

Thursday March 7, 2019

**Rockets 24, Jazz 22**

*Taydan Williams scores game winner with 1.6 seconds remaining to lead Rockets to victory*

Rockets vs Jazz was a hard fought battle that took down to the final second to decide the outcome. Taydan Williams (14 points, 3 rebounds, 2 steals) led the way for the Rockets, scoring 4 points in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter off hard takes to the basket. Johnathan Touma (5 rebounds, 1 steal) also added a basket in the quarter. However, the Jazz matched the Rockets step-for-step. Jack Giancola (16 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists) led the offense all evening, as he scored 6 points in the first quarter off a mixture of strong takes to the basket and step-back jumpers. At the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, the score was tied at 6.

Jack Giancola added another 4 points for the Jazz in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, working off screens from Derek Leiker (4 points, 4 rebounds) and Matthew Schmutzler. The Rockets used a slew of players to score in the frame. Max Townsend (2 points, 2 rebounds, 1 block) and Taydan Williams scored on hard drives to the basket, while Michael Mikulski and Johnathan Touma each added a free-throw. At the end of the first half, the held a slight lead, 12-10.

Each team continued to battle in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, as the score was 17-16 heading into the 4<sup>th</sup>.

The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter was filled with late-game drama that featured three lead-changes. After Taydan Williams scored a basket for the Rockets, Gavin Haynes scored a lay-up off a great pass from Giancola. With two minutes remaining Mason Mikulski of the Rockets took a hard-drive to the basket and was rewarded with a basket. After a pair of free-throw by Giancola, The Rockets still held a one point lead, 21-20.

After grabbing an offensive rebound with 15 seconds remaining, Derek Leiker was fouled, and scored two free-throws. This gave the Jazz their first lead of the game, 22-21. However, the Rockets were not finished yet, and were determined to regain the lead.

After a time-out, Taydan Williams took control of the final possession, scoring on an acrobatic, And-1, turn-around jumper with 1.6 seconds remaining. This gave the Rockets a 23-22 lead, as the Rockets teammates surrounded the pumped-up Williams, congratulating him on the big shot. Taydan showed great composure, converting on the ensuing free-throw.

This secured the victory for the Rockets, as they defeated the Jazz 24-22 in one of the best games of the season.