

Saturday, February 29, 2020
7th & 8th Grade Boys Basketball

UCLA 37, Syracuse 23

UCLA Pulls Past Syracuse in Saturday Matane

UCLA jumped out to a 9-0 in the first quarter thanks to 7 quick points by Connor West (19 points, 6 rebounds, 2 steals), including a big 3-pointer early in the quarter. UCLA earned this lead by taking many steals to the basket, going right through the heart of the Syracuse defense. However, Syracuse was able to battle back after 5 points from Cam Gruarin (7 points, 1 rebound) near the end of the frame. Ian Wilson (2 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal) also grabbed 3 rebounds for Syracuse, and Nicholas Woroinecki (7 rebounds) grabbed 2 rebounds. At the end of the first, UCLA held a 9-5 lead.

In the second quarter, Syracuse continued to battle, tying the game at 12 with 3 minutes remaining in the quarter. This run was led by a mixture of players, as Dom Caccamise (1 point, 2 rebounds, 4 assists) became a true court-general, finding open teammates up the court and connecting for 2 assists. As a result, Ryan Wojtaszek (4 points, 1 rebound) and Mateo Marazzo (2 points, 1 assist) scored on takes to the basket, while Luke Bradley knocked down a 3-pointer. However, UCLA recaptured the lead by the end of the quarter, thanks to a basket by Noah Matyevich (4 points, 5 rebounds) and a free-throw by Evan Eodice (10 points, rebound, 3 steals). UCLA led 16-13 at the end of the frame.

UCLA busted the game open in the 3rd quarter, thanks to an 8-point, 5 rebound performance by Connor West. Connor took the game over, using his drives to the basket to open up jump shots, as he knocked down two 3-pointers in the frame. Sam Tortorella (3 points, 6 rebounds) also knocked down a wide-open 3-pointer to essentially put the game out of reach. At the end of the 3rd quarter, UCLA held a 27-17 lead.

UCLA continued to dominate in the 4th quarter, as it became the Evan Eodice show. Evan scored 7 points, including a 3-pointer, while Noah Matyevich (4 points, 5 rebounds) also scored a basket and grabbed a rebound. Chris Desiderio (3 rebounds) also had a productive quarter, grabbing 2 rebounds and recording a steal. Despite the deficit, Luke Bradley scored 4 points in the quarter for the Orange, and Ian Wilson (2 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assists) added a basket, while Dom Caccamise added another assist.

Ultimately, UCLA defeated Syracuse, 37-23.

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LSU 25, Louisville 22

LSU Survives 4th Quarter Louisville Surge

The first half of this game was all LSU, as LSU led 16-4 after the first 16 minutes. During this opening surge, Nick Argenio (5 points, 6 rebounds, 4 assists, 2 steals) led the way, scoring 5 total points and dishing out 3 assists. These assists were dished out to Landon Calvert (7 points, 2 rebounds), who scored 5 points in the opening quarter, and Evan Johnson (4 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists), who knocked down a 3-pointer during the opening run. LSU played great offense because of their strong defensive play, as they registered 8 total steals and 15 rebounds during the first half.

This domination continued into the 3rd quarter, as Landon Calvert went to work in the post, scoring a basket and ripping down a rebound. Dylan Burd (5 points, 3 rebounds, 3 steals) also used his nice handles to drive to the basket, scoring a basket, while also finding his teammates down in the paint. At the end of the 3rd quarter, LSU held a 21-9 lead.

Despite the double-digit deficit, Louisville battled back in the 4th quarter. Sal Constantino (5 points, 1 rebound) led this charge by scoring 5 points in the frame, including a 3-pointer to start the rally. Anthony Battaglia (6 points, 1 steal) added a basket, while Zach Cilano (5 rebounds) went to work in the paint, grabbing 3 rebounds and dishing out an assist. This assist was to Braedon Dembek (7 points, 3 rebounds), who scored one of his two baskets in the quarter to help Louisville continue to claw back. Anthony Savino (4 points, 3 rebounds) also played great defense during the frame, and scored a basket in the process, while Dwight Spencer notched 2 steals. Jayden Mayville (4 rebounds) played great defense as well, and also had a steal. However, the strength and depth of LSU ultimately held up in crunch time, as Joseph Holman (2 points, 4 rebounds) knocked down a couple of clutch free-throws, while Henry Millar (2 points, 4 rebounds) added a huge basket in the paint. Despite a final push by Louisville, LSU held on to defeat Louisville, 25-22.

