

County Tournament 2012

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Late Heroics Give Advance Third In Varsity

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Late Heroics Give Advance Third In Varsity

The No. 2 Advance Hornets and No. 4 Bloomfield Wildcats took the courts to determine who was the third-best Varsity squad in the 2012 SCAA Tournament. The Hornets had a nine point lead at the half, but ultimately the game came down to a buzzer-beater.

The Hornets opened the game with three consecutive three pointers from Tyler Middleton. Ethan Barr came up with a block on Tommy Forkum to set up a Lane Below three point play and give the Hornets a 14-4 lead at the 2:16 mark. Logan Cowart answered with a three for the Wildcats, and Caleb Baker found nothing but net on a half-court shot at the buzzer to bring the score to 19-12 in Advance's favor.

Both squads traded buckets early in the second quarter. The Hornets got a spark from Aaron Veale, who stuck back an offensive board at the 4:53 mark to bring the score to 30-18. Cowart knocked down another trey to cut Advance's lead to nine heading into halftime.

The Hornets led by as much as 10 points in the third quarter, but another Cowart three and six boards from Adam Vandiver were enough to put the 'Cats within four heading into the fourth quarter.

Vandiver knocked down a pair of free throws at the 6:30 mark to tie the game at 43, and both teams resumed 'trading punches' for most of the fourth quarter. A pair of free throws from Cowart got the Wildcats within one at the 1:48 mark, and a layup from Vandiver tied the game at 54 with just under a minute to play. The Hornets ran the clock down to :08 and called a time-out; on the next play, Lane Below put up a jumper from the elbow as the buzzer went off.

It was good for a 56-54 Hornet victory.

Vandiver led the Wildcats with 16 points. Cowart had 14 points, while Zach Pounds netted 11.

Middleton led the Hornets with 16 points, 15 of which came from shots beyond the arc. Below was a close second with 14 points, but his 15-footer at the buzzer will be what's remembered from the most entertaining game of the 2012 SCAA Tournament.

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