

Saturday March 2, 2019

## **Raptors 39, Mavs 24**

### *Raptors teamwork propels them to victory*

The Raptors jumped out to a quick 8-0 lead in the opening minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, but then the Mavs came back to cut the lead to 8-6 by the end of the quarter. The Raptors relied on team passing, finding the open teammates to get open shots. Much of their success came when Michael Touma (8 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals) pitched the ball ahead to big men Ryan Brady (6 points, 2 rebounds, 3 steals) and Brendan Dalke (12 points, 4 rebounds) who had 4 points a piece in the quarter. However, the Mavs did claw back, in the second half of the quarter, when Anthony Baran (4 points, 1 rebound) had back-to-back drives to the basket for layups, and then Preston Loncar (4 points, 11 rebounds, 2 steals) added a basket in the paint.

The Raptors utilized turning steals in to points in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Brendan Dalke did a great job of pushing the pace in the early part of the quarter, when he scored 6 straight points. Milo Reynolds also used his size to his advantage, as he had 4 points in the frame by going to the basket on the fast-break. Ryan Brady also used his size on a rebound and basket. The Mavs continued to battle in the quarter, when Braydon Marcus (13 points, 4 rebounds, 3 steals) had 4 points off takes to the basket, and Preston Loncar ripped down 5 rebounds. Vincent Giannantonio also added a basket to go along with his 4 rebounds. At half-time, the Raptors held a 20-12 lead.

Each team continued to play hard in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. The Raptors continued to push the pace on the fast-break, however, it was the guards who scored this time. Devan Barnwell (5 points, 1 rebound, 4 assists) did a great job of finding the open man, as Carter Micoli had a basket and Spencer Juliano added 2 points after the basket. Barnwell also added a basket of his own. This was all started by strong defensive play, as a slew of Raptors played great help-side defense. At the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Raptors led 27-15.

The Mavs battled back in the start of the quarter, cutting the deficit to single-digits at one point. Braydon Marcus used his speed to blow by defenders and score 6 quick points. However, the Raptors teamwork was too much to overcome, as Touma, Juliano, and Barnwell did a great job throughout the quarter of finding open teammates. Spencer Juliano scored 4 points, and found Milo Reynolds on a beautiful pass inside. Brandan Dalke also reaped the benefits of being a big man, scoring inside off a pass from Touma at the buzzer. The Raptors speed and passing abilities were too much for the Mavs to overcome, as they came away victorious, 39-24.