

Saturday, January 18, 2020

Louisville 40, LSU 35

Louisville Holds On For Opening Day Victory

Louisville and LSU got off to roaring starts on Saturday in their regular season opener. Anthony Battaglia (13 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal) of Louisville started the game with a bang, nailing a three-pointer right off the tip. Each team played very back and forth in the frame, exchanging baskets throughout the quarter. For Louisville, Jayden Mayville (7 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist) hit a three pointer, and Kazmere Pitner (2 points, 1 rebound, 1 steal) also hit a jumper. After a basket by Romeon Alriche (4 points) of LSU, Aiden Bennett (11 points, 3 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals) scored 8 straight points, taking the ball to the hoop with ease. At the end of the first quarter, the score was tied at 12.

Louisville began to pull away in the second quarter, as Anthony Battaglia scored five points, and Braedon Dembek (4 points, 1 rebound) scored three points. They also played great defense in the frame, thanks to two blocks by Sal Constantino (2 points, 3 rebounds, 2 steals), and three steals from Anthony Savino (15 points, 1 rebound, 5 steals). At the end of the first half, Louisville held a commanding 22-15 lead.

Each team battled into the third, as LSU cut the deficit to five. For LSU, Landon Calvert (12 points, 7 rebounds) went to work in the paint, scoring 8 points and grabbing 4 rebounds. Dylan Burd (6 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists) also scored 2 points, and dished out 2 assists to Calvert. For Louisville, Anthony Savino scored 5 points, including an impressive And-1. Heading into the 4th quarter, Louisville held a 30-25 lead.

Louisville kept this lead into the 4th quarter, as Anthony Battaglia and Anthony Savino sealed the deal by scoring 5 and 6 points a-piece. Sal Constantino also grabbed 2 rebounds, while recording a block. Despite 4 points by Landon Calvert and a jumper by Matthew Grinnell for LSU, the deficit was too much to overcome. Romeon Alriche also scored a nice floater during the frame, and Henry Millar grabbed 3 rebounds.

Ultimately, Louisville defeated LSU 40-35.