

Indians knock off Shenandoah District Leader Wilson, 47 - 40

Fort Defiance used a tough defense and a fine game from Sam Garber to defeat Wilson Memorial 47 – 40 on January 10 in the Don Landes Gym at FDHS. Wilson came into the game undefeated in district play, 3 – 0, but Fort was clearly the better team in this game. It was an unusual game for the Indians in that Tyreek Veney was held to only four points, his season low, but his teammates picked up the slack to defeat the Hornets. Fort's defensive job on Wilson's Finn Irving was key to the victory. Irving only managed 9 points, with most of them coming in the last few minutes.

Sam, who started the game on the bench, led FDHS with 15 points. He hit three timely three pointers in the game. Henry Gutshall and Gio Armendariz Cruz added 8 each. Jack Liskey scored five. Lucas Schatz led WMHS with 17.

Bradley Hebb got the Indians started with a field goal on a drive but Wilson answered to tie it at 2 – 2. A Schatz three pointer gave the Hornets a 5 – 2 lead before Henry answered with a three from the top of the key to tie the score. After Wilson got a free throw from Schatz, Sam hit a jumper from the free throw line to give the Indians a 7 – 6 lead. Wilson responded with a jumper to take a 8 – 7 lead, their last of the night. Jack pumped in a trey from the side to put FDHS up 10 – 8 and Gio scored in close to give the Indians a 12 – 8 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Henry picked up his second foul early in the second quarter on a terrible call from the officials so he had to sit a good bit of the period. After the Hornets hit a free throw to make the score 12 – 9, Kaden Johnson hit a three pointer from the top of the key to make it 15 – 9. Sam's three from the corner gave the Indians a nine point advantage at 18 – 9. WMHS scored but Sam hit another jumper to make it 20 – 11 with 4:52 left in the second. Several turnovers then hindered Fort from being able to push their lead. Meanwhile, Wilson hit a three pointer to make the score 22 – 14. Then Sam again swished a jumper from the foul line. Tyreek scored on an acrobatic shot off a drive to make the score 24 – 17. Jack then got ahead of everyone else and hit a layup to give the Indians a nice 26 – 17 lead at the half.

The third quarter was a good one for the Indians. Gio's deuce upped the lead to 28 – 17. Then Sam hit another three pointer from the corner to make it 31 – 17 and Bradley's two pointer on a reverse layu gave FDHS a surprising 16 point lead at 33 – 17. Wilson clawed back to 33 – 17 but Sam's three again from the corner made it 36 – 20 with 3:16 to go. The Indians didn't score the rest of the period but Wilson managed only three so the score was 36 – 23 after three periods.

Gio scored on a drive to open the fourth quarter. Fort didn't score for the next two minutes while Wilson hit two deuces to close the gap to 38 – 27. Henry took a pass and drove down the left hand side of the lane and flipped it in to make it 40 – 27. He picked up his 4th foul shortly thereafter but managed to play the rest of the game without fouling out. Meanwhile, thanks to sloppy ball handling by the Indians, Wilson closed the gap to 40 – 34 with 1:30 to go. Gio then was fouled but he missed his first shot of the one-and-one but Sam leaped high to snare the rebound and pass to Tyreek. Tyreek was fouled and he hit both of his free throws to give FDHS

an eight point lead at 42 – 34. Another poor pass by FDHS gave Wilson an easy layup but WMHS made the mistake of fouling Henry with 55 seconds to go. He buried both shots of the one-and-one to return the lead eight at 44 – 36. Irving quickly scored for Wilson but then the Hornets fouled Gio who made both of his free throws to make it 46 – 38 with 40 seconds left. On Fort’s next possession, Henry was again fouled and he hit one of two free throws to give FDHS a 47 – 38 spread. Wilson got the final bucket of the contest which made the final score Fort 47, Wilson 40. It was a good win for the Indians.

The win makes Fort’s season record 7 – 4, 2 – 1 in the Shenandoah District. Wilson’s season record is also 7 – 4 and their Shenandoah District record dropped to 3 – 1. FDHS returns to action on Thursday, January 12, hosting Broadway.

Fort’s Box Score:

Name	2 Pt Goals	3 Pt Goals	Free Throws	Total
Gio Armendariz Cruz	3	0	2-3	8
Bradley Hebb	2	0	0-0	4
Kaden Johnson	0	1	0-0	3
Conner Patterson	0	0	0-0	0
Sam Garber	3	3	0-0	15
Tyreek Veney	1	0	2-3	4
Jack Liskey	1	1	0-1	5
Del Ray Jones	0	0	0-0	0
Jalen Alexander	0	0	0-0	0
Henry Gutshall	1	1	3-4	8
TOTAL	11	6	7-11	47

Wilson Memorial’s Box Score:

Name	2 Pt Goals	3 Pt Goals	Free Throws	Total
Colton Lavender	0	0	0-0	0
Ardan Podgotski	1	0	0-0	2
Eli Irving	0	1	1-2	4
Max Vess	1	0	0-0	2
Finn Irving	4	0	1-1	9
Lucas Schatz	2	3	4-6	17
Grant Wright	3	0	0-3	6
TOTAL	11	4	6-12	40

The following article was from the Harrisonburg Daily News Record:

Fort Defiance 47, Wilson Memorial 40: Samuel Garber scored 15 points, including a trio of 3-pointers, as Fort Defiance used a strong second-quarter run to deliver Wilson Memorial its first Shenandoah District setback of the season inside Don Landes Gymnasium.

Freshman standout Gio Armendariz Cruz finished with eight points for the Indians, while senior Henry Gutshall also had eight, and Jack Liskey, another senior, scored five.

Tyreek Veney and Bradley Hebb finished with four points apiece for Fort in the victory.

Lucas Schatz led the Green Hornets, who had a four-game losing streak snapped, with 17 points, while standout senior guard Finn Irving was held to nine points on the evening.

The Indians (7-4, 2-1 Shenandoah), who snapped a two-game skid themselves, are right back at it Thursday with a non-district home game against longtime area rival Broadway, while Wilson (7-4, 3-1 Shenandoah) will travel to Riverheads on Friday for a 7:30 p.m. tip.

Wilson Memorial 8 9 6 17 — 40

Fort Defiance 12 14 10 11 — 47

WILSON MEMORIAL (40) — Lavender 0 0-0 0, Podgorski 1 0-0 2, E. Irving 1 1-2 4, Vess 1 0-0 2, F. Irving 4 1-1 9, Schatz 3 4-6 17, Wright 3 0-3 6. Totals 13 6-12 40.

FORT DEFIANCE (47) — Cruz 3 2-3 8, Hebb 2 0-0 4, Johnson 1 0-0 3, Garber 6 0-0 15, Patterson 0 0-0 0, Veney 1 2-3 4, Jones 0 0-0 0, Liskey 2 0-1 5, Gutshall 2 3-3 8. Totals 17 7-10 47.

3-Point Goals — Fort Defiance 6 (Garber 3, Johnson, Liskey, Gutshall)