

Thursday, January 31, 2019

*Rockets 13, Celtics 10*

### **Rockets defeat Celtics in defensive battle**

The Rockets and Celtics got off to a sluggish start after their 2-day snow-day break. At the end of the first quarter, Zach Cilano had the lone point, when he hit a free-throw.

Each team began to get their feet going mid-way through the second quarter. For the Rockets, Michalel Mikulski IV and Taydan Williams each got their baskets inside the paint off of passes from Max Townsend. Joey Polek led the way for the Celtics in the quarter, scoring all 3 of his points in the frame. At half-time, the score was tied at 4.

The Rockets began to take command in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Max Townsend took many hard takes to the basket after getting steals near half-court. Mason Mikulski also worked well with John Touma, who ran a nice two-man game, setting screens for eachother, and looking for eachother on rolls to the basket. For the Celtics, Carter Becker had a steal and a basket, and Tyler Willard cleaned up the boards, recording a basket of his own. The Rockets had a 9-8 lead at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Rockets would ultimately pull away in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, thanks to 2 quick baskets at the start of the quarter. Mason Mikulski hit a 12-foot jumper, and Taydan Williams worked relentlessly inside the paint on both offense and defense. Presten Manzare also led the way in the paint for the Rockets on defense, registering 5 rebounds and 2 steals.

Trey Pecoraro had the lone points for the Celtics in the quarter. Although the team did get good looks at the basket near the end of the quarter, none of them would fall. The Rockets defeated the Celtics 13-10.