

Borden wins two more in SAC, improving to 5-0

Written by George Browning

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Borden won a SAC two-step last Friday and Saturday.

On Friday they beat visiting South Central 77-42, then traveled to Crothersville and came away with an even more lopsided victory, 84-47 over the host Tigers.

The following is a look at both of those games.

Crothersville

Saturday night Borden traveled to Crothersville to take on another SAC Conference foe. It was a match for four minutes when at that point the game turned, and Borden never looked back.

The Braves led just 11-10, but used a 14-2 run to end the first quarter with a 25-14 lead.

Both teams had trouble holding on to the basketball, but Borden managed to take advantage of the Tiger mistakes.

The Braves used the CHS miscues and a huge advantage on the class to lead by 25, 46-21 at the half.

Borden picked up where they left off in the second half.

Jalen McCoy hit four threes along with one from Josh Vollstedt, which all put any doubts of a Crothersville comeback out of mind..

Nine of 11 players who played for the Braves found their way into the scoring column.

"We played hard but not always smart," said Borden Head Coach Doc Nash of the Crothersville win. "We gave up too many points on turnovers. It was nice to see how well our younger players played. We have good players coming up."

McCoy led the way for the Braves with 18 points, while Vollstedt 15 added 11. Michael Lynch scored 10 for the Braves.

Crothersville's leading scorer was Hudge with 26.

Friday's game against visiting South Central was closer than Saturday's game was, but not by much.

Cody Bachman scored the first basket of the game for the Braves after South Central turned the ball over after winning the tip. The Braves quickly got the ball back and scored again to take a 4-0 lead. The Rebels Tyler Shifler was fouled on a three point and converted all three free throws to pull the game to 4-3. After a three point play by Garrett Vick and a three by Jalen McCoy the Braves lead 10-5 and never let up the rest of the game.

The Rebels controlled the offensive boards early but were unable to convert their rebounds into baskets. When Josh Rudinger entered the game for the Braves midway through the first quarter the tide shifted Borden's direction on the glass.

With 3:11 remaining in the quarter South Central Coach Ryan Crick called a time-out with the score 17-7 Borden. The time-out proved to be fruitless for the Rebels.

When play resumed, the Braves continued slicing up the Rebel's zone defense getting easy baskets in the paint and out-scoring the Rebels 10-3 to end the first quarter with a 27-10 lead.

The second quarter started with both teams shooting ice cold from the field. In an effort to slow down the Brave, South Central went to a man to man defense while the Brave's press continued to force numerous turnovers.

At the 4:29 mark Josh Vollstedt scored the first basket of the quarter giving the Braves a 29-10 lead. Borden ran off 11 more consecutive points until the Rebel's

Nick Wemes sank a field goal with 1:25 remaining giving South Central their first points of the quarter to make the score 40-12. The teams traded baskets to end the quarter with Borden's Billy Kirchgessner hitting a basket at the buzzer making the score 44-16 entering halftime. The

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game was never in doubt the rest of the way.

“That was possibly the best first half of basketball any of my teams have ever played,” said Borden coach Doc Nash.

As the second half began, South Central’s shooting improved getting some easy points in the paint from Bobby Sampson and Jason Boston. The teams traded baskets throughout the quarter with neither team making more than a six point run. The Braves continued their crisp passing while looking for shots under-neath with their ball control offense with Cody Bachman leading the scoring for the Braves with 6 points. At the end of the third the Braves led 62-36.

In the fourth quarter the Braves spread their offense looking for easy baskets inside out-scoring South Central 10-2 before Nash pulled his starters midway through the quarter as the Braves held the ball looking for easy shots while running down the clock. The final buzzer sounded with the host Braves coming away with a 77-42 victory. Nash was especially pleased with Josh Rudinger contribution off the bench leading the Braves with 16 points and pulling down 8 boards. Also scoring in double figures for the Braves was Jalen McCoy with 15 and Garrett Vick with 12.

Jason Boston led the Rebels with 12 points all of which coming in the third quarter.

Borden will be back in action this week looking to defend their Washington County Holiday Tournament title.

The Braves play Eastern at approximately 7:45 p.m. Friday. The winner of that game will take on the winner of the West Washington-Salem game Saturday at 7:45 p.m.