HPHS plays to capacity in win over Manchester Only HPHS has beaten Manchester

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ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

Both Manchester losses in a 16-2 season are to Hartford Public (18-0, 13-0), which clinched the league title. Manchester is 11-2 in the CCC East with one game left.

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Manchester made it interesting in the fourth quarter. First the Indians went on a mini-run, scoring six consecutive points to cut the lead to nine, 44-35. The Owls boosted the lead as high as 15 before Manchester sophomore Sammy DeJesus came off the bench with less than 1:30 left and hit two consecutive three-pointers.

FULL TEXT

The sign on the wall at Clarke Arena read: "Seating Capacity 1407."

All seats were taken Wednesday night, as cars were lined bumper-to-bumper on the roads surrounding the high school. The capacity crowd watched Hartford Public, ranked first in The Courant's coaches poll, defeat Manchester 61-53 in a CCC East boys basketball game.

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"I wish people would realize how much fun they could have here all the time, instead of going to the mall or something," Manchester coach Frank Kinel said. "We had one game against East Hartford like this years ago and we had a good crowd for that, but not this many people."

Actually, Kinel didn't look as if he were having all that much fun. He stomped the floor, yelled a lot and once, midway through the third quarter, leaped about 3 feet and landed out on the court, staring in disbelief at the officials. That got him a foul.

Perhaps he was frustrated because that's when the game began to slip away from Manchester. Manchester had managed to hold University of Massachusetts-bound senior Marcus Camby to six points in the first half, and trailed by three at halftime, 22-19.

But Camby, 6 foot 11, came into the third quarter and scored 10 of HPHS's next 14 points, giving the Owls a 36-22 lead.

"The last game {50-33}, we didn't get inside too much," Hartford junior forward Kendrick Moore said.

This time, they did. Camby scored 22 points, Moore 16.

Manchester's Rafael Lopez-Doriga had played tough defense on Camby in the first game between HPHS and Manchester. But Wednesday, he picked up his third foul with 3 minutes, 10 seconds left in the first half.

Ed Lamarre was already waiting to substitute for Lopez-Doriga when the foul was called. Kinel looked at the stands behind the bench in despair.

"We just had to play our game, stay together," Moore said. "People try to pressure us, to see if we're going to crack. But we haven't."

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points to cut the lead to nine, 44-35. The Owls boosted the lead as high as 15 before Manchester sophomore Sammy DeJesus came off the bench with less than 1:30 left and hit two consecutive three-pointers. Manchester had moved within eight, 56-48.

But Mike Thompson hit a free throw, Camby rebounded his own miss of a free throw to put HPHS up 59-48 with 41 seconds left

DETAILS

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