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Memphis 32, Oregon 21

Memphis Earns Big Win Over Oregon

Memphis jumped out to a 12-2 lead at the end of the first quarter, and never looked back in their hard-fought victory over Oregon. Aaron Quinn (17 points, 14 rebounds, 3 blocks) had himself a day, scoring 17 points, 14 rebounds, and 3 blocks. In the first quarter, Quinn had 7 points and 3 rebounds, including a deep 3-pointer. Meanwhile, Adam Kyler (10 points, 4 rebounds, 2 steals) scored 5 points, and Jimmy Messer (6 rebounds) ripped down 2 rebounds as well. This early energy carried through for Memphis, as it was consistent throughout the game, and withstood many runs from Oregon.

Oregon began to crawl back in the second quarter, as Thomas Polek (13 points, 9 rebounds, 2 blocks) scored a basket and ripped down two boards. Tristan Fox (4 points, 2 rebounds, block) also scored a basket, while Jacob Smith (1 point, 3 rebounds) had two rebounds and a free-throw. Oregon also locked in on defense, only surrendering a basket in the frame. At half-time, Memphis held a 14-7 lead.

Memphis broke the game open again in the 3rd quarter, as Aaron Quinn once again went on a tear, scoring 7 points and ripping down 2 rebounds. Meanwhile, Adam Kyler scored a basket off a hard take to the basket, and William Mollosky (5 points, 3 rebounds) ripped down two rebounds. For Oregon, Thomas Polek, began to find his groove, scoring 4 points and ripping down 4 boards. Chad Himmelback also had a rebound and played great defense alongside Nate Schaefer. Brandon Jopp also stepped up big time for the Ducks, as he played great defense throughout the quarter. At the end of the 3rd quarter, Memphis led 23-11.

Although each team played even in the 4th quarter, Memphis used their lead to keep their distance from Oregon, and ultimately come away victorious. For Memphis, Aaron Quinn added another basket and ripped down 5 rebounds, while Talan Garver had 4 rebounds in the frame. Adam Kyler also scored a basket and ripped down a rebound, while Jimmy Messer had a rebound. However, it was the play of William Mollosky that ultimately put the Ducks away. Will knocked down a 3-pointer from the top of the key, and then on the next play, nailed a jumper on the wing—putting the dagger in the Oregon Ducks.

Oregon did not go away though, as Thomas Polek scored 7 points after hitting two 3-pointers, while Nate Schaefer also hit a 3 points. Brandon Jopp also grabbed 2 rebounds, while Tristan Fox added a rebound and block.

However, the Memphis lead was too much to overcome, as the Tigers defeated Oregon, 32-21.

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Player of the Week	Unsung Hero of the Week
Aaron Quinn--Memphis	William Mollosky--Memphis
 A portrait of Aaron Quinn, a young boy with short reddish-brown hair, wearing a dark blue t-shirt with a white logo that says "NT Parks & Recreation". He is standing against a purple brick wall.	 A portrait of William Mollosky, a young boy with short dark hair, wearing a dark blue t-shirt with a white logo that says "NT Parks & Recreation". He is standing against a purple brick wall.
<p>Aaron had his best game of the season so far, dropping 17 points and 14 rebounds in Memphis' victory over Oregon. Aaron was a force on both ends of the court, taking rebounds coast-to-coast. Aaron consistently attacked the paint and scored many points off ferocious drives to the basket. Aaron's efforts helped lift Memphis to victory.</p>	<p>William put the dagger in Oregon on Saturday, scoring 5 points in the 4th quarter to officially put the game out of reach. First, William knocked down a 3-pointer from the top of the key. Then, he added a jumper on the wing. These quick 5 points helped cement the momentum in Memphis' favor, and as a result, the victory.</p>