

July 30, 2018

### SLICK SHOTS GIVE HOOP STARS FIRST LOSS OF SEASON THANKS TO VELAZQUEZ'S GW SHOT

In a game that was back and forth to the finish and featured an ending which both teams battled a few raindrops near the end, head coach Eli Williams and the SLICK SHOTS gave head coach Alex Quinn and the HOOP STARS their first loss of the season with a 42-41 overtime victory that was sealed thanks to Khristian Velasquez's game-winning three-pointer with less than a minute remaining in the extra frame. This was a part of Velasquez's stat-line of 17 points, 11 rebounds and 3 assists on the night.

At the end of the first quarter, the HOOP STARS were the ones who had the lead, 10-7. Jay Smith led the way with 5 points, a lay-up and a three-pointer, while the duo of Caleb Royer and Louis Deluca added a three-pointer and a lay-up respectively for their lone contributions on the night. For the SLICK SHOTS, Khristian and his brother Jael scored a basket apiece while teammates Luke Grant (10 points, 5 rebounds) and Thomas Sommers scored a basket and a free-throw respectively.

In the second quarter, the HOOP STARS continued to have the momentum, building a 22-14 lead at the half thanks to Sean Ferry's 3 of 4 connections from beyond the arc on the night. He finished with 15 points and 6 rebounds. Smith finished the scoring frenzy with a pair of lay-ups. But the SLICK SHOTS were quietly making their way back into the game with Khristian Velasquez scoring another 5 points and Jael Velasquez recording multiple steals. Sommers scored a put-back lay-up to complete the scoring. He finished with 8 points and 3 steals.

The SLICK SHOTS made things interesting in the third quarter, trimming their deficit to just three points, 29-26, thanks to scoring contributions from Grant, Sommers and Jael Velasquez (7 points, 5 rebounds overall) from beyond the arc. For the HOOP STARS, Aidan Ferry scored a basket while older brother Sean connected for the final time from beyond the arc. Austin Johnson scored a basket as well and finished with 5 points on the night.

In the fourth quarter, both teams made the most out of their opportunities on the offensive end of the floor. Fast forward to with less than a minute remaining in regulation. Sean Ferry drove to the basket and drew the contact to give the HOOP STARS a 39-36 lead. But the SLICK SHOTS countered, with Grant connecting from the top of the arc to tie the game up at 39 apiece.

Then, in the overtime, Velasquez hit the dagger, which was enough to hold on, even while the veteran Ferry hit a late jumper before the game was called off.

In the victory, Josh Curran recorded 3 rebounds and Brian Connelly recorded 3 rebounds, 2 rebounds and an assist.

In the loss, Deluca added 2 assists to go along with his basket while Aidan Ferry added 5 rebounds with his scoring contribution. Carly Hall also recorded a rebound.