

FSL BASKETBALL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVII NO. 5 February 10, 2010

FRIENDS' CENTRAL AND WESTTOWN WILL MEET FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP

In one semifinal game played on Tuesday, February 9th host Friends' Central topped three-time defending league champion ANC by a score of 71-64. The Lions raced out to a 19-6 advantage just before the end of the first quarter, before the Phoenix unleashed a torrent of threes (8 made out of 10 attempted) while surging ahead 38-26 before settling for a 39-30 halftime lead. At one point the hosts went on an 18-0 run including four consecutive threes. Overall the winners were 11-17 from beyond the arc. The visitors did not go gently into the snowy night, though. With just under three minutes remaining they pulled to within 64-61 on a layup by Savon Lloyd-Goodman. Amile Jefferson responded with two baskets to stretch the lead and set up a successful end game for the Phoenix. Devin Coleman led the winners with 23 points, while Travis Robinson added 15 and Jefferson contributed 11. Rakeem Christmas led the Lions with 22 points while Warren Gilles added 20 and Lloyd-Goodman 12 for the visitors.

In the other semifinal contest, played at Germantown Friends, Westtown used perfect marksmanship from the charity stripe in the final period to overcome Abington 41-38. The Quakers were 7-7 from the line in the quarter and 14-16 in the game. A jump shot by Longi Yiljep with just under two minutes remaining put Westtown into the lead and they closed out the game with six consecutive free throw conversions. The game was marked by some spectacularly athletic defensive plays by both teams including steals, blocked shots and general disruption of offensive patterns. Easy baskets and clean looks were hard to come by. Matt Lee and Daniel Ochefu led the winners with 11 points each. Jabril Trawick paced the 'roos with 10 points. Abington also shot well from the foul line, sinking 14 of 17 attempts.

While Friends' Central is playing in the championship game for the 9th time in the past 12 years (winning in 2001 and 2002), Westtown is making its first appearance since losing to the Phoenix in 2001. Prior to that, Westtown's only championship experience was a three year run starting in 1985 when they lost to Germantown and then followed with their only title in 1986 over Friends Select and then a loss the next year to Abington. Overall Friends' Central is 2-7 in title games. Abington has the best record in championship games going 13-5, including 8 straight titles from 1990-1997. Of the 28 championship games, five have gone to overtime, including last year's 57-52 win for ANC over

Friends' Central and the 1983 thriller which saw Germantown top the Phoenix in double OT.

FSL BASKETBALL NEWSLETTER

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FRIENDS' CENTRAL GRABS TOP SEED; THREE TEAMS TIE FOR SECOND PLACE

On Thursday, January 28th Westtown traveled to Bryn Athyn and hung with the Lions of ANC through the 1st half, trailing by two, 24-22. In the third quarter, though, the hosts pulled away with a 20-6 run and then tacked on a 17-12 final quarter for a final tally of 61-40. The hosts went 19-25 from the foul line while the visitors were only 8 for 15. Savon Lloyd-Goodman topped the winners with 15 points and Marcus Gilbert added 13, including 8-8 from the foul line. Matt Lee paced Westtown with 12 points.

On Friday, January 29th Abington visited Shipley in a game with playoff implications and took home a 44-33 win. The 'roos opened up with a 17-9 first quarter but were stymied by the hosts in the second period, scoring only 3 points to the Gators' 12 which gave the hosts a one point halftime advantage. The second half belonged to the visitors as they outscored Shipley by a 24-12 margin. Jabril Trawick led the winners with 19 points and Kenny Johnson netted 14. Chima Nwakpuda led the Gators with 14. Also on the 29th, Friends' Central opened up a 20-7 first quarter lead and never looked back on the way to a 74-29 homecourt win over Moorestown. Amile Jefferson with 14 points, Travis Robinson with 13 and Mark Marguiles with 12 led the Phoenix, while Jake Montgomery and Phil Dwyer each had 8 for the Foxes.

On Monday, February 1st ANC traveled to the Main Line and opened up a 10 point lead after one period over host Shipley then never looked back on the way to an 86-46 win. Gilbert and Rakeem Christmas each tallied 17 for the Lions, while Lloyd-Goodman added 15 while Warren Gilles and Daniel Pittman each added 10. Nwakpuda paced the Gators with 15 and Ky Howard chipped in with 13.

On Tuesday, February 2nd Friends' Central visited Westtown for a game to determine 1st place in the regular season. The Phoenix took home a 60-46 win and sole possession of first place. The loss for Westtown threw them into a three-way tie for second place with ANC and Abington. A drawing to determine the placements put ANC in 4th place and traveling to FCS in one semifinal, while Abington and Westtown will play the other semifinal at Shipley. In a second game on the 2nd host Abington jumped out to a 22-10 advantage after 8 minutes and coasted to an 82-38 win over Moorestown. Trawick again led the 'roos with 19 points, while Johnson added 17 and Joey Griper had 15. Trawick and Griper tallied all of Abington's first quarter points as each netted 11.

