

Indians JV Team Crushes Buffalo Gap 40 - 27

The Fort Defiance Indians Junior Varsity squad led the entire way in dominating Buffalo Gap 40 – 27 at BGHS on December 20. Fort rushed out to a 15 – 7 lead at the end of the first quarter and didn't look back in rolling up their fourth victory in a row.

Carter Berry led the Indians with 11 points. Gus Gutshall flipped in eight while both Isaac Marshall and Evan Braun added six apiece. All of the Indians saw action as Fort was able to substitute after building up the early lead.

Carter opened the scoring with a deuce inside the lane. Gap tied the score then Isaac hit the first of his two three pointers to push the lead to 5 – 2. Evan picked up an offensive rebound and put it back in to extend the lead to 7 – 2 with 3:56 to go. After a Gap free throw, Gus snared an offensive rebound and scored to make it 9 – 3. Carter took a nice pass from Rhylan Martin to make it 11 – 3 then Rhylan got an assist from Jasigh Ransome after a steal to quickly give the Indians a ten point lead. Gap scored to make it 13 – 5 then Gus once again turned an offensive rebound into two points. Gap closed out the quarter with a bucket to leave it at 15 – 7 after one period.

Rhylan scored with 5:58 to go in the second to give the Indians a 17 – 7 lead and Tripp Hanger followed with a layup. At this point, Fort emptied its bench which allowed Gap to claw back a little closer. Jasigh's free throw was the only point the Indians scored the rest of the quarter which ended up being 20 – 15 in favor of FDHS.

Carter's layup from Jasigh opened the second half scoring. Gap closed within 5 at 22 – 17 but Evan rebounded his own missed shot, was fouled, and made both free throws to make it 24 – 17. Carter scored the next two FDHS baskets, the second of which came after an offensive rebound, leaving the score at 28 – 17 with 1:33 to go in the quarter. Gus got another offensive rebound, was fouled, and hit one of two free throws to make it 29 – 17. Gap closed the margin at the end of the quarter to 29 – 21, aided by two free throws on a technical foul called on the FDHS coach, Will Henderson.

In the fourth, Gus found Isaac open in the corner and he hit his second three pointer of the night. After a few FDHS turnovers and a BGHS free throw, Gus took a nice pass from Evan and scored to make it 34 – 22. Evan then got an assist from Rhylan for a jumper to make it 36 – 22. Carter picked up another offensive rebound, was fouled on his shot, and made one of two to give the Indians a commanding 37 – 22 lead. Jasigh got his first basket of the night to make it 39 – 22. After Gap scored to make it 39 – 25, Gus was fouled after grabbing another offensive rebound and made one of two free throws. At that point, Fort again substituted liberally. Gap managed one basket down the stretch which left the final at FDHS 40, BGHS 27.

Fort dominated the boards in this game on both ends. Gus, Carter, and Evan were able to pick up numerous offensive rebounds and limited Gap to one shot on most of its possessions.

The next game is scheduled for Thursday, December 22, at Alleghany High School.

Fort's Box Score:

| Name | 2 Pt Goals | 3 Pt Goals | Free Throws | Total |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Tripp Hanger | 1 | 0 | 0-0 | 2 |
| Evan Braun | 2 | 0 | 2-2 | 6 |
| Isaac Marshall | 0 | 2 | 0-0 | 6 |
| Carter Berry | 5 | 0 | 1-2 | 11 |
| Jasigh Ransome | 1 | 0 | 1-2 | 3 |
| Gus Gutshall | 3 | 0 | 2-4 | 8 |
| Rhylan Martin | 2 | 0 | 0-2 | 4 |
| TOTAL | 14 | 2 | 6-12 | 40 |