

## **Fort JV Team Tops Stuarts Draft 47 - 38**

The Fort Defiance JV team outscored Stuarts Draft in each of the four quarters on January 20 to take a 47 – 38 win over the Cougars. The win improves Fort’s record to 9 – 5, 5 – 1 in the District.

Fort was without the services of Evan Braun and Hunter Hamer who were ill. Fort got good scoring from Isaac Marshall, 17, Jasigh Ransome, 12, Carter Berry, 8, and Gus Gutshall, 7. These four scored 44 of the team’s 47 points.

Gus opened the scoring with a nice spin move in the paint. Isaac followed with a three pointer then he hit a field goal to quickly give Fort a 7 – 0 lead. Jasigh hit one of two free throws before Draft got on the board. They closed to 8 – 5 before Gus hit one of two free throws to give the home team a 9 – 5 lead. Near the end of the quarter, Isaac missed his attempt for a three pointer but Jasigh was in the right place to tip the rebound back in at the buzzer which gave FDHS an 11 – 5 lead at the end of the first period.

A three pointer got Draft back within three at 11 – 8 but Jasigh stepped in front of a SDHS pass and took it the distance to push Fort’s lead back to 13 – 8. Isaac then took a nice pass from Gus to make it 15 – 8 with 4:39 to go. Draft scored but then Jasigh hit both ends of a one-and-one to make the score 17 – 10. Draft scored to make it 17 – 12 then Isaac hit one of two free throws to make it 18 – 12 with 2:17 left. Isaac’s three pointer gave FDHS a comfortable 21 – 12 lead but an awful pass gave Draft an easy layup to close out the scoring at the end of the half with Fort leading, 21 – 14.

In the third, Draft closed to 21 – 16 then Carter fed Gus with a nice pass and he scored to make it 23 – 16. SDHS hit a free throw then Carter hit two from the charity stripe to make it 25 – 17. Draft scored to pull them within six at 25 – 19 but Parker Blosser made a nice left handed layup to return Fort’s lead to eight at 27 – 19. Carter then had back to back field goals sandwiched around a Draft score to make it 31 – 21. The Cougars then banged in a three pointer before Isaac hit two free throws with 30 seconds left to make it 33 – 24. A late field goal by the visitors left the score at 33 – 26 after three quarters.

Stuarts Draft mounted a comeback in the last period. After a SDHS foul shot, Gus hit one of two from the line to make it 34 – 27. Draft scored the next five points to narrow the lead to two at 34 – 32. Jasigh hit one of two from the line then Carter drove for two more to return Fort’s lead to five at 37 – 32. Gus snared an offensive rebound and was fouled while making his put-back. He hit one of two free throws then Isaac hit a jumper to make it 40 – 32 with 3:57 to go. After a SDHS goal, Jasigh hit one of two from the line to give the home team a 41 – 34 advantage. As they have done all season long, though, the Fort JV’s then committed several turnovers. Draft was able to capitalize on just one of them, though, which left the score at 41 – 36. From here, Draft was forced to put the Indians on the foul line. In the final minute, Jasigh hit three of four foul shots, Rhyland Martin one of two, and Isaac made two of two. The final score was 47 – 38.

Next up for the Indians is a pair of games on successive nights. On Tuesday they play Buffalo Gap and on Wednesday the opponent is Monticello.

**Fort's Box Score:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>2 Pt Goals</b>	<b>3 Pt Goals</b>	<b>Free Throws</b>	<b>Total</b>
Gus Gutshall	2	0	3-6	7
Isaac Marshall	3	2	5-6	17
Ayden Thorton	0	0	0-0	0
Jasigh Ransome	2	0	8-12	12
Carter Berry	3	0	2-3	8
Rhyland Martin	0	0	1-2	1
Parker Blosser	1	0	0-0	2
Tripp Hanger	0	0	0-0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19-29</b>	<b>47</b>