

Volcanoes win 10 straight at the last second

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Clark College Sports Complex

By: Nathan Childs

The Vancouver Volcanoes defeated the visiting Portland Chinooks for the third straight game 129-128 in a deadlocked, physical match.

The close contest was decided on the final play of the game. The Chinooks had a chance to extend their one point lead with 22 seconds left in the game. After a missed jump shot by Portland guard, Chris Stevens, 'Pip Bloodsaw rebounded the ball and ran the entire court to win the game at the buzzer with a spinning lay-up.

"I knew we only had 12 seconds," Bloodsaw said. "I saw the rebound come off the rim. The court opened up so I had to use my skills and take it to the hole and hoped for the best."

The Vancouver home crowd erupted as Bloodsaw's shot fell through the net.

"It is all about the fans," Bloodsaw said. "They helped us battle back into it... right till the end."

A battle it was.

Neither team had an answer and both struggled to break the tie the entire match.

Porter Troupe was 12 of 13 from the charity stripe on his way to a double-double, 30 points 14 assists.

Portland forward, Kenny Tate, collected 20 points 6 rebounds.

"The volcanoes have been the bottom of the barrel for two years," Tate said. "They deserve everything they are getting this year."

In the first half, Portland center, J.R. Moore (14 points 5 rebounds) was having his way in the paint.

"If you guard him (Moore) one on one and you play behind him he can make some tough shots," Bloodsaw said.

During the intermission the Volcanoes coaching staff pointed out that Moore had three fouls on him. Assistant coach Jerry Allen encouraged the team to go to work against him in the paint.

"Because he picked up his fourth foul early (in the second half)... I would say it worked well." Allen said.

For every point the Volcanoes scored in the third quarter, the Chinooks had an answer. Portland's, Tate and Larry Smith, were able to dissect the Volcano defense and protect a 97 to 96 point lead at the end of the period.



Michael Workman

In the fourth quarter Volcano guard, Josh Jackson (14 points) made clutch threes to keep the game close.

“He has a smooth game, with a one dribble jump shot,” Bloodsaw said. “He played within himself and made some big shots down the road.”

Portland broke open the game in the fourth quarter. Chinook guard, Chris Stevens, broke the 102-102 fourth quarter tie, sparking a 15 to 7 point Portland run giving the Chinooks an eight point lead, 117-109 with 6:49 left in the game.

With 2:23 the Volcanoes went with the full court press to try and shift some gears.

It worked.

Porter Troupe dropped a clutch three with 2:00 on the clock to cut the Volcano deficit to five. Bloodsaw added to the late push with a lay up in the paint bringing the score to within three.

Then Kevin Tyner (21 points 8 rebounds 4 assists.) had the play of the game. With 35.4 on the clock he stole the ball and turned down court to try and cut the lead to one.

“I was looking for Porter,” Tyner said. “Because we were down three... I saw him in the corner and he waved me toward the basket.”

Volcanoes beat the buzzer at home and shock the Chinooks 129-128.