

Saturday March 2, 2019

**Suns 36, Trailblazers 21**

*Suns pull away late*

The Trailblazers held on for much of their game against the Suns, but it was the Suns surge in the final 4 minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter that really helped them pull away. Each team came out firing, as the Suns were led by Blake Deloreto (13 point, 5 rebounds, 1 assist), who scored 8 points in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter alone. Blake did a great job of blowing past the Trailblazers defense, getting the basket for lay-ups. However, on the Trailblazers side of things, Cullen Battaglia (12 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 4 steals) was the go-to guy, as scored 5 points in the opening frame. Aiden Shingleton (5 points, 3 rebounds, 1 steal) also hit a deep 3-pointer, while Braxton Vailancourt grabbed 3 rebounds. At the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, the Suns held a 10-8 lead.

The Suns played fantastic defense in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, not giving up a single basket. Blake Deloreto did a great job of disrupting passes, while Javier Ortiz (9 points, 2 rebounds, 3 steals, 1 block) had 3 steals in the frame. Meanwhile, on offense, Eric Ginnell drilled a 3-pointer, while Owen Olexenko got an offensive rebound and basket. At half-time, the Suns led 15-8.

The Trailblazers matched the Suns efforts in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, despite the slight deficit. CJ Battaglia scored 3 points, while Aiden Shingleton also scored 2 points. For the Suns, Blake Deloreto scored a basket and ripped down 3 rebounds, while Javier Ortiz and Jared Volz also added jumpers. At the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Suns led 21-13.

The Suns dominated in the final 4 minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup>. At the time, the score was 21-15. However, then the Suns drew up the infamous “barking-dog” play, and ran away with the game. Will Myers scored on the play, which opened the door for Javier Ortiz to score 7 straight points and put the Trailblazers away. Dylan Sumi also added a basket in the 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Suns defeated the Trailblazers, 36-21.