



woodlands villager - sports

Cavs rally for one-point win; boys basketball roundup

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College Park scored the final five points against visiting Conroe and escaped with a thrilling 65-64 win in another classic duel between the District 14-5A rivals Friday night.

Cavaliers senior guard J.P. Wells made the second of two free throws with four seconds left in the game for the winning margin.

"We survived a bullet," Cavaliers coach Clifton McNeely said. "Some nights you have to be lucky. Tonight we were."

After the free throw, College Park (22-10, 5-0) had a foul to give and Garrett Constance used it near midcourt, stopping the clock at 2.9 seconds. Conroe leading scorer Roderick Lovelady took the ensuing inbounds pass and, guarded by a trio of defenders, hoisted a three-pointer from the top of the arc that grazed the front of the rim.

"I just hate that we're on the losing end of it," Conroe coach Jason Van Robays said. "I thought we had it."

The Tigers had taken a 64-60 lead on Ryan Glaspie's layin with 2:23 remaining, but College Park answered with two Eddie Porter free throws and a huge steal and layup by A.J. Myres.

After Myres' bucket tied the game with 1:07 left, Conroe (12-14, 3-2) turned the ball over on a tipped pass in the lane.

College Park called timeout with 28.6 seconds to go and isolated Wells near midcourt as he wound the clock. With just under 10 ticks remaining, Wells drove down the vacated lane and was fouled as he rose for a layup.

In the final two minutes of the game Conroe missed five shots, including an attempt by Glaspie that hung on the front of the rim before rolling off — launching a mad scramble for the loose ball that eventually resulted in Myres' steal.

On the previous two possessions, the Tigers had opportunities in the lane, but couldn't convert under swarming defensive pressure.

"I thought down here late in the game it got really physical," Van Robays said. "I thought maybe some calls should have been made."

Conroe came out hot, making 8-of-12 shots in the first quarter, including 3-of-5 three-pointers. After Octivous Williams' fast-break bucket midway through the first, the Tigers led 16-6.

Glaspie, who finished with a game-high 17 points, had two threes and eight points in the first four minutes alone as the Tigers exploded out of the gate.

"I thought we played a little bit flat, but I thought Conroe came in here very prepared," McNeely said. "They did a great job of spreading the floor and attacking us with their quickness. We'll get back in the gym, go to work, make some adjustments and get ready for them next time."

College Park steadily climbed its way back into the game after the Tigers' initial run. The Cavs finished the first with a 4-0 run and began the second by scoring four of the first five points to pull within 21-19.



College Park guard Adam Rowe drives to the basket as Conroe forward Octivous Williams, left, and guard Roderick Lovelady defend during Friday night's District 14-5A battle. Rowe finished with 12 points.

With the score tied at 28, Conroe reeled off eight of the next 10 points to take a 36-30 lead into the break. But College Park outscored the Tigers 20-13 in the third quarter, including an 8-2 run in the final 2:51.

The Cavaliers took their first lead of the game since two minutes into the first quarter when Sam Ryan banked in a second-chance basket at the end of the third for a 50-49 lead.

College Park shot less than 40 percent from the field on the night, but took 12 more trips to the line than the visitors.

On Tuesday, the Cavaliers also had to mount a comeback against Oak Ridge, a road game they eventually won 90-85 in overtime.

"Again they showed their resolve tonight," McNeely said. "It's just a tribute to these kids. There's no give-up in them. They just have a lot of fight."

College Park 65, Conroe 64

Conroe 20 16 13 15 — 64

College Park 15 15 20 15 — 65

Leaders — Conroe: Ryan Glaspie, 17 points; Roderick Lovelady, 14 points; Matt Cabezudo, 13 points; Octivous Williams, 13 points; Deandre Ratliff, 4 points; Tevin Price, 3 points. College Park: Garrett Constance, 16 points; Eddie Porter, 14 points; Adam Rowe, 12 points; J.P. Wells, 8 points; James Allen, 7 points; A.J. Myres, 6 points; Sam Ryan, 2 points.

Field Goals — Conroe: 25-54 (.463). College Park: 23-58 (.397).

Three-Pointers — Conroe: 7-16 (.438). College Park: 4-11 (.364).

Free Throws — Conroe: 7-11 (.636). College Park: 15-23 (.652).

Lufkin trips up Oak Ridge

The Oak Ridge War Eagles fell to 1-4 in District 14-5A after suffering 53-50 loss on the road to Lufkin.

Sean Kovar led Oak Ridge with 17 points. Logan Griffin had 12 points and Scott Bastian scored 8 points.

The loss dropped Oak Ridge (16-10) a game behind Lufkin (7-17, 2-3) for fourth place in the league.

Lufkin 53, Oak Ridge 50

Oak Ridge 13 7 16 14 — 50

Lufkin 9 20 8 16 — 53

Leaders — Oak Ridge: Sean Kovar, 17 points; Logan Griffin, 12 points; Scott Bastian, 8 points; Garret Peery, 6 points; Anthony Weems, 2 points; Ethan Scurlock, 2 points.

The Woodlands routs New Caney

The Woodlands Highlanders improved to 4-1 in District 14-5A play and 17-9 overall with a 60-29 win at New Caney on Friday night.

Emmanuel Rivera led the Highlanders with 14 points. Adrian Medina had 11 points, while Jordan Alpha and Justin Nelson scored six points each.

The Highlanders are alone in second place in the district, one game back of College Park and one ahead of Conroe. The Cavaliers visit The Woodlands at 7 p.m. on Tuesday.

The Woodlands 60, New Caney 29

The Woodlands 9 16 19 16 — 60

New Caney 12 8 4 5 — 29

Leaders — The Woodlands: Emmanuel Rivera, 14 points; Adrian Medina, 11 points; Jordan Alpha, 6 points; Justin Nelson, 6 points; J. Smith, 5 points, Cameron Galatas, 4 points; Michael Williams, 4 points, Wes Cole, 3 points;

Grayson Gettys, 3 points; Luke Maish, 3 points; Aaron Porter, 1 point.

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