

BOYS BASKETBALL

Wilson Memorial boys basketball team survives Fort Defiance rally

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FISHERSVILLE — The Wilson Memorial High School boys basketball team edged out a determined Fort Defiance squad 50-45 in Shenandoah District action Tuesday night.

The closely contested matchup went back-and-forth all game, with Wilson Memorial coming up big down the stretch to come out on top.

"The difference at the end was our veterans made plays when we needed to make plays," said Wilson Memorial head coach Jeremy Hartman.

Wilson Memorial led 40-36 heading into the fourth period, but three-pointers by the Indians' Jack Liskey and Tyreek Veney returned the lead back to the visitors. A steal and hoop by Veney gave the Fort a 44-41 lead midway through the quarter, forcing a Wilson timeout.

But from there, the Hornets went on a 9-1 run to close out the game. A driving layup by senior Josh Johnson and a free throw by junior Finn Irving knotted the game at 44-all.

The Indians went back ahead 45-44 on a free throw by junior Kaden Johnson, but Wilson grabbed the lead for good on a steal by Johnson and an assist to junior Lucas Schatz. Four more free throws by the Hornets sealed the game in the final minute.

Irving led all scorers for the game with 28 points.

"He (Irving) is quick off his feet with a quick bounce," Hartman said. The Wilson coach also cited the Hornets' rebounding and second-chance points. "That's been a point of emphasis," Hartman said.

The victory was the first district game of the season for the Hornets, who improved to 7-2 overall. "That was a big one for us; and it being a rivalry game too," Hartman said.

Wilson had not played a game in 19 days and will travel to Turner Ashby on Wednesday and Riverheads on Friday with three more games next week.

Veney led the Fort (4-4 overall, 1-1 district) with 15 points while sophomore Samuel Garber netted a dozen.

Irving completed a double-double with 10 rebounds, while Schatz also had 10 boards with three blocked shots.

Veney added three steals and three assists for the Indians, while Garber had three blocks.

The Hornets enjoyed a 37-21 advantage on the boards.

The Indians face host Broadway on Thursday and Waynesboro on Friday.

WILSON MEMORIAL 52, FORT DEFIANCE 45

FORT DEFIANCE 7 18 11 9 — 45

WILSON MEMORIAL 8 16 16 10 — 52

FORT DEFIANCE (45)

Smith 2 0-0 6, K. Johnson 0 3-4 3, J. Jones 0 2-2 2, Garber 5 0-2 12, Veney 5 3-4 15, Hebb 1 0-0 2, Liskey 1 0-0 3, Gutshall 1 0-0 2. Totals 15 8-12 45.

WILSON MEMORIAL (50)

Vess 1 0-0 2, J. Johnson 2 3-4 7, Armstrong 1 2-2 4, Briseno 1 1-2 3, Irving 10 8-12 28, Schatz 2 0-0 4, Wright 1 0-0 2. Totals 18 14-20 50.

FDHS Varsity at Wilson Memorial High School

January 11, 2022

At Wilson Memorial High School

Fort Defiance ran up against a tall and talented Wilson Memorial squad on the visitor's floor on Tuesday, January 11. In a game full of spurts, Wilson enjoyed the final one, outscoring Fort 9 – 1 in the final few minutes to take a 50 – 45 win. Finn Irving was a thorn in the Indian's side, scoring 28 points, nearly all from close in as the Hornets outrebounded Fort badly.

This wasn't a good shooting game for the Indians; if it had been, the result would likely have been different. Tyreek Veney, who has averaged over 20 points per game this season, was held to 15 points and didn't have a good shooting game.

Turnovers were another issue in this game. Kaden Johnson and Tyreek both had multiple turnovers, giving the taller Hornets a chance to shoot, rebound, and score. A bright spot for the Indians' defense was that Henry Gutshall drew three charging fouls. Two of those were in the first quarter which saw Fort only down 8 – 7.

Wilson didn't shoot well, either, and made no three pointers in the game. Sam Garber, Drew Smith, and Tyreek all had three pointers for Fort in the first half as Fort pulled out to a 25 – 24 lead at the half.

Fort went cold again in the third quarter and had four turnovers during the period. The bright spot during this quarter was making 5 of 6 free throws by Kaden and Tyreek. But Wilson led 40 – 36 going into the final period.

Jack Liskey and Tyreek each hit three pointers to open the fourth quarter though Kaden got his second technical foul in two games for slamming the ball down. Soon thereafter, Tyreek got a steal and raced down the court for a basket, giving FDHS a 44 – 41 lead with 4:37 to go. From there on out, Fort scored only one point while Wilson scored nine, giving them the 50 – 45 win.

Fort's record is now 4 – 4 overall, 1 – 1 in the Skyline District.

Here is Fort's box score for the game:

Name	FG	FT	Total
Landon Simmons	0	0-0	0
Drew Smith	2	0-0	6
Kaden Johnson	0	3-4	3
Josh Jones	0	2-2	2
Conner Patterson	0	0-0	0
Sam Garber	5	0-2	12
Tyreek Veney	5	3-4	15
Bradley Hebb	1	0-0	2
Jack Liskey	1	0-0	3
Alphonso Bruce	0	0-0	0
Henry Gutshall	1	0-0	2
FDHS	15	8-12	45