

Fort Defiance topples Waynesboro 59 - 46

Waynesboro had no answer for Sam Garber and Tyreek Veney as the Fort Defiance Indians took down the Waynesboro Little Giants 59 – 46 on January 13 in the cold, dark Waynesboro gym. The win boosts Fort’s record to 8 – 5, 3 – 1 in the Shenandoah District. Waynesboro’s record dropped to 3 – 10, 1 – 3 in the District.

Fort was two men down for the game as Bradley Hebb and Gio Armendariz Cruz both were out with injuries. Bradley has an infection in his elbow and Gio is nursing a hyperextended knee. But Sam and Tyreek rose to the occasion, netting 24 and 19 points, respectively. Henry Gutshall, who was in foul trouble most of the night, pitched in six and Jack Liskey added five. The Indians pulled ahead midway in the first quarter and never trailed afterwards, building up a lead of up to nineteen points by the third quarter.

Henry opened the scoring by hitting one of two free throws. Jack followed with a triple to put the visitors up 4 – 0. Waynesboro hit two free throws and a field goal to tie the score, then Tyreek got his first basket to put the Indians up 6 – 4. A Waynesboro three pointer gave the Little Giants a temporary lead in the game, 7 – 6, and they added another bucket to get a 9 – 6 lead. Tyreek tied it with 2:24 to go with his first three pointer, then Sam took over. He hit one of two free throws then buried a three pointer to give the Indians a 13 – 9 lead. The Indians had the ball and could have held for the last shot in the quarter but they shot too soon which gave Waynesboro the chance to score. Waynesboro’s Charles Haynes hit a driving layup and was fouled on the shot. He made his free throw, leaving the score 13 – 12 after the first period.

Waynesboro tied the score at 13’s to open the second quarter. Henry picked up his second foul which forced him to sit nearly all of the period. Sam drove and scored, making it 15 – 13 in favor of FDHS. After WHS tied the score, Kaden Johnson’s drive made it 17 – 15. Waynesboro closed to 17 – 16 then Sam snared an offensive rebound and put it back in, making the score 19 – 16. Tyreek then drained two consecutive three pointers from downtown to give Fort a nice 25 – 16 advantage. Waynesboro hit a trey to make it 25 – 19 with 1:53 to go. Sam bombed another three pointer and Jalen Alexander scored in close to give FDHS a 30 – 19 lead. Waynesboro added a triple before the end of the quarter making the score 30 – 22 at the half.

Waynesboro pulled within five with a three pointer to open the second half but Sam’s nice move and left hand score made it 32 – 25. Tyreek added a pair of free throws and Sam hit one of two to give FDHS a 10 point lead with 5:57 to go. Sam then stepped in front of a Waynesboro pass and made the layup to make it 37 – 25. Waynesboro closed to 37 – 28 but Henry found Sam open under the basket for an easy deuce. On the next possession, Fort had the ball out under the Waynesboro goal. On a nice in-bounds play, Henry was wide open for an easy score, making it 41 – 28 with 3:23 to go. Henry then hit two free throws and Sam scored a layup on a long football-type pass to give Fort a gigantic 45 – 28 lead. Sam’s spinner in the lane gave the Indians their biggest lead of the night, 47 – 28. After Waynesboro hit a free throw, Henry added one of two for the Indians making the score 48 – 31. Waynesboro hit a buzzer-beater at the end of the quarter which left the score at 48 – 33 in favor of Fort.

Waynesboro picked up some momentum to start the fourth quarter. Henry picked up his 4th foul and had to return to the bench early in the period. Meanwhile, Waynesboro scored the first five points to pull within ten at 48 – 38. Jack broke the momentum with a layup with 6:08 to go. Waynesboro scored to close to 50 – 40 but Sam added a field goal then made a nice pass to Tyreek for a layup. Sam missed the front end of a one-and-one opportunity but Tyreek leaped high to snare the rebound and score, making it 56 – 40. Waynesboro closed to 56 – 42 but Tyreek hit two free throws with 42 seconds left to make it 58 – 42. FDHS then emptied its bench. Connor Patterson was able to knock in one of two free throws in the final seconds. The final score was 59 – 46.

This was by far the best game of the season for Sam. He not only was unstoppable on offense, he dominated the boards and had several steals. Waynesboro had only one player in double figures, Haden Morris with 10.

The win sets up a big game on Tuesday night as FDHS goes to Staunton to face the Storm, which is also 3 – 1 in the District. The Indians also have games with Monticello and Stuarts Draft next week.

