

How Sweet It Is



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Both teams came a long way to get to this point in the 2019-2020 basketball season. Danville came into the game with a 23-11 record and West Jessamine came into the game with a 19-11 record.

These two teams had previously met in an early season matchup where West took home the win in blowout fashion 67-49. However, this game would be much closer.

Both teams started off nervous with sporadic shots and uncharacteristic plays. Danville air balled three of their first six shots. West Jessamine Guard Nate Brendan eventually broke the ice making two free throws after an offensive rebound.

For Danville, Dawson scored the first points for the Ads after a solid drive to the basket. Stepp started hot with a nice breakaway layup and an and one play shortly after.

West started the first quarter on a 9-2 run until Aiden alone pulled up from 3 to stop the explosive and high paced play by the Colts.

Both teams were clawing down the boards early getting multiple offensive rebounds on many occasions leading to second chance points for both teams.

Danville kept it close, but never pulled into the lead as they couldn't seem to slow down the Colts high volume shooting. The score at the end of the first quarter, 16-11 Colts.

Danville scored on their first possession of the second quarter but failed to stop the Colts from getting hot right out of the gate. They wouldn't stop the Colts until the score read 23-13 with 5:30 to go in the 2nd.

Stepp continued his dominance being a crucial defensive player and scoring at a high level. However, because of a late flagrant foul on the Colts, Danville had two opportunities in a row to cut into the Colt lead, Bringing the score within 6. Final score of the first half 33-27 Colts.

Starting off the second half, West Jessamine found their fire from three quickly, hitting one in the corner on just their second possession, but this was quickly followed by two baskets from the Ads.

Just like in the first half, Stepp took charge. Scoring 4 points within the first

two minutes of play. Then with 3:30 left in the third, Danville caught fire. After a solid basket down low by Bell, the Ads stole the ball twice in a row. One resulting in a thunderous dunk by Dawson and the other in a Bell fast break layup bringing the score to within five and forcing Colts coach Kelley to call a timeout. After making adjustments in their timeout, the Colts took back their momentum, getting an and one basket by Daniel Water and then a quick defensive stop leading to two more free throws for Waters, sinking then both. After what looked to be a very fast comeback by Danville, the scoreboard still read 54-47 colts at the end of the third quarter.

The fourth quarter started with the ball in Aiden Slones hands where he scored on a driving bucket. Things would then turn south for the Colts who had dominated all game. The Ads had a 5-0 runs, Stepp left the floor with a leg injury.

Danville put on the press. They had to act fast and stopped the Colts on their first five possessions of the quarter. But when Stepp returned, he drove into the lane for a run stopping lay up.

With 4:31 left to play in the game,

Danville called a timeout down 58-51. After calming as a team, Slone came through with a big three cutting into the lead, trying to gain traction on any type of momentum they could gather. The Colts didn't fret. They continued to score effectively and thanks to two massive offensive rebound put backs, the colts once again found themselves in a ten point lead.

With 2:55 left in the game. With 2:10 on the clock, still down by 10, Slone attempted to hit yet another huge three but it was no good. West quickly brought it down the floor for a wide open Winter layup.

Danville did not give in. With a minute left to play the Ads were down by 8, as Dawson went soaring through the air to draw a shooting foul for two free throws where he made both. The lead was 6 with 51.9 to play. The fouling game then began. The Ads sent the Colts C to the line where they made both. The Ads comeback attempt was too little, too late, as The West Jessamine Colts finished the game strong eventually winning 78-64 when the final buzzer rang. The West Jessamine Colts are now the 12th region champions after a stellar performance