



Daily Record

Lawrence County, Illinois

Online edition

Monday, January 26, 2009

LIC Tournament

Win over Oblong puts Indians in semifinals

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Lawrenceville's Nick Potts goes high for a rebound.

CASEY - For the final three quarters Saturday evening, Lawrenceville High School's basketball team hit Oblong with its best shot. As it turns out, that was more than enough for the Indians to sideline the Panthers, 70-50, in the opening round of the Little Illini Conference Tournament.

SeLawrenceville needed a 3-pointer from Ryan Klein near the buzzer to take a 17-16 lead at the end of the first quarter. Klein's only hoop of the game started a 10-0 run spanning the first two quarters, and the Indians (13-5) were never headed. LHS built the lead to 34-23 at halftime and 52-34 after three quarters, and eventually led by as many as 24 points.

"This was a good win for us," LHS coach Jason Green said. "It was a good three quarters to end the game, which I hope carries over into Tuesday. It was a really good job on both ends of the floor by all the players. We had good bench support tonight, too."

Senior Nathan Waldroup paced the LHS attack with 20 points, including 18 over the final three periods. Waldroup made 5 of 9 field goals, but did much of his damage at the foul line. He was perfect in nine trips to the stripe, including a 7-for-7 showing in the fourth quarter.

Dane Kelly added 15 points for the Indians, while snaring nine rebounds to lead all players. Zach Manley also reached double figures, with 11 points, including five in the opening quarter.

Three players also hit double figures for Oblong. Drew Morecraft, despite shooting 4 of 12, led the team with 12 points. Elliot Smith, who fouled out with 3:51 to play, added 11 and Kendrick Greathouse chipped in with 10.

The Indians will return at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday to tangle with sixth-seeded Flora in semifinal action. In the opening game, at 6 p.m., top-seeded Marshall (18-0) will meet fifth-seeded Cumberland (10-7). Oblong (9-9) falls into the consolation bracket, and will entertain Clark County rival Hutsonville in a loser's bracket game this evening. The winner will face Edwards County in a consolation semifinal game at 6 p.m., Wednesday.

Lawrenceville 70,

Oblong 50

OBLONG (50)

Morecraft (f) 4-12 1-2 12, Smith (g) 4-10 0-0 11, Greathouse (c) 3-9 4-4 10, Stanke 2-4 1-2 5, Legg (f) 3-10 0-0 4, Hoalt (g) 1-4 0-1 3, Harder 1-3 1-1 3, Mendenhall 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 18-53 7-10 50.

LAWRENCEVILLE (70)

Waldroup (f) 5-9 9-9 20, Kelly (f) 6-10 3-5 15, Manley (g) 4-8 2-2 11, J. Potts (g) 4-10 0-1 9, N. Potts (c) 3-6 2-5 8, Sweeten 1-2 0-0 3, Kitchell 0-1 0-0 , Leighty 0-2 0-0 0, Benson 0-1 0-0 0, McKinney 0-1 0-0 0, Kraft 0-0 0-0 0, Seed 0-0 0-0 0, Goins 0-1 0-0 0, McCullough 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 24-57 17-24 70.

3-point shooting: Oblong 7-22 (Hoalt 1-4, Smith 3-7, Morecraft 3-6, Greathouse 0-1, Legg 0-4), Lawrenceville: 5-3 (Manley 1-3, Klein 1-1, J. Potts 1-5, Waldroup 1-3, Sweeten 1-1). Rebounds: Oblong 25 (Morecraft 6, Greathouse 6), Lawrenceville 39 (Kelly 9, N. Potts 8, Waldroup 7). Turnovers: Oblong 16, Lawrenceville 13. Fouls: Oblong 15, Lawrenceville 15. Fouled out: Smith (3:51, 4th qtr.)

Oblong 16 7 11 16 - 50

Lawrenceville 17 17 18 18 - 70

Officials: Josh Douthit, John Julius, Tanner Jones.