Pirates garner road win over Lancers

Written by Jim Metcalfe
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<u>jmetcalfe@delphosheraldcom</u>

RURAL MIDDLE POINT — Continental took advantage of an off-shooting night by host Lincolnview and hit enough free throws in the fourth period to grab a 47-40 non-league boys hardwood triumph Monday night at the New Lancerdome.

The Lancers (0-4) canned 14-of-42 from the floor (2-of-19 long range) for 33.3 percent, with sophomore Justis Dowdy coming off the bench for 23 points and nine boards. Senior Nick Leeth added six.

"I had no problem with our shot selection. Unfortunately, this is the fourth game this year where we have struggled shooting the ball," Lancer coach Brett Hammons noted. "Obviously, a few shots were rushed but not many; we were taking open looks. We talk a lot about going out there with confidence and I think once we get that, things will change. I can't fault our effort; these guys are playing their butts off."

The Pirates (3-1) hit 15-of-26 free throws for the contest (57.7%), including 11-of-17 in the finale, to help salt the game away and win their first road clash of the 2012-13 season.

They were topped by senior Kyle Dockery's 18 markers, including three treys overall and 7-of-9 at the line in the fourth, and 10 from senior Justin Halliwill.

"We're learning how to win. Most of these guys have never known a lot of wins in their careers," Continental coach Kevin Homier said. "These guys are working their tails off out there. Tyler (Dockery) is really taking over at the point. He had a couple of turnovers in the fourth when it got tight but he picked himself back up and handled the pressure well."

There was one tie — at 4-4 — early in the opener before the Pirates' Halliwill (7 points in the canto) hit a basket inside at the 6-minute mark to give his team the lead for good. Hitting 6-of-11 shots in the period, the visitors built up a 15-9 edge on a 3-ball from the right wing at 1:25.

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Despite 6-3 senior wide-body Chaz Slattman (9 points, 7 boards) getting into foul trouble in the second period (fouling out in the fourth), forcing head man Kevin Homier to go smaller, Continental built a 22-11 edge on a layin from Tyler Rue (7 markers, 12 rebounds, 4 assists, 4 thefts) at 1:45. The Lancers received a boost off the bench from Dowdy: a 3-point play at 1:06 and a 3-ball from the key with 5.1 ticks on the board; to get within 24-17 at the half.

The guests continued to play their 1-2-2 zone in the third that mostly kept the ball from getting inside and kept a cold-shooting Lancers from getting hot. When Rue hit a free throw at the 3-minute mark, the Pirates held their biggest lead at 31-19. The Lancers had a 7-0 mini-run to close the canto, capped by a third-chance putback by Brooks Ludwig at 1:10, to rally within 31-26.

In the fourth period, Slattman's two singles at 6:06 to build up a 36-26 edge. That started the run at the charity stripe. The Pirates did miss six attempts but the Lancers could only answer with a 5-of-17 performance. They did get within 36-33 on a 15-footer by Nick Leeth at 4:25 and later 41-38 on a Dowdy 3-pointer play at 1:31, fouling out Halliwill in the process. However, they could get no closer.

"We had 18 turnovers; we had a few too many unforced mistakes. I think we were trying to make things happen," Hammons added. "I like how we battled back. We were down by 13 at one time and got it within three a couple of times in the fourth. We had opportunities but couldn't hit shots."

Continental ended up canning 14-of-37 shots, 4-of-8 downtown, for 37.8 percent; securing 30 caroms (12 offensive); with 15 miscues and 18 fouls.

Lincolnview notched 10-of-14 freebies (71.4%); 28 caroms (13 offensive); and 23 fouls.

"Tyler (Rue) is a 110-percent guy when he's out on the floor. At times, he gets going too fast but you can live with that," Homier added.

"We hit some free throws but missed a few that let them stay in the game. We overcame foul

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trouble to Chaz in particular; we aren't big anyone and we go really small. I had to play a 5-8 kid (Dalton Bradford) at the '4' but he did a nice job of helping us weather foul trouble." Lincolnview visits Bluffton in NWC action Friday, while Continental is at Fairview.

The Lancer junior varsity nabbed a 39-25 victory behind eight markers each by Ethan Fraker and Austin Leeth.

The Pirates were led by 10 from Austin Mansfield.

VARSITY

CONTINENTAL (47)

Tyler Dockery 4-7-18, Gabe Williams 0-0-0, Zach Schwarzman 1-1-3, Tyler Rue 3-1-7, Dalton Bradford 0-0-0, Justin Halliwill 3-3-10, Scott Prowant 0-0-0, Chaz Slattman 3-3-9. Totals 10-4-15/26-47.

LINCOLNVIEW (40)

Nick Leeth 2-2-6, Kade Carey 2-1-5, Kyle Williams 0-2-2, Logan Miller 0-0-0, Mark Evans 1-0-2, Justis Dowdy 8-5-23, Conner McCleery 0-0-0, Eli Farmer 0-0-0, Brooks Ludwig 1-0-2. Totals 12-2-10/14-40.

Score by Quarters:

Continental 15 9 7 16 - 47 Lincolnview 9 8 9 14 - 40

Three-point goals: Continental, Dockery 3, Halliwill; Lincolnview, Dowdy 2.

JUNIOR VARSITY

CONTINENTAL (25)

Joey Swager 0-0-0, Dallas Geckle 1-2-4, Vern Prowant 0-0-0, Jon Shepard 0-0-0, Caleb Baker 0-1-1, Adam Lawhorn 1-2-4, Austin Mansfield 4-0-10, Brendon Foy 0-0-0, Ross Etter 0-0-0, Grant Bradford 0-0-0, Gabe Williams 3-0-6, Matt Bracken 0-0-0. Totals 7-2-5/8-25.

LINCOLNVIEW (39)

Zach Keith 2-2-6, Derek Friesner 1-3-5, Ethan Fraker 2-4-8, Dalton Hines 0-0-0, Adam Stocksdale 0-0-0, Tyler Brant 0-0-0, Tyler Wannemacher 0-2-2, Hayden Ludwig 2-2-7, Austin Leeth 2-3-8, Chandler Adams 1-1-3. Totals 8-2-17/22-39.

Score by Quarters:

Continental 7 4 4 10 - 25 Lincolnview 12 4 8 15 - 39

Three-point goals: Continental, Mansfield 2; Lincolnview, Ludwig, Leeth.