

Monday, February 17, 2020

Storm 22, Liberty 20

Storm Complete Big Comeback to Knock-off Liberty

After the Storm held at 4-2 lead at the end of the 1st quarter, the Liberty jumped out to a 14-6 lead by half-time, working the ball around and making great plays. In the first half, Kendall Dean (4 points, 6 rebounds, 3 steals, 1 block) and Ellie Fox (6 points, 14 rebounds, 4 assists, 5 steals, 5 blocks) each scored 4 points a piece for the Liberty, while Peyton Smith (2 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals) scored a basket and notched 2 assists. Sophia Echevarria (6 points, 3 rebounds, 3 steals) also had one of her best games to date, as she scored basket in the first half and also had two steals during the first 16 minutes of the game. All Liberty players were clicking in the first half, as they all passed the ball around to find open teammates and push the ball up the court.

However, things drastically changed in the 3rd quarter, when the Storm switched to a man defense—pressuring the Liberty players and getting great steals. Gabby Schmidt (8 points, 2 rebounds, 8 steals, 3 blocks) came alive for the Storm in the 3rd quarter, scoring 4 points, while grabbing 4 of her 8 steals on the day. Teammates Lila Giannantonio (2 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals) and Avery Devonshire (2 points, 1 rebound, 2 steals) also got in on the aggressive play, each scoring baskets in the 3rd quarter. This aggressive play and switch to man defense saw a big increase in steals and blocks, as Anna Marella (2 rebounds, 2 steals) grabbed 2 steals, while Clara Wisniewski and Penny Vester also grabbed a steal. At the end of the 3rd quarter, the Storm had pulled within 2 points, trailing 16-14.

The 4th quarter featured tough defense by each team, as both the Liberty and Storm exchanged big-time shots to have great back-and-forth play. After the Storm tied the game at 16 thanks to a basket from Gabby Schmidt, Maddie O’Sullivan (2 points, 2 rebounds) scored to give the Storm their first lead since the first quarter. Ellie Fox tied the game with 2 minutes remaining for the Liberty, thanks to a jumper from the top of the key. After Adalyn Devonshire (6 points, 2 rebounds, 2 block, 1 steal) scored for the Storm, Sophia Echevarria scored for the Liberty to tie the game at 20.

With under 15 seconds remaining, the Storm drew up a beautiful inbounds play that left Gabby Schmidt wide-open in the corner, as she drilled the jump shot to regain the lead for the Storm. The Storm were able to hold on for the victory, defeating the Liberty 22-20.

Player of the Week



Lila Gianntonio—Storm

Lila did a little bit of everything her team's win as she scored 2 points, but also added great defense with her 4 rebounds and 2 steals. She found open teammates with her 1 assist and was constantly putting her teammates in a position to score and eventually win.

Unsung Hero



Sophia Echevarria—Liberty

Although her team lost, Sophia played an important role in the game for her team. Sophia was the leading scorer on her team with 6 points while also adding great defense with 3 rebounds and 3 steals in a great all-around game.