

Thursday February 28, 2019

**Thunder 37, Jazz 24**

*Thunder use teamwork to take down the Jazz.*

7 Thunder players scored in their victory over the Jazz on Thursday, utilizing their teamwork to take down their opponent. Anthony Battaglia (9 points, 7 assists) controlled the Thunder's offense, scoring the ball—and more importantly, finding open teammates for baskets of their own. Battaglia started the game off with a bang, as he hit a deep 3-pointer. Steven Pienta (7 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist) then scored on the ensuing Thunder possession. Brady Rogers (9 points, 1 rebound, 1 assist, 4 steals) played his best game of the season, scoring 5 points in the opening frame. With this being said, the Jazz kept pace. Jack Giancola (16 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist) led the way, scoring 5 points in the quarter, while also assisting on one of Gavin Haynes (4 points, 4 rebounds) baskets. At the end of the a fast paced first quarter, the Thunder led 11-9.

Each team continued to roll with their offensive methods in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Battaglia added another 4 points, while Nate Patterson (4 points, 6 rebounds) added a basket of his own. Brady Rogers then assisted on a basket by Steven Pienta. Jacob Smith also ripped down 4 rebounds in the frame. Jack Giancola added another 5 points, while Derek Leiker (4 points, 9 rebounds, 1 assist) added another assist. At half-time, the Thunder held a 19-14 lead.

The Thunder began to pull away in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, as Patterson, Rogers, Ryan Grimm, and Steven Pienta all added baskets in the frame, thanks to assists by Battaglia and Matt Szabo (4 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist). The Thunder also began to speed the game up a bit, as Brady Rogers registered 2 steals in the frame. However, not all was lost for the Jazz, as the dynamic duo of Jack Giancola and Derek Leiker combined to score 7 points and pull down 7 rebounds. At the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Thunder led 27-21.

The Thunder put their foot on the gas in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, only allowing 3 points. Meanwhile, after scoring an early basket, Battaglia registered 4 assists in the frame, as Rogers, Lucas Johnson, and Matthew Szabo all benefited for the great passes. The Thunder ultimately defeated the Jazz 37-24, registering an astounding 11 assists on the evening.