Montgomery had a game-high 22 for the visitors. The third game on the 2nd featured an 8-foot jumper at the buzzer by Oliver Feighan to lift host Friends Select to a 50-48 win over Germantown. The gamewinner was Feighan's only basket of the contest. Brett Nagle led the way with 23 points for the Falcons who trailed by 4 entering the final period. Mike Gibbs with 16 points and Gilman Myran with 12 led the Tigers.

On Wednesday, February 3rd Germantown topped visiting George School 47-39. Myran with 13 points and Hank Goldenberg with 12 (7-7 from the line) paced the Tigers to their first league win of the year. Logan Davis had 15 and Kirk Wynn 10 for the Cougars.

On Friday, February 5th Friends' Central and Shipley played, but George and Friends Select postponed their game until Monday the 8th. The Phoenix completed their regular season undefeated with a 71-38 win at Shipley. Robinson paced the winners with 17, Devin Coleman added 15 and Jefferson chipped in with 10. Howard led the Gators with 15 and John Carney added 10.

FSL BASKETBALL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVII NO. 3 January 27, 2010

FRIENDS' CENTRAL TOPS ABINGTON AND ANC

On Tuesday, January 19th Westtown visited Germantown and were in a real battle for the first half, before they ramped up the defensive pressure in the third quarter and eventually pulled away to a 61-36 win. The visitors were only up 24-20 at the half and led 40-31 after three periods, before pulling away in the final stanza. Matt Lee topped 'town with 21 points, while Daniel Ochefu added 20. The Tigers had four players each with 8 points. Also on the 19th host Moorestown won every quarter on the way to a 61-27 win over Friends Select. Phil Dwyer paced the Foxes with 16 points, while Jake Montgomery added 12 and Drew Haines 11. Bret Nagle topped the Falcons with 11 points. The final contest on the 19th saw visiting ANC top George 83-40. Rakeem Christmas led 11 Lions' scorers with 18 points while Warren Gillis and Malcolm Gilbert each had 15 and Savon Lloyd-Goodman added 13. Logan Davis was high scorer for the Cougars with 12 points.

On Thursday, January 21st Shipley and Friends Select made up a game originally scheduled for December. The host Gators used a 20-5 second quarter advantage to pull away from the Falcons on the way to a 66-46 triumph. Ky Howard led 9 Shipley scorers with 18 points, while Jamie Piltch added 12 for the winners. Craig Presant paced the Falcons with 15, while Nagle chipped in with 12.

On Friday, January 22nd Westtown cruised past host Friends Select 64-23. The visitors put 9 players in the scoring column led by Yilret Yiljep with 23 points. Ochefu and Dockery Walker each chipped in with 10 points for the winners. Nagle paced the Falcons with 7 points. The second contest on the 23rd saw Shipley outscore Germantown 27-19 in the second quarter to pull away from a 16-16 tie after one period and go on to win 75-56. The Tigers stayed within hailing distance through three periods (down by 7) before the Gators clinched the game with a 20-8 final quarter. Howard led the way for the visitors with 21, while Chima Nwakpuda added 15 and John Carney tallied 14. Anton Popov led the Tigers with 19 and Sam Mercuris added 10. The final game on the 23rd saw visiting Moorestown outscore host George School 19-12 in the final period to top the Cougars 57-54. Dwyer paced the Foxes with 29 points (5 threes) and Jake Montgomery and Curran Ellis each contributed 12 points. Kirk Wynn led the hosts with 19 points (11 for 11 from the charity stripe) and Logan Davis helped out with 18.

On Saturday, January 23rd Friends' Central (#4 in the Inquirer rankings) topped host Abington (#5 in the Inquirer) by a decisive score of 71-48. After opening a 7-point first quarter advantage, the Phoenix maintained that lead at

the half before pulling away in the second half with 8 point advantages in each of the final two stanzas. Amile Jefferson paced the winners with 19 points, while Travis Robinson added 17 and Malique Killing 13. Jabril Trawick led the 'roos with 22 points and Kenny Johnson netted 12.

On Tuesday, January 26th host Friends' Central (still #4) edged ANC (newly minted #6) by a 51-50 score to remain undefeated in the league. Devin Coleman paced the Phoenix with 16 points, while Dominic Morris added 14 and Robinson 12. Lloyd-Goodman netted 16 for the Lions and Christmas had 14. Down by one, the Lions held the ball for the last 90 seconds and had a shot for the win just before the buzzer, but could not convert. In another battle of ranked teams, Westtown (#7) topped host Abington by 50-45, needing a 19-8 fourth quarter surge to overtake the 'roos who had built a 6 point lead after three periods. Lee led the way for the winners, who remained undefeated in the league, with 22 points. Trawick paced the hosts with 17. The third contest on the 26th host Shipley opened a 34-16 halftime lead over Moorestown on the way to a 61-42 win to keep the Gators in the playoff hunt. Shipley had a balanced scoring attack with 6 players between 6 and 12 points, led by Stephen Gentry. Dwyer again led the Foxes with a game-high 21.

