

Saturday March 16, 2019

**Mystics 20, Sparks 13**

*Mystics come from behind to defeat Sparks*

The Mystics came back from a substantial deficit to defeat the Sparks, 20-13. The Sparks played a superb first-half, as they led 7-2 at one point, and eventually 7-4 at half-time. The Sparks were led on the defensive end by the duo of Sophia Wilson (5 points, 5 rebounds, 2 steals, 1 block) and Raygen Manzare (2 points, 4 rebounds, 2 blocks), who did a great job of slowing down the Mystics and disrupting nearly all of their shots. In the first half, Sophia Wilson worked hard, having 4 points and 4 rebounds, while assisting on a Molly Lyons 3-pointer. Taylor Sciandra (4 rebounds, 1 assist, 5 steals, 1 block) did a great job on the defensive end, registering 3 steals. At half-time, the Sparks held a commanding lead.

The tides began to turn midway through the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, when the Mystics began to claw back and take the momentum. This was led by the play of point-guards Sophia Waliszewski (5 points, 3 rebounds, 4 steals) and Marissa Rickard (5 points, 3 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 block) who did a good job of distributing the ball and controlling the offense. Each player added a basket in the quarter, and then Brittany Day (6 points, 6 rebounds, 2 steals, 1 block) added a free-throw. Despite the swing in momentum, the Molly Lyons hit a huge 3-pointer at the end of the frame to give the Sparks a 12-9 lead heading into the 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Mystics had a huge 4<sup>th</sup> quarter to sink the Sparks. Sophia Waliszewski scored to cut the deficit to one point after making nice moves to the basket. Then, Maddie Ringler (2 points, 9 rebounds, 2 steals, 1 block) scored on an offensive rebound and basket to give the Mystics the lead. On the next play, Marissa Rickard had the play of the game, when she grabbed the offensive rebound, and laid it in to give the Mystics a 16-13 lead. Brittany Day then took over in the final minutes, recording 4 points to put the Sparks away. The Mystics success was led by their defensive pressure, as they flipped the script from the first quarter, and dominated on the defensive end. Each player did a good job of disrupting passes and shots, speeding the Sparks up on the offensive end.

The Mystics were victorious, 20-13.