

Broadway Dominates Fort Defiance, 108 - 83

Broadway High School, led by Tristan Yoder's 36 points, easily coasted by the Fort Defiance Indians 108 – 83 on December 8 in the BHS gym. The well-coached Gobblers led the entire way and had a 21 point lead by halftime.

The difference between the two teams was obvious to those few in the gym. Broadway passed the ball well and frequently found players open for easy buckets. Plus, Yoder broke the school record with nine three pointers. Meanwhile, Fort continued its selfish offense with its guards trying to drive into the crowded lane in order to try a wild shot while the rest of the players took (and missed) poor three point shots from the field. The Indians rarely passed the ball to an open player close to the rim. The guard play was especially poor, plagued by bad ball control and wild shots. In short, Broadway's guards had assists and three point baskets; Fort Defiance's had turnovers and missed shots.

Like the first time these two teams met, Broadway opened the lead early, sprinting to a 6 – 0 lead before Carter Berry's drive gave the Indians their first points. BHS extended their lead to 10 – 2 with 5:32 to go in the quarter before Carter Fink turned an offensive rebound into two points. Sam Garber's three pointer got the Indians within 5 at 12 – 7 but that was the closest they would get. Broadway went up 15 – 7 before Evan Braun drained two free throws. After a field goal by Gio Armandariz Cruz, the lead went to 21 – 11 with 2:14 to go. Fort got back to 21 – 15 with a free throw from Gio and another three pointer from Sam but a Yoder three pointer gave BHS a 24 – 15 lead. Tripp Hanger's three pointer made it 24 – 18 but Fort's offense went AWOL for the rest of the quarter while Broadway scored eight consecutive points to take a 32 – 18 lead after one period.

In the second quarter, Fort's offense came back to life for the first six minutes. During his time, Gio made two field goals and went 2 – 3 from the foul line; Sam made two threes, Jalen Alexander made 1 – 2 from the free throw line, Carter Berry scored after a nice pass from Tripp, Bradley Hebb made two free throws and a layup, and Tripp hammered home a three pointer. These 22 points made the deficit 51 – 40 with 2:00 to go in the quarter. Again Fort's offense died during the last two minutes of the quarter, though. Meanwhile, BHS ran out to a 61 – 40 lead at the half.

Evan completed a three point play to start the second half. Sam got a steal and layup to make it 61 – 45 before BHS hit another three pointer. Sam again hit a three pointer and Gio scored on a drive to make the score 66 – 50 with 4:26 to go. Coach Mike Gale then got a technical foul called on him and BHS hit both free throws to make it 68 – 50. Del Ray Jones got a three pointer to fall and Gio had two free throws but by this time BHS had run up a 74 – 55 lead. Bradley's layup plus Trey Miller's free throw got the score to 76 – 58 before BHS scored eight consecutive points. Jasigh Ransome's foul shot and Carter Fink's put back made it 84 – 61 after three periods.

Sam's three pointer and Jasigh's field goal left the Indians behind 84 – 66 but again BHS went on a run and opened up a 91 – 66 lead. Gio scored in close and Sam added both a field goal and a trey to make it 93 – 73 with 5:31 to go. For the remainder of the game, BHS outscored FDHS

13 – 10. Fort got three pointers from Tripp and Evan and offensive rebound scores from Carter Berry and Carter Fink. The final score was 108 – 83.

Sam again led Fort with 25 including seven three pointers. Gio added 15.

Grandfather’s note: Gus played more in this game than in the previous three. He had two steals and a couple of rebounds. It was frustrating to see him open under the basket numerous times but his teammates were too interested in firing up their own helter skelter shots instead of feeding him. Fort’s brand of basketball this season is hard for me to watch.

Fort’s Box Score:

Name	2 Pt Goals	3 Pt Goals	Free Throws	Total
Gio Armendariz Cruz	5	0	5-7	15
Bradley Hebb	2	0	2-2	6
Jasigh Ransome	1	0	1-2	3
Carter Fink	3	0	0-0	6
Trey Miller	0	0	1-4	1
Sam Garber	2	7	0-0	25
Austin Metz	0	0	0-0	0
Evan Braun	1	1	3-3	8
Rhylan Martin	0	0	0-0	0
Del Ray Jones	0	1	0-0	3
Tripp Hanger	0	3	0-0	9
Jalen Alexander	0	0	1-2	1
Gus Gutshall	0	0	0-0	0
Carter Berry	3	0	0-0	6
TOTAL	17	12	13-20	83

The article below is from the Daily News Record:

High School Boys Basketball Yoder, Gobblers Roll Past Indians

By JOHN BREEDEN Daily News-Record
Dec 9, 2023

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Broadway's Tristan Yoder drives up the court against Fort Defiance's Bradley Hebb.

Daniel Lin / DN-R

BROADWAY — Aside from saving timeouts and getting his guys out of “trouble,” there was little Broadway head coach Dwight Walton felt he could do against non-district opponent Fort Defiance.

“There’s no way that you can control the tempo, because they’re going to control that,” Walton said. “You have to find a way to be strong enough to survive.”

Fortunately for the Gobblers, they survived and thrived through a non-stop, high-pace boys basketball matchup as they defeated the Indians 108-83 on Friday night at BHS, completing the season sweep.

