Saturday March 2, 2019

Louisville 45, UCLA 43

Mcnamara sneaks Louisville past UCLA 45-43

Louisville snuck past UCLA for the victory in a game that featured over 5 lead changes. Patrick McNeill (31 points, 11 rebounds, 3 steals, 2 steals, 3 blocks) led Louisville all afternoon, and especially in the 1st quarter. McNeill scored 13 of his team's 14 1st quarter points, getting to the basket with ease. However, McNeill was matched by the efforts of Joshiah Oliver (13 points, 3 rebounds, 2 steals) early, as he scored 4 points and had an assist. Landon Calvert added 4 points of his own on jump shots, and Connor West used his size to score in the paint. At the end of the 1st quarter, Louisville led 14-10.

At the end of the 2nd quarter, the score was tied at 21. For Louisville, McNeill continued to lead the pack, scoring 5 points, including a 3-pointer. Nick Woods (4 points, 5 rebounds) also cleaned up an offensive rebound with a basket of his own. Jayden Mayville (10 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals) stepped up big time for UCLA, and had arguably his best game of the season, adding 4 critical points in the 2nd quarter. Dylan Hebeler (8 points, 1 rebounds) also hit a big 3-pointer, and then hit a free-throw to tie the game at 21.

UCLA actually took the lead late in the 3rd quarter, when Mayville scored on a drive to the basket. Dylan Hebler also stepped up in a big way, when he scored another 4 points. Louisville continued to find production from Pat McNeill when he scored 6 points late in the quarter to put Lousville back in the game. In addition, Nick Woods added another basket, while Owen Tylec ripped down 2 rebounds and had a steal. At the end of the 3rd quarter, UCLA held a 31-29 lead.

The 4th quarter delivered in dramatic fashion, as each team continued to battle for the victory. Liam Mcnamara (10 points, 4 rebounds, 1 steal, 2 blocks) was unbelievable in the final quarter, scoring 9 points to keep up with UCLA's offensive momentum. For UCLA, Joshiah Oliver added 5 points in the quarter, and Connor West scored 4 crucial points. After a brief lead by Lousiville when the score was 42-40, Jayden Mayville hit a 3-pointer to regain the lead for UCLA, at 43-42. Patrick McNeill then hit a free-throw to tie the game at 43. With under 10 seconds remaining, Patrick McNeill drove the basket baseline, however, Liam Mcnamara was there to put up the rebound, and give his team the lead with 4 seconds remaining.

UCLA had an opportunity to win the game, however, McNeill blocked the shot, and secured the victory for Louisville, 45-43.