

Fourth-quarter uprising boosts Rockets

Written by Steve Ostermann

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Vruble, Jacque lead charge as CG-Belgium boys pull away for nonconference road win in North Fond du Lac

It took a fourth-quarter surge, but the Cedar Grove-Belgium boys' basketball team managed to turn a close game into a runaway road win Monday.

After letting North Fond du Lac stay within striking distance for three periods, the Rockets used a 21-8 scoring edge in the final eight minutes to secure a 59-42 victory.

Senior guard Nic Vruble led Cedar Grove-Belgium with a game-high 18 points, and Spencer Jacque sparked the team's fourth-quarter effort.

Jacque finished with just eight points but had six in the final period and also grabbed four offensive rebounds in the second half.

"Spencer did an excellent job down the stretch," said Rockets coach Jim Meinen, whose team improved to 4-1 overall.

"We needed someone to step up in the fourth quarter, and he did the job."

Vruble also earned Meinen's praise for solid play at both ends of the court. He scored 10 points in the first quarter and hit all three of Cedar Grove-Belgium's three-point baskets for the night.

Senior center Jesse Anderson was slowed by foul trouble and finished with just six points. However, the Rockets had nine other players score, led by nine points from guard Weston Meinen.

Cedar Grove-Belgium got off to a strong start and held a 16-6 lead after one quarter. However, North Fond du Lac fought back to within 25-21 by halftime and trailed by only 39-34 after three periods.

A solid performance at the free-throw line — 16 of 21 attempts — helped the Rockets remain in front. That included a 9-for-11 effort in the fourth quarter.

Dylan Wodsedalek led the Orioles with 12 points, and Quin Boehning had 10.

CG-Belgium 49, Howards Grove 35

A strong game from Anderson sparked the Rockets to a Central Lakeshore Conference win at home Dec. 10.

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Anderson had 15 points and eight rebounds as Cedar Grove-Belgium improved its first-place league mark to 3-0.

The Rockets grabbed an 11-7 lead in the first quarter, but Howards Grove pulled within 23-22 by halftime.

After taking a 32-28 lead into the fourth quarter, Cedar Grove-Belgium sealed the outcome with a 17-7 run.

Vrubley had nine points and did a solid defensive job on the Tigers' Eric Dickmyer, whose 14 points were well below his season average.

Cedar Grove-Belgium will resume conference play with 7:30 p.m. games Friday at Random Lake and at home Monday against Sheboygan Christian.