

12/19/2019

Trotwood at Miamisburg

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Game Notes: Trotwood came in as the clear favorite in this game (#1 in SWOFCP D2 Power Rankings). Their athleticism and style of play are too much for most teams in the area. They are lead by Senior Guards, Carl Blanton Jr. and Sammy Anderson. Blanton comes in leading the GWOC in scoring and has been on a hot streak as of late. Anderson, a football CB star, is just getting into the groove after the football team's State Championship. Both of these guys can score from all over the floor and make it tough for teams to get anything going.

Miamisburg (#4 in SWOFCP D1 Power Rankings) comes in with a decent start to the year, 5-1 on the year, 3-0 in GWOC play thus far. They are in a groove after knocking off Springboro, Northmont and West Carrollton over their last 3 games. They are led by Sophomore, Anthony Coppock and Senior Colin Murphy.

Game Start:

Trotwood began the game in their traditional style of play. They play a very aggressive full court press that forces opponents into turnovers that they take advantage of on the other end. This game was no different. Blanton and Anderson hit the pedal early looking to try and distance themselves as much as possible early on.

Miamisburg certainly struggled with that pressure as they couldn't seem to break the press, turning it over multiple times. When they did have success bringing the ball up the court, they were plagued by multiple missed shots. They found some success late in the quarter and Murphy and Coppock were able to snag a couple baskets.

End of 1st Quarter

Trotwood: 21

Miamisburg: 9

In the 2nd quarter everything was much the same for Trotwood. They continued their pace of play and was able to frustrate Miamisburg into a number of bad fouls that led to Trotwood being in the double-bonus with 5:38 left in the half. The fouls didn't do them many favors though as it slowed down their pace and their FT shooting wavered a bit.

Miamisburg looked for anything to get them going, eventually finding a spark provided by good defensive play by Murphy, as well as a Freshman who came in off the bench, Jackson McGohan. Murphy was jumping into passing lanes and took charge or two to slow down Trotwood, while McGohan came in and had two big blocks against Blanton as he tried to drive to the rim. Murphy and Coppock also got going more offensively as they got the ball inside and finished around the rim.

Halftime

Trotwood: 46

Miamisburg: 28

Coming out of half, we expected Trotwood to try to stretch it out by more than the 18 pt. lead they took into the locker room. The Rams certainly tried but got caught up in trying to go so fast that the game got sloppy. Both teams turned the ball over more in Q3 than the rest of the game. In trying to compensate for the Blanton and company forced some bad shots up which only gave Miamisburg some hope to maybe inch back into it.

Miamisburg got some very good play from both Coppock and McGohan in the 3rd quarter. Both players really hit the glass hard and Murphy helped pitch in with some well executed fast break pts. Just as the Vikings looked to make a slight move, Coppock went down hard, hitting his head on the floor while attempting to pull down a tough rebound (he would exit and not return). This was ultimately a major blow to this team just as they saw signs of life.

End of 3rd Quarter

Trotwood:70

Miamisburg: 50

The 4th quarter didn't hold much action for either team. Trotwood rotated more players in and fouls racked up quickly. Most of the scoring in the 4th quarter came from the line. Blanton really hit a stride knocking down 3 straight long range buckets and Anderson had a number of circus style lay-ups. Coach Rockhold clearly was looking to try and break the century mark as the Rams pressed and looked to get to the line until the bitter end.

Miamisburg just looked to try and stay afloat and fought like crazy to keep Trotwood from reaching 100 points. Murphy and Otteson were the bright spots for the Vikings in the 4th. Murphy kept up the same tough and gritty style of play he had all game and Otteson got to the line often, knocking in 6-8 to provide a slight boost off the bench. It was a valiant effort but Trotwood wouldn't be denied and was just too much for Miamisburg to slow down.

Final:

Trotwood:100

Miamisburg: 73

Player of the Game:

Carl Blanton Jr. (Trotwood)

Honorable Mentions:

Anthony Coppock (Miamisburg)

Colin Murphy (Miamisburg)

Sammy Anderson (Trotwood)

Final Thoughts:

Trotwood: The Rams get a decisive W and continue their winning ways. Blanton and Anderson are just too athletic for most of the GWOC National teams. Their pace of play and pressure wreak havoc onto everyone they face but it can sometimes affect their game as well. They tend to play out of control at times and can be out-rebounded with a little bit of size and effort. Trotwood should start cementing themselves as the best team in the Dayton area for the 2nd straight year, time will tell.

Miamisburg: The Vikings gave it their all in this one. Coppock going out in the 3rd with the head injury certainly did them no favors. This is a team that has a lot of opportunity for growth over the next few years with McGohan and Coppock as underclassmen. Murphy will be looked at as the leader of this team as they face adversity, much like tonight His steady play will be a big factor in how this season will continue for them. Look for them to grab wins over some of the other GWOC National teams but they will struggle against the GWOC American teams.