

Black & Gold



JALEN QUINN (3) WATCHES an unidentified Warrensburg-Latham player closely as in a Central Illinois Conference game between the two teams. Tuscola won the game in overtime and stayed perfect in CIC play as they improved to 17-4 overall and 4-0 in the league. Photo by Daniel L. Chamness.

Tuscola wins in overtime

By Daniel L. Chamness
It took until overtime, but a victory is a victory. The Tuscola Warriors traveled to Warrensburg-Latham and earned a win. To earn that win, they basically had to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat or pull one out of the fire as it were.

The Warriors posted a nine-point, 55-46 victory. After posting three wins last week, beating Central A&M and Schlarman as well, the Warriors are 17-4. They are 4-0 in the Central Illinois Conference.

"We got in some foul trouble and we did not take care of the ball like we should have," said Vic Binkley, Warrensburg-Latham's head coach. "I hope we learn and grow from this. The Central Illinois Conference Tournament is coming up and hopefully we get to play Tuscola again. The top four teams in that tournament will be pretty tough."

After the Warriors had dug themselves into a hole in the first half, they battled back and at the end of regulation, the two teams were knotted at 41. While the Warriors held the Cardinals to just five points in the overtime, three in the first two minutes and a three-foot jumper in the final minute of the four-minute

overtime period, Jalen Quinn, a senior went to work.

The future NCAA Division I hardwood player proved, as he has time and time again, that he is at his best when the pressure is on. He would start the overtime period with two free throws. He would follow that with Tuscola's only two point bucket of the quarter. Before the first two minutes of overtime had run off the clock, sophomore guard Josiah Hortin nailed a three-pointer and the Warriors were boasting a 49-44 lead with less than two minutes to play.

Quinn and Hortin gave the Warriors the lead, but James Parsley put on the finishing touches. The 5-foot-10 senior guard, who had spent the game defending MJ Murphy, a Cardinal sophomore and their scoring machine, hit three-of-four free throw opportunities in the last 30 seconds of the game to put it out of reach.

"I take a great deal of pride in trying to stop their best player," said Parsley. "I did not totally lock him down, but I am happy with how I did overall."

Jordan Quinn, a Tuscola sophomore, also scored in the final minute, hitting two charity tosses of his own.

The Warriors were down

by double digits in the third quarter, but they battled back and started the closing stanza down 35-28. With only 2:38 to play in the contest, Warrior senior Jalen Quinn nailed an old-fashioned three to close the Cardinal lead to one, 37-36.

The senior was not done there as he kept the Warriors within striking distance. He would cut the lead to one, 39-38 one more time, with 1:32 left in regulation. Hortin nailed a three-ball from the right corner with 45 ticks left on the clock to give the Warriors a slim 41-40 lead. Cardinal senior Jake Sarver hit one of two free throws with 32 seconds left to send the game into overtime.

"I feel like we had the momentum when I hit that three pointer," said Hortin. "I feel like with this win, we might have secured the top seed in the conference tournament."

Jalen Quinn would finish with 25 points. The senior would miss only one free throw on the game. He hit five regulation shots and one three pointer.

The senior was the only Warrior in double figures. Five other Warriors scored the other 30 points to round out the scoring. Parsley and Hortin had seven points each, while Preston Brown had six.

Jordan Quinn and Easton Cunningham each had five.

"We got them in some foul trouble," said Justin Bozarth of the Cardinals. "One of the best players in the conference (Evan Yaroch) fouled out. We thought we needed to just stay the course. Jalen is a special player, but everyone knows it. He was not going to let us lose. We worked the ball around great in the overtime period team. James did a great job guarding Murphy, but it is very tough to stop him or slow him down."

ALL STAR PRO
Heating • AC
Plumbing
LLC

(217) 599-1046
www.allprohvac.net

Local, veteran-owned company
with over 26 years of residential and commercial experience.
We are licensed and insured.

Like us on Facebook

DCHD is now requiring appointments for COVID-19 testing.

If you have not scheduled an appointment on our website, please do so now at dchealthdept.org, or call 217-253-4137.

Use your smartphone's camera to scan this code, then click the link that pops up to go directly to our testing appointment site to make an appointment!

THE VAULT ART GALLERY
Downtown Tuscola
100 N. Main
217-722-2187

TRIO SHOW

Corey Anderson
Jan VonBokel
Samuel Tucker

SCULPTURE PAINTINGS

WOOD TURNING

Show Dates Jan. 8th through the 30th