“Our turnovers were way too high, but they couldn’t stop 108 points,” Walton said. “Ultimately, when they’re sending the whole house at your guards, [we] did an amazing job of taking care of the ball and getting it to the next level, so we could go attack and go get those easy buckets. ... My guards are tough as can be, regardless of how many times they turned the ball over. They got 32 minutes of work and got no breaks.”

The victory was monumental as Broadway came three points shy of tying the school record for most points in a single game, set back in 1984 when it scored 111 points.

While the record itself wasn’t discussed, Walton knew they had a chance to score many points.

Walton added that facing Fort Defiance requires prime conditioning and felt they did an excellent job preparing for it.

“We were going to have to put a lot of points up on the board,” Walton said. “You wonder about where your team’s at conditioning-wise, and the past week, I really felt like we’ve turned the corner. We’re finally in basketball shape. Even though we were pulling some guys tonight needing a breather, this is a test of your conditioning. One of the best runners in the school (junior guard Tristan Yoder) was saying, ‘I felt like I just played two games in one.’ If Tristan Yoder’s telling me that, it’s a lot of trips up and down the floor. I’m proud of them for that. They prepared themselves to play this game.”

Yoder led the Gobblers with 36 points and nine 3-pointers to break the school record for most 3-pointers in a single game, a record Yoder set himself against Harrisonburg last season on Feb. 3.

“It’s really exciting,” Yoder said. “We were going for our school record in points, too. We were pretty close to that. It was just a fun night overall. We knew we had a lot of potential for records, so it was a good night.”

The Gobblers might’ve been up by a significant margin for much of the contest, but knowing how the Indians play, Yoder said there wasn’t room to coast at any point.

“They’re going to run up and down the floor, and you’ve got to match that,” Yoder said. “It’s tough. It feels like you’re playing multiple games, because it just takes forever. We did a really good job of not letting off the gas pedal, because if you let off the gas pedal for more than a couple of minutes, they’re going to be right back in it, because of how quick the game goes. I think we did a really good job of handling them.”

It was another historic performance for Yoder, but it was also a standout game for sophomore guard Victor Diaz-Hernandez, who finished with 18 points.

Early in the year, Walton expected the 5-foot-8 underclassman to be challenging to keep off the floor as he stepped up his game.

“That’s what’s happened,” Walton said. “He’s that little spark plug on both sides of the floor. He’s a great on-ball defender. We truly have three point guards with Tristan, [senior Conner Michael], and [Victor] on the floor. That’s a nice luxury for me, especially in a game like this. He shoots the ball well, he loves that floater, he sees people. He’s a sophomore way ahead of his time.”

Junior forwards Eric Santiago and Braden Burkhalter ended with 13 points for Broadway, while senior forward Jet Gonzalez contributed 10 points.

Senior forward Sam Garber led the way with 25 points for Fort Defiance, while sophomore Gio Armendariz Cruz scored 19.

First-year FDHS head coach Mike Gale, the former head coach of the girls varsity team, credited the Gobblers, stating they got outplayed by a physical ball club that will continue to win games this season.

“They were the much better team [on Friday],” Gale said. “We’ve got a lot of work to do, but this is the growing pains we face early in the year.”

The Indians kept up the pace and fought until the final buzzer, which was a positive Gale could take from the tough loss.

“That’s what we kept telling them in the second half,” Gale said. “We’re not going to quit until that final horn, and it’ll pay dividends later in the year — just battling all the way through.”

The Gobblers (4-1) return to action Monday at 7 p.m. to host non-district Page County, while the Indians (1-3) host Turner Ashby on Tuesday at 7:15 p.m.

Friday’s game got the Gobblers out of their comfort zone, but Walton believes the experience will pay dividends in multiple facets.

Walton said he looks forward to returning to their style of play next week while learning from Friday’s action-packed affair.

“Next week’s going to be more like Broadway basketball, but I think we’ll learn a lot from this,” Walton said. “I think we’re going to learn if we can handle that in a press, [facing] presses not as crazy as that, hopefully we’ll be able to handle. That’s preparing us for the future. Believing in each other, transitions, and getting shots and going and finishing, those are things that hopefully pay off in the long run after this.”

Fort Defiance 18 20 22 23 — 83

Broadway 32 29 23 24 — 108

FORT DEFIANCE (1-3) — G. Armendariz Cruz 6 7-8 19, B. Hebb 2 2-2 6, J. Ransome 1 1-4 3, C. Fink 3 0-0 6, T. Miller 0 1-4 1, S. Garber 9 0-0 25, E. Braun 2 3-3 8, R. Martin 0 0-0 0, D. Ray Jones 1 0-0 3, T. Hanger 3 0-0 9, J. Alexander 0 1-2 1, C. Berry 3 0-2 6. Totals 30 15-25 83.

BROADWAY (4-1) — E. Post 0 3-4 3, V. Hernandez 8 2-2 18, S. Post 4 0-0 8, J. Gonzalez 5 0-7 10, C. Michael 3 0-0 7, T. Yoder 10 7-7 36, E. Santiago 5 3-3 13, B. Burkhalter 6 1-3 13. Totals 41 16-26 108.

3-Point Goals — Fort Defiance 12 (S. Garber 7, T. Hanger 3, E. Braun, D. Ray Jones), Broadway 10 (T. Yoder 9, C. Michael).