

FDHS JV vs Monticello High School
December 28, 2021
At Fort Defiance High School

The Fort JV's dropped a 53 – 39 basketball game to Monticello Tuesday night in a performance the JV's would like to forget. The first time these two teams played at Monticello, FDHS lost by a 41 – 40 score but they never were in this game.

From an onlooker's viewpoint, the team is bogged down with three major issues. First, they do not play as a team with several players shooting the ball entirely too many times, often taking poor shots. Of their first five shots taken from the field in the game, at least three were blocked. The guards are particularly bad about going one-on-three on offense, not looking to pass the ball but to put up a shot.

Secondly, they do not shoot the ball well at all. I suspect tonight's shooting percentage was much under 20% from the floor. From the free throw line, they are equally poor. From the free throw line tonight they were 7 – 17.

Thirdly, they turn the ball over entirely too much. They had approximately ten turnovers in tonight's game, mostly on bad passes. The turnover bug started early on for Fort with guard Gio Armendariz Cruz turning it over on Fort's first possession. FDHS had four turnovers in the first quarter as Monticello went out to a 5 – 0 lead that was stretched to 14 – 8 by the end of the quarter.

Gio had another turnover early on which Monticello capitalized on as their lead grew to 18 – 8. Fort then made a small run, closing the score to 20 – 17 with a Carter Berry three pointer. Carter Fink then made one of two free throws to pull the Indians within two at 20 – 18 but that was as close as they got. A Monticello three pointer near the buzzer left the score at 23 – 18 at the half.

Fort's shooting was particularly poor in the third quarter. Gio had seven errant shots in this quarter alone. He only made one field goal in the quarter. On his last miss, Gus Gutshall grabbed the rebound and scored. He was fouled on the play but missed his free throw. Fort could muster only two field goals the entire quarter and fell behind 36 – 26 at the end of the third quarter.

In the fourth, Gio had two field goals, Isaac Marshall a three pointer, Carter Fink a bucket, and Carter Berry a basket but Monticello kept increasing its lead. The final score was 53 – 39.