FSL BASKETBALL NEWSLETTER

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ABINGTON, WESTTOWN AND FRIENDS' CENTRAL REMAIN UNBEATEN

League play resumed on Friday, January 8th with games at Moorestown, Germantown and George. At Moorestown, ANC blanked the Foxes in the first quarter and took a 38-7 halftime lead on the way to a 64-22 win. Savon Lloyd-Goodman led 10 Lions in the scoring column with 22 points. Jake Montgomery led the Foxes with 7 points. Host George School opened up a 15-12 first quarter lead over Shipley only to see the Gators storm back with a 27 point second quarter to take a 6 point lead into half time. In each of the final two quarters the visitors increased their lead by three points to finish with a 74-62 win. Ky Howard and Chima Nwakpuda each tallied 27 for Shipley, while John Carney added 12. Kirk Wynn paced the Cougars with a game-high 28 points (11-14 from the line) while Evan Moyes added 10 for the hosts. At Germantown, Abington jumped out to a 20-7 first quarter lead but the Tigers clawed their way back and midway through the final quarter pulled to within 3 points at 49-46. The 'roos stepped up their defensive pressure and turned three stolen passes into layups to pull away to a 66-54 hard fought win before a spirited crowd from both schools. Kenny Johnson with 19 and Joey Gripper with 18 paced the visitors, while Dylan Moody added 10. Anton Popov had a game high 21 points for the Tigers and Sam Mercuris had 19.

On Tuesday, January 12th host ANC jumped out to a 38-14 halftime lead over Germantown on the way to a 66-45 win. The Lions were paced by Lloyd-Goodman and Warren Gillis each with 16 points and Marcus Gilbert with 10 as they again placed 10 players in the scoring column. Popov led the Tigers with 19 points and Gilman Myran added 12. Visiting Westtown outscored Moorestown 46-11 over the middle two periods to erase a surprising 19-12 first quarter advantage for the Foxes on the way to a 71-41 win. Daniel Ochefu paced the visitors with 21 points while Matt Lee added 15 and Doc Walker and Eli Abrams each added 10. Phil Dwyer led Moorestown with 20 points including 5 threes.

Due to a disciplinary action involving several players, Friends Select ended up having to forfeit its games against Friends' Central, Abington Friends and ANC.

On Thursday, January 14th host Abington opened up a 39-14 halftime lead on the way to a 67-37 win over George School. Jabril Trawick led 9 Abington scorers with 23 points while Johnson added 14. Wynn led the Cougars with 18 points.

On Friday, January 15th host Moorestown topped Germantown 48-46 on a Dwyer basket with 4 seconds remaining. Dwyer paced the Foxes, who were 16-19 from the charity stripe, with 22 points. Jake Montgomery added 10 for the winners who overcame a 10 point deficit entering the final quarter. Popov again led the Tigers with a game-high 29 points. Also on the 15th host Westtown topped Shipley 69-32 in a game of four balanced quarters. The winners scored 18 points in the first quarter and 17 in each of the remaining periods, while the Gators tallied 8 points in each of the four periods. Lee topped all scorers with 33 points, while Ochefu added 14 for the hosts. Armand Leaks topped Shipley with 10 points.

FSL BASKETBALL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVII NO. 1 January 5, 2010

ABINGTON TOPS ANC; WESTTOWN, FRIENDS' CENTRAL ALSO WIN

Abington hosted ANC on Tuesday, December 15th and found themselves trailing 34-33 after three periods. The 'roos took care of business in the final stanza, outscoring the Lions 27-15 to gain a 60-49 win over the defending FSL champions. Abington was led by Jabril Trawick and Joey Gripper with 18 points each. Kenny Johnson chipped in with 13 points, 7 rebounds and 4 assists. ANC was paced by Warren Gilles with a game-high 20 points (3 threes) and Savon Lloyd-Goodman with 15. Marcus Gilbert did not play for the Lions in this game.

Also on the 15th Friends' Central topped Germantown 71-45 at FCS. The Phoenix opened up a 24-10 advantage after one period and led by 24 at the half. The winners placed 10 players in the scoring column led by Dominic Morris with 17 points. Amile Jefferson added 16, Travis Robinson 13 and Devin Coleman 11. Gilman Myran paced the Tigers with 14 points.

The third game on the 15th saw host Westtown glide past George School 49-18 to win the first winter Moose point between the two schools. Daniel Ochefu led the winners with 14 points while Kirk Wynn had 6 points for the Cougars.

The Shipley-Friends Select game was postponed until later in the season.

Late December tournament championships went to Abington, Shipley and Westtown.