

Grizzlies dominate Bucks in season opener

The Grizzlies started off fast and didn't look back during their 34-5 victory over the Bucks on Thursday night. Off the opening tip, the Grizzlies established the offensive boards, as well as their ability to incorporate all teammates in their passing. Greydan Barnwell (10 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist) scored on the Grizzlies first possession. The Grizzlies moved the ball around well in the first quarter, as Matthew Brydges (8 points, 4 rebounds), Thayer Wheeling (6 points, 10 rebounds, 2 blocks), and Anthony Christian (3 points, 2 rebounds, 6 steals) all scored during the opening frame. For the Bucks, Robbie Burgio added a long two-point basket during the final seconds of the first quarter. After the end of the first quarter, the score was 9-2 in favor of the Grizzlies.

The remainder of the game featured much of the same, as the Grizzlies stingy defense was suffocating for the Bucks. The Bucks did play solid defense of their own, as Johnny Bertini and Matthew Bradley each recorded steals for their team during the second quarter. However, the Grizzlies teamwork was too much to match. Barnwell scored another 4 points, and Matthew Brydges added a nice 3 pointer from the top of the arch, off of a pass from his brother Andrew. Tristan McGee also added a couple of nice rebounds. At half-time, the Grizzlies had a commanding 16-2 lead.

In the second-half, the trend continued, as Barnwell added another lay-up, and Thayer Wheeling added a basket of his own. Anthony Christian also added a free-throw during the 3rd. Braedon Dembek (7 points, 2 rebounds) hit a 3 pointer as well.

In the 4th quarter, the Bucks began to find their offensive mojo, as Matthew Bradley scored a basket, and Johnny Bertini assisted on the play. In addition, Nicholas Holman added 2 steals and Brenon Tokarczyk snatched a couple of rebounds and a knocked down a free-throw. However, the Grizzlies lead was too much to overcome. Braedon Dembek hit a sky-scraping 3 pointer from the corner that fell beautifully into the basket, and Matthew Brydges added another 3 pointer as well. Greydan Barnwell added a lay-up too, thanks to a nice outlet pass from Anthony Morgan.

The Grizzlies tenacious defense helped propel them to a 34-5 victory over the Bucks in the 2019 season opener.