

NORTHAMPTON NEPTUNES PRESS RELEASE

29th November 2009

Northampton Neptunes	110
Coventry Premier Warriors	75

The Northampton Neptunes go top after the thriller on Sunday in the top of the table clash against Coventry.

Both sides knew that who ever came out on top today would take the advantage in the title race, neither the Neptunes or the Warriors had been defeated this season so far. The Warriors had the brighter start to the game as they took an early seven point lead. Once the Neptunes began to find their rhythm the deficit was cut mid way through the period. Neptunes skipper Mark Spatcher hit 10 first quarter points as the Warriors defence struggle to contain him. The quarter came an end with the scores at 15-15.

In the second quarter Neptunes rotated Joe Maclean, Henry Ureim and Jonny Yates into the line-up all made an immediate impact Mclean began to get himself to the basket on the break while Yates kept the Neptunes high tempo going. Spatcher continued to split the Warriors defence with consecutive scores while Tyler Kathan done to hard minutes around the basket collecting 15 rebounds in the opening half. The Neptunes were up by 4 before the Warriors scored on the brink of half time to cut the lead to 34 – 36.

In the second half the Neptunes can out and pressured the Warriors into several turn-overs. Sam Mennell hit two