a tireless effort on both offense and

defense. George Attea and Joe Uranov rounded out the scoring for DePaul's 21 points.

Marquette 30, Pittsburgh 29

You can't talk about evenly matched Big East teams without mentioning Marquette and Pittsburgh.

In back-to-back, home and home games the past two Saturday afternoons at Sweet Home High School, Marquette and Pitt each scored a total of 59 points. The Panthers won the opener, 27-26, while the Golden Eagles took the rematch. 30-29.

Last week, Marquette missed a shot at the buzzer after Pitt had drained a jumper to take the one-point lead. This week, Marquette came back in the final two minutes of play, scoring the last four points to eke-out the one-point win.

Neither team ever had more than a four-point lead. Marquette took a 14-13 lead into halftime on baskets by Joe Brady, Zachary Lee, and Jonathan Hall. The Panthers' first-half scoring was handled by Casey Davis, Mike Losi, Dave Lyskawa, and Nick Noll. The Panthers also got good first-half defensive play from Mike Shanahan and Andrew Spitznogle.

In the third quarter, the Golden Eagles were able to extend their lead by one on baskets by Patrick Hartigan, Jeffrey Calderon, and Lee. Marquette also had strong second half defensive play from Elliott Schulfand, Mandela Namaste, and Liam Hughes.

In the same quarter, the Panthers got a nice bucket from Bob Zabel and a nice 10-foot banker from the left wing by Jack Manzella.

In the final stanza, the Panthers took the lead based on the play of their solid southpaw floor general, Lyskawa, who scored eight of his 15 points in the final eight minutes of play.

But the Golden Eagles were unflappable as they played a near perfect 90 seconds of ball at the end of the game. Brady hit a shot to tie it up, followed by back court pressure that led to Hall intercepting a pass at half court.

On the final play of the game, Lee set a screen to free up Brady, who drove to the basket and got fouled in the act of shooting to notch his 15th point and allow Marquette to win at the buzzer.

Sixth grade girls

Nebraska 28, Oklahoma 13

In a game in which the lead changed hands numerous times, Nebraska came out on top against Oklahoma in girls Amherst Youth basketball play, Saturday at the Clearfield Recreation Center.

It wasn't until the fourth quarter when Nebraska broke away and took the win by scoring half of its total points.

The first quarter was a defensive match-up with both teams scoring only two by the end of the quarter. Nebraska's Maggie Steele connected for two and Jennifer DelSignore hit for two of her team-high six points for Oklahoma.

The second quarter began much like the first with both teams working hard on the defensive end of the floor. Hailey Wageman worked hard to prevent Oklahoma from getting an open shot, while teammates Chelsea Thomeer and Haley Stogsdill took charge under the boards. Stogsdill also hit for two, helping out Steele, who had four more in the second quarter. Gabby Tejada aided the effort by swishing one from the floor.

Morgan Allender and Sarah Schnabel were keys defensively for Oklahoma in the second quarter. They helped out teammates DelSignore and Alyssa Ferenczy, who each scored two points. That effort, along with Schnabel's free throw, brought their total by the half to seven, trailing Nebraska by just three points.

Hannah Dreger sparked Nebraska's offense in the third quarter by driving in for two and hitting another two from the floor. Divya Sukumaran and Sarah Stanford worked hard defensively with each coming up with a steal.

For Oklahoma, DelSignore had two off an offensive rebound. Teammate Ferenczy added a free throw. Hannah Pilkey and Laura Gagliano hustled on the defensive end of the court, causing Nebraska to scramble.

In the final period, Schnabel and Pilkey tried to spark Oklahoma's offense. Schnabel hit for two and Pilkey added a free throw. DelSignore was again tough under the boards and Allender and Gagliano gave Nebraska's guards a workout.

But it was in the fourth period that Nebraska's offense really came alive. Stogsdill netted six of her team-high eight points, connecting once from the key, once from underneath and once from the outside.

Stanford got two off the fast break and another two following an offensive rebound. Teammate Thomeer swished one from the baseline, and Sukumaran had two from the lane. Steel, Dreger, Tejada, and Wageman played excellent defense and were key in holding back Oklahoma's advance. The combined team effort brought Nebraska 14 points in the period and victory in the game.

Stogsdill led Nebraska with eight points with Steele contributing six. Dreger and Stanford knocked in four points a piece. Sukumaran, Tejada, and Thomeer each contributed two points.

DelSignore led Oklahoma with six points. Ferenczy and Schnabel each had three and Pilkey contributed one.

Colorado 24, Missouri 4

In a game that was much closer than the score would indicate, the Colorado Buffalos used a quick start and strong defense to come out on top of Missouri.

Coach Lynch had his Missouri Tigers well-prepared and the Tigers had several early opportunities. However, it was Colorado that was able to capitalize on a few fast breaks and through the tremendous all-around play of Kayla Burt and Megan Cirbus, led at halftime, 14-2. Burt had eight first half points and did a fine job defensively while Cirbus chipped in with four points and several dynamic assists.

In the second half, Colorado received contributions in the form of strong inside play from Shelby Donhauser, Alexis Cook and Emily Ludwig to neutralize the outstanding play of Katie Holmes and Melissa Magiera. Donhauser displayed a well-rounded game offensively with six points and very strong defensive rebounding. Ludwig finished with four points and Cook rounded out the scoring for Colorado with two points.

Holmes and Magiera both finished with two points each for the Tigers.

Texas 23, Nebraska 17

Texas jumped out to an early lead in the first quarter and was able to hold on to beat the Huskers at the Clearfield Arena.

Kelly Ferrell tossed in a game-high 12 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to record her first double-double of the season. Sabrina Lipowski ran the offense as she contributed four assists along with her six points.

Jackie Dellaneve added a bucket as did Dana Larkin. Maria Cicatello and Alexis Polokoff played strong de-

(Please turn to page 26)

Internet

Unlimited Hours. No Contracts!

\$9.95

per month
No Credit Card Required

- FREE 24/7 Technical Support
- Instant Messaging - keep your buddy list!
- 10 e-mail addresses with Webmail
- Custom Start Page - news, weather & more!

Experience
Surf up to 6X faster!

just 13 more

Sign Up Online! www.LocalNet.com

Call Today & Save!

LocalNet 692-5800

Reliable Internet Access Since 1994