

FDHS JV's Drop Season Opener to Rockbridge

Fort Defiance High School opened the 2022-23 Boys Junior Varsity Basketball season with a 48 – 29 loss to the Rockbridge Wildcats on November 29 in Fort Defiance. Unfortunately for the Indians, shooting and ball handling were substandard throughout the game which made it impossible to overtake the tall Rockbridge team.

The starters for the first game of the regular season were Gus Gutshall, Isaac Marshall, Carter Berry, Jasigh Ransome, and Evan Braun. The turnovers started early for FDHS as they suffered four in the first four minutes of play. After Rockbridge took a 4 – 0 lead, Rhylan Martin scored on a short jumper with 3:37 to go. Rockbridge extended its lead to 8 – 2 before Gus took a nice pass from Carter to put the Indians closer at 8 – 4. Unfortunately, Gus twisted his ankle and spent most of the rest of the game on the bench with his ankle iced. The first quarter ended at 8 – 4 in favor of the Wildcats.

Isaac's three pointer from the corner brought FDHS within three at 10 – 7 in the second quarter but Rockbridge extended its lead to 13 – 7 with 4:22 to go. Elijah Pultz scored for Fort but Rockbridge took advantage of more FDHS turnovers to go up 19 – 9 before Rhylan's jumper from in close made it 19 – 11. Fort's poor shooting in the half left the score 19 – 11 at the break.

Two more consecutive turnovers led to a 21 – 11 Rockbridge lead. Fort closed to 21 – 13 with two free throws. Then Carter scored on a drive before Rockbridge hit two more buckets to make the score 25 – 15. Carter's jumper got Fort within eight but then Rockbridge hit two straight three pointers to take a commanding 31 - 17 lead. Isaac's three made the score 31 – 20. Rockbridge took advantage of more FDHS turnovers to push their lead to 39 – 20 with one minute to go. Carter scored his fourth jumper of the quarter followed by Evan's in-close jumper to make the score 41 – 24 after three periods.

Carter again scored in close to open the fourth quarter but Rockbridge pushed their lead to 46 – 26 before Rhylan's two made it 46 – 28 with three minutes to go. Elijah made one of two free throws to end Fort's scoring as the final was Rockbridge 48, Fort Defiance 29. Carter led Fort with 12 points.

Fort's Box Score:

Name	2 Pt Goals	3 Pt Goals	Free Throws	Total
Gus Gutshall	1	0	0-0	2
Evan Braun	1	0	0-0	2
Isaac Marshall	0	1	0-0	3
Carter Berry	5	0	2-2	12
Rhylan Martin	2	0	0-0	4
Tripp Hanger	0	0	0-0	0
Jasigh Ransome	0	0	0-0	0
Elijah Pultz	2	0	1-2	5

Aiden Skillman	0	0	0-1	0
TOTAL	11	1	3-5	28