

March 18, 2019

### **Cardinals edge Bengals with last minute basket**

The Bengals looked prime for their first win of the season, but Lily Day took things into her own hands, sinking a late basket to give the Cardinals the eventual 10-9 victory.

It was a close game from the very tip, as Day (10 points, 6 rebounds, 9 steals) opened up the scoring with a pair of baskets, while the Bengals answered with a basket from Emma Bush (2 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 6 steals). In the second quarter Madison Mascardo hit a nice jumper, as teammate Ashlyn Gabel made a nice pass to get her teammate the open look. The Cardinals answered back as Emeline Sparks found Lily Day open under the basket for the basket. The nice pass from Sparks was one of her three assists on the evening.

In the second half, the Bengals turned up the defense as Ellie Fox put on some tremendous ball pressure, meeting the Cardinals ball handlers right at half court. The Bengals had loads of opportunities to take a commanding lead, but couldn't make their transition layups. Despite the failed attempts, they used great ball movement and eventually cashed in on a pair of baskets from Adalyn Devonshire and Ellie Fox to take the 8-6 lead heading into the fourth quarter.

In the final frame, it was a defensive battle, as Grace Gable came up with a couple big steals, as did Avery Devonshire. Ellie Fox blocked 3 shots in the final quarter, giving her 6 blocks for the game as both teams had trouble scoring; however in the waning minutes, Lily Day cashed in on a basket to give tie the game, and later followed up a missed free-throw with a rebound and basket to give the Cardinals a 10-8 lead. Fox later hit one of two free-throws to make it a 10-9 game, but that's as far as the Bengals got, with the Cardinals pulling out the close victory.

In the win, Gabreilla Casewell played great defense adding two steals while also chipping in with a number of great passes. Lila Giannantonio added a pair of steals in the win.