

Monday, March 9th 2020
Liberty 22, Storm 17

Back-and-forth battle results in a Liberty victory.

In the second last week of the regular season, the Liberty took on the Storm in a game that could have major playoff implications. In the first, it was the Liberty who got off to a hot start, scoring 8 points in the quarter. Kendall Dean (10 points, 11 rebounds, 2 steals, 1 block) scored all 8 of the Liberty's points in the quarter while also ripping down 4 rebounds as well. For the Storm, it was the duo of Adalyn Devonshire (2 points, 4 rebounds, 3 steals) and Gabby Schmidt (7 points, 10 rebounds, 1 assist, 13 steals) who both scored on layups to give the Storm 4. At the end of the first, it was Liberty up 8-4.

The Liberty continued their momentum into the second quarter as they worked together as a team with multiple girls finding the score sheet. In total, 4 Liberty players scored in the quarter like Kendall Dean, Gabby Casewell (2 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist), Ellie Fox (2 points, 8 rebounds, 2 assists, 5 steals) and Peyton Smith (4 points, 5 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal) all scored to extend the Liberty lead. For the Storm, Gabby Schmidt and Penny Vester (2 points, 2 rebounds, 1 steal) both scored in the quarter as Liberty continued to lead 16-8.

It was Sophia Echevarria who took over things offensively in the third quarter scoring 4 points for the Liberty while her teammate Ellie Fox assisted on both of her baskets. Peyton Smith added a basket as well to give the Liberty 6 points in the quarter. The Storm continued to battle and keep things close as Avery Devonshire (4 points, 5 rebounds) and Lila Giannantonio (2 points, 3 rebounds, 3 blocks) both added baskets as they remained in the game as they trailed 22-12.

The Storm came storming back in the fourth quarter however, as their stingy defense did not allow the Liberty to score a single basket in the quarter. Offensively, Avery Devonshire and Gabby Schmidt turned the tides for the Mystics, both scoring in the quarter while playing exceptional defense. However, it was too little too late for the Storm as the Liberty were able to hold onto the lead and win the game, 22-17.

Monday, March 9th 2020
Liberty 12, Mystics 4

Liberty complete the clean sweep of their double-header, beating the Mystics.

In what could be characterized as a low scoring game, it was the the Liberty who got things going in the first quarter with points coming from Gabby Caswell (4 points, 2 rebounds, 2 steals, 1 block) and Mckayla Ernest (2 points, 2 rebounds, 5 steals) who each scored 2 points. The Mystics were held off the scoreboard but got good defensive production from Penni Jamulla and Amelia Savino. At the end of the first, Liberty led 4-0.

Defense intensity was the theme heading into the second quarter as neither team gave their opponents any easy shots. Gabby Caswell scored the only points in the quarter for the Liberty while also adding a steal. Olivia Nelson (2 points, 9 rebounds, 5 blocks, 1 steal) got the Mystics on the scoreboard with a short-ranged jumper. Nelson also had 3 rebounds in the quarter to add to an all-around great quarter for her. Liberty were still up at the end of the second quarter, 6-2.

In the third quarter, it was similar shades of the second quarter as both teams continued to play great defense and limit opponents shot opportunities. For the Liberty, Kendall Dean got things going for her team, scoring 2 points while also grabbing 3 rebounds. Sophia Dingman (2 points, 9 rebounds) scored for the Mystics in the third by attacking the basket for an easy basket. However, the Liberty still led at the end of the third quarter, 8-4.

Kendall Dean (6 points, 10 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal) scored 4 of her 6 points in the final quarter as she was able to get good looks at the basket and convert on her shot opportunities. Dean also added 4 rebounds as well in her excellent fourth quarter performance. Peyton Smith assisted on Dean's basket while also grabbing 3 rebounds in the quarter. This fourth quarter performance was too much for the Mystics as the Liberty went on to win, 12-4.

Player of the Week



Gabby Casewell—Liberty

In the Liberty's double-header, Gabby played exceptional basketball. She combined for 6 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals, 1 block as she contributed on both offense and defense to help the Liberty win both games.

Unsung Hero



Annabelle Popovec— Mystics

Annabelle recorded a record high 4 steals as she was a force on defense. While off the court, she was constantly cheering on her teammates and being a great team player.