

Fort JV Team Bests Wilson Memorial 41 - 32

The Fort Defiance JV basketball team beat Wilson Memorial 41 – 32 in the FDHS gym on January 10. Fort never trailed in the matchup and was able to get playing time from everyone wearing a jersey. With the win, the JV record improved to 6 – 4 for the season.

Isaac Marshall opened the scoring with a three pointer. Aided by multiple FDHS turnovers, Wilson was able to tie the score at 3’s. Isaac then took a pass from Gus Gutshall and drained another triple to make the score 6 – 3. Wilson closed to 6 – 5 then Isaac hit a deuce to make the score 8 - 5 with 1:03 to go in the quarter. Again turnovers plagued the JV Indians and allowed the Hornets to tie the score near the end of the quarter. But on an out of bounds play with just 6.5 seconds left, Rhyland Martin took a full court pass like a football wide receiver, scored the layup, and was fouled. His free throw gave the Indians an 11 – 8 lead after one quarter.

The Hornets scored in close to get within one at 11 – 10 but then Gus took a pass in the lane and spun to his right, flipping it in to give the Indians a three point advantage. Evan Braun’s two free throws made it 15 – 10. Tripp Hanger got into the action with a three pointer from the top of the key to give Fort a 18 – 10 advantage. Wilson scored to make it 18 – 12 and added a free throw. Then Elijah Pultz took a nice pass from Carter Berry to score in close, making the score 20 – 13. Jasigh Ransome’s layup with 52 seconds to go gave the Indians a comfortable 22 – 13 lead but the Hornets were able to get a miracle half court shot banked in as time expired to make the halftime score 22 – 16.

Carter got an offensive rebound and scored to open the third period’s scoring. Wilson responded with two field goals to get within four at 24 – 20. Evan then hit two more free throws to make it 26 – 20. After Wilson scored again, on a subsequent FDHS possession, he took a nice pass from Carter to push the lead to 28 – 22. Wilson’s three pointer closed the gap to 28 – 25 but Isaac hit his third three of the game to make it 31 – 25. Evan scored on a nice drive to make the score 33 – 25 then Hunter Hamer added a bucket to give Fort a 35 – 25 lead at the end of the third.

Turnovers kept FDHS from expanding their lead in the final period. Evan had a jumper and Tripp a layup followed by two free throws to give FDHS a comfortable 41 – 25 lead but the Indians turned the ball over on the next six possessions they had to allow Wilson to get closer. The final score was 41 – 32, FDHS.

Fort was led by Isaac with 11 points. Evan scored 10 and Tripp added seven. Nine Indians scored. The JV team plays again on Thursday, January 12, at home against the Broadway Gobblers.

Fort’s Box Score:

Name	2 Pt Goals	3 Pt Goals	Free Throws	Total
Gus Gutshall	1	0	0-0	2
Isaac Marshall	1	3	0-0	11
Tripp Hanger	1	1	2-3	7
Jasigh Ransome	1	0	0-0	2

Evan Braun	3	0	4-4	10
Carter Berry	1	0	0-0	2
Hunter Hamer	1	0	0-0	2
Elijah Pultz	1	0	0-0	2
Rhyland Martin	1	0	1-1	3
TOTAL	11	4	7-8	41