

Saturday February 23, 2019

Louisville 52, UNC 31

Louisville's huge final 2 minutes of the 3rd propels them to victory

Louisville and UNC were tied at 25 with 2 minutes remaining in the 3rd, however Louisville ultimately won 52-31. At the end of the 1st quarter, UNC held an 8-5 lead. Andrew Barnes (7 points, 7 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 blocks) had 3 points for UNC, while Dom Caccamise (2 points, 3 rebounds, 3 assists) added a basket of his own on a fancy move in the paint. Much of UNC's success came by pushing the ball up the court, led by Nash Rieselmann (9 points, 5 rebounds, 2 assists) who quarterbacked the offense. He also found Dylan Franusiak (9 points, 8 rebounds, 1 assist), who scored 3 points and secured 4 rebounds in the frame.

Louisville was led by the tandem of AJ Zarccone (16 points, 7 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals) and Patrick McNeill (22 points, 3 rebounds, 3 assists, 3 rebounds). In the 1st quarter, AJ Zarccone had 3 points and 2 rebounds, while Nick Woods also added a basket from in the paint.

Each team continued to battle in the 2nd quarter. For UNC, Nash Rieselmann scored 6 points, while Santino Christopher and Zack Smith (4 points, 2 assists) had 2 points each. Patrick McNeill added 5 points—including a 3 pointer—while AJ Zarccone also hit a 3 pointer. Ethan Whitehead nailed a jumper in the corner off a pass from McNeill. At half-time, UNC led 16-15.

Each team continued to match each-other for most of the 3rd quarter. The big men of UNC dispersed the scoring; Dylan Franusiak had 4 points and 4 rebounds in the frame, while Nash Rieselmann added 3 points, and assisted on a basket by Andrew Barnes also added 4 points. Dom Caccamise and Santino Christopher each had an assist. This was matched by 7 points from Patrick McNeil. With 2 minutes left, the score was tied at 25.

However, with 2 minutes left, Louisville swung the momentum completely in their favor, as AJ Zarccone had 4 of his 8 points. Other players also stepped up for Louisville, as Ethan Whitehead and Matt DiGiulio each hit key jumpers to help build the lead for Louisville. At the end of the 3rd, Louisville held a 34-27 lead.

Louisville utilized this momentum to blow the game open in the 4th. Pat McNeill looked like a man on a mission, scoring 10 points. Matt DiGiulio, AJ Zarccone, Ethan Whitehead, and Nick Woods all added baskets too. They completely shut down UNC, stealing the ball at will and pushing the ball up the court. Louisville defeated UNC 52-31.