Fort's Box Score:

Name	2 Pt Goals	3 Pt Goals	Free Throws	Total
Kaden Johnson	1	0	0-1	2
Conner Patterson	0	0	1-2	1
Sam Garber	8	2	2-5	24
Tyreek Veney	3	3	4-4	19
Jack Liskey	1	1	0-0	5
Del Ray Jones	0	0	0-0	0
Jalen Alexander	1	0	0-0	2
Henry Gutshall	1	0	4-6	6
Alphonso Bruce	0	0	0-0	0
Austin Metz	0	0	0-0	0
TOTAL	15	6	11-18	59

Waynesboro's Box Score:

Name	2 Pt Goals	3 Pt Goals	Free Throws	Total
Jaylin McCoy	0	1	2-5	5
Satori Nash	1	0	0-0	2
Charles Haynes	1	2	1-1	9
Jackson Darden	0	1	0-0	3
Zevian Robinson	2	1	2-2	9
Vaiden Hite	0	1	0-0	3
Shakil McGuffin	0	0	0-0	0
Haden Morris	2	2	0-0	10
Patrick Jackson Jr.	1	0	0-0	2

Javon Wells	1	0	1-2	3
TOTAL	8	8	6-10	46

The following article was in the Waynesboro News Virginian newspaper:

https://newsvirginian.com/sports/fort-defiance-boys-basketball-team-beats-waynesboro/article_b551d186-93c3-11ed-8c6a-7fbb2f46573d.html

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Fort Defiance boys basketball team beats Waynesboro

Ben Craft

Jan 13, 2023



Waynesboro's Charlie Haynes looks to pass as he's defended by Fort Defiance's Henry Gutshall on Friday night in Waynesboro. Ben Craft, The News Virginian

Ben Craft

Fort Defiance's Sam Garber had a pretty good idea before Friday's game that he was in for a big night.

The junior erupted for a career-high 24 points and established his defensive presence as he led the Indians to a 59-46 win over the Waynesboro Little Giants in Shenandoah District boys basketball action.

“The guy guarding me, I knew it was a mismatch,” Garber said. “I told the guys, ‘give it to me down low, and I’ll work with him.’”

Waynesboro played competitively in the opening quarter, only trailing by one after the opening period after a seven-point performance from sophomore Zevion Robinson.

In the second quarter, the Indians began to pull away as they dominated the paint with efficient play. Little Giants head coach John Spears said the team failed to work as a complete unit on Friday evening to prevent Fort Defiance from having its way close to the basket.

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“We had a lot of missed assignments,” Spears said. “On out-of-bounds plays, they made a lot of easy layups on us. It was almost like a middle school team playing defense, which is embarrassing. We have a lack of communication. We need to look at the film and see what we need to do.”

After leading by eight at halftime, Fort Defiance looked to build some cushion, and Garber stepped up to provide it. Garber notched 11 points in the pivotal quarter as the Indians entered the final quarter with a 15-point advantage.

“I knew we needed to put some points on the board to put the game away, and that’s what we did,” Garber said.

Waynesboro sought to make it interesting in the fourth quarter after a triple from freshman Haden Morris cut the lead to 10 with six minutes left in the contest. Still, the Little Giants could not continue building momentum, and Fort Defiance closed out the game without any drama.

To go along with Garber's 24 points, Tyreek Veney scored 19 points for Fort Defiance.

"When Sam starts hitting shots, and he's feeling good on offense; I think he can be the best player on the floor any given night," Fulk said of his junior. "He has a lot of skill and potential. ... I thought he was engaged the entire time on the defensive end. As good as he was on offense, I was maybe even prouder of his defensive effort."

Morris led the Little Giants with 11 points, while Charlie Haynes provided nine.

"I give Fort all the credit. They outplayed us, outhustled us, and beat us on the boards. They shot the ball extremely well tonight," Spears said. "They played well and deserved it. We just couldn't match the intensity."

The Indians improve to 8-5 (3-1) with the win and play at Staunton on Tuesday night.

Waynesboro drops to 3-10 (1-3) with the loss and hosts Riverheads on Tuesday.

"We are getting better, even though the record doesn't show that," Spears said of his team.

FORT DEFIANCE 59, WAYNESBORO 46

WAYNESBORO 12 10 11 13 — 46

FORT DEFIANCE 13 17 18 11 — 59

FORT DEFIANCE (59) — Veney 6 4-4 19, Garber 10 2-5 24, Gutshall 1 4-6 6, Johnson 1 0-1 2, Liskey 2 0-0 5, Alexander 1 0-0 2, Metz 0 1-2 1, Hebb, Cruz, Fink, Jones, Patterson, Bruce, TOTALS 21 11-18 59.

WAYNESBORO (46) — McCoy 1 2-5 5, Haynes 3 1-1 9, Robinson 3 2-2 9, Morris 4 0-0 11, Nash 1 0-0 2, Darden 1 0-0 3, Hite 1 0-0 3, Jackson 1 0-0 3, Wells 1 1-2 3, McGuffin, Brown, TOTALS 16 6-10 46