

Saturday February 9, 2019

*Oregon 39, Louisville 37*

### **Oregon wins thriller over Louisville**

The game between Oregon and Louisville on Saturday was about as close as it could get, as each team battled the entire game, answering each other's big shots and defensive stands. Owen Tylec (8 points, 2 rebounds, 3 steals) and Patrick McNeill (22 points, 11 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 blocks, 1 steal) worked well together in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter for Louisville, notching all 6 of their team's points in the frame, thanks to great jump shooting. On Oregon's side, Sami Abdellatif and Domenic Hickok (16 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal) combined to score their team's points in the quarter. At the end of the 1<sup>st</sup>, the score was tied at 6.

The game began to open up in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Each team continued to answer each other's possessions, with neither team taking more than a 4 point lead at any point for the remainder of the game. For Oregon, Daniel Liberti (6 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist) used nice crossovers to get to the basket and score a couple of baskets, and Connor Burkestone (8 points, 2 rebounds) added a jumper. Evan Johnson also added a fancy finger-roll lay-up in the quarter. For Louisville, Patrick McNeill added 5 points and 4 rebounds, while James Messer and Matt DiGiulio added jump-shots to their resume. At half-time, Louisville held a 15-14 lead.

Each team went on a scoring barrage in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, ultimately tying the game at 29 a piece by the end of the quarter. For Louisville, Patrick McNeill went off, as he dropped 10 points, including 8 points in a row. In the span, McNeill hit 2 3-pointers that hit nothing-but-net. Owen Tylec also added 4 points, including a basket off of a beautiful pass from McNeill that even left the defense complementing how sweet the pass was. For how good McNeill was in the quarter, Domenic Hickok answered the call, keeping his Oregon Ducks at pace. Hickok added 8 points, on multiple hard drives to the basket. Dylan Froelich also added 4 points inside the paint, using his size to carve out space for himself, and rip down offensive boards. At the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, the score was tied at 29.

Each team continued to battle in the 4<sup>th</sup>. In the opening minutes of the quarter, it seemed like Connor Burkestone of Oregon and Liam Mcnamara of Louisville were answering each others calls, as Burkestone had 5 points, and Mcnamara tallied 3. After Patrick McNeill added a basket to tie the game, Domenic Hickok hit a jumper to regain the lead for Oregon. McNeill went on to tie the game once more with under 90 seconds remaining. On the ensuing play, Daniel Liberti drew a foul for Oregon, and made a free throw to give his team the lead. Hickok would then added another free-throw with 10 seconds remaining to give Oregon a 2-point lead. Oregon ultimately held tough, and won 39-37.