

Saturday February 16, 2019

Raptors 29, Trailblazers 16

Raptors teamwork prevails

Six Raptors players found the scoresheet in their victory over the Trailblazers on Saturday. The Raptors were led by Devan Barnwell (7 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 10 steals) and Michael Touma (8 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 4 steals), who did a great job of pressuring opponents once they crossed half-court. This resulted in many fast-break opportunities all morning long. In addition, their court-vision helped them feed the ball to the post, resulting in many baskets from inside the paint.

In the first quarter, Ryan Brady (6 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 4 steals) had 4 points in the paint, and Devan Barnwell hit a 3-pointer near the end of the quarter to give the Raptors a 7-4 lead. For the Trailblazers, Wesley Stahl added a basket and Braxton Vailancourt (4 points, 3 rebounds) worked hard in the paint, also adding a basket, in the first quarter.

The Raptors blew the game open in the 2nd quarter. A large part of the Raptors success was based on how much well they passed the ball to open teammates, getting the ball into the paint. Bredan Dalke (4 points, 3 rebounds) had 4 points in the paint, while Carter Micoli also added a basket. Barnwell and Touma also added a basket in the quarter, while pushing the ball up the court. The Raptors led 17-6 at half-time.

The Trailblazers got a couple of early baskets in the 3rd quarter, thanks to Aiden Shingleton (10 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists) and Braxton Vailancourt. Aiden did a good job of working through the Raptors pressure, and it paid off in the 2nd half, especially in the 4th quarter. However, Michael Touma added 4 points for the Raptors after getting a couple of steals, and then slicing his way through the defense. At the end of the 3rd, the Raptors held a 21-10 lead.

The Trailblazers cut the deficit to 7 points mid-way through the 4th quarter, as Aiden Shingleton scored 3 straight baskets by slicing through the Raptors defense. However, the Raptors would pull away, thanks to baskets by Aiden Mcguire and Ryan Brady inside the paint. Devan Barwell scored a basket and had an assist to Michael Touma in the quarter to officially put the Trailblazers away. The Raptors defeated the Trailblazers 29-16.