

## **Borden slips past Orleans in regional semi-finals**

Written by Administrator

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Saturday morning in Loogootee Borden and Orleans opened up the regional. After a tough game Borden prevailed by one point 52 to 51.

Both teams opened the game with a three each. They traded baskets up to seven all with 1:37 to play. Borden's Jalen McCoy and Cody Bachman both hit a pair of free throws to close out the first 11 to 7 Borden. Orleans was able to out rebound Borden but turned the ball over five times against a tough defense.

Orleans seemed to settle down in the first part of the 2nd quarter but couldn't connect with their shots as Borden pulled out to a 20 to 11 lead. Orleans came back with five straight points to close their deficit to 20 to 16 at the half.

Orleans opened the third with a three to close to one point while Borden struggled to pull away. Then with 4:08 to play Orleans 6'9" center, Jacob Barkley, stuffed a basket. This spurred them to pull away to a 36 to 32 lead at the end of the 3rd quarter.

Borden started the 4th with a three to close within one point. Both teams traded baskets down to 4:21 to play when they were knotted up at 41 all. This went on down to 32 seconds to play were Borden had a three point lead and the ball. Orleans managed two more baskets but Borden's Bill Kirchgessner hit free throws to hold them off to finish with a victory 52 to 51.

Borden hit 8 of 10 free throws in the last two minutes of play and 11 of 14 for the fourth quarter. Orleans feeling the pressure turned the ball over five more times in the last quarter.

Borden's coach Nash said, "We missed a lot of great shots in this game but kept fighting to hang in for the win."

Borden's leading scorers were Jalen McCoy 17, Kirchgessner 11 and Michael Lynch with 11. And then it was a seven hour wait for the final that night.