Saturday February 16, 2019

Warriors 30, Suns 28

Warriors sneak away from Suns comeback

The Warriors overcame a late push by the Suns to sneak away with a win, 30-28. The scoring started with Colton Becker (2 points, 2 rebounds) of the Warriors, who used his speed and agility to move past the defense for a floater in the lane. Then Brandon Starich hit a jumper to give the Warriors a quick 4-0 lead. However, the Suns clawed back, as Blake Deloreto (13 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist) hit a jumper and a free throw in the 1st frame, and then Eric Grinnell made a jumper to make the score 5-4 in favor of the Suns after the first quarter.

Each team continued to battle back and forth in the 2nd quarter. The Warriors went on a 7-0 run to start the quarter. AJ Cinquino (13 points, 10 rebounds, 3 steals, 3 blocks) hit a 3-pointer to start the quarter, and then Rocco Presioso hit a jumper after cleaning up an offensive rebound. To cap off the run, Corin Harden hit a basket from in the paint.

However, the Suns once again clawed back thanks to the dynamic duo of Blake Deloreto and Will Myers (6 points, 4 rebounds, 2 steals, 2 blocks), who both pressured the ball at half-court to create turnovers. Each player recorded a steal and a basket in the quarter. Jared Volz also did a good job of staying calm during Warriors' pressure, having good takes to the basket, and hitting a free-throw. At the end of the 1st half, the Warriors led 11-10.

The Warriors appeared to break the game open in the 3rd quarter. AJ Cinquino led the wasy, scoring 6 points by blowing past the defense and finishing at the hoop. However, other contributions came from other key Warriors during the quarter. Colton Becker did a good job of finding open teammates through the Suns pressure. Most of the time, he found Ryan Richner, (7 points, 4 rebounds, 2 steals) who was open on the wing and dribbled to the basket for crucial lay-ups. Ryan had 4 points in the quarter, while Diego Andres also added a basket. For the Suns, Trey Wilkins hit a deep 2-pointer, and Javier Ortiz added a basket. The Warriors held a commanding 23-16 lead heading into the 4th.

The Warriors extended the lead to 20-30 mid-way through the 4th. Ryan Richner added another 3 points, and AJ Cinqino hit a huge 3-pointer to put his team up big. However, the Suns didn't give up, thanks in large part to the tenacious play of Blake Deloreto and Will Myers. With about 2 minutes left, Blake hit a deep 3-pointer to give his team a spark. 30 seconds later, he hit another 3 to pull his team within 4 points.

During the final 30 seconds, the Suns were down by 4 points. Will Myers and Blake Deloreto both applied more pressure, and it paid off. Deloreto forced a turnover, and then Myers went to the basket and scored to cut the deficit to 2 points.

However, the Warriors ultimately broke the Suns pressure in the final 20 seconds, and held on to win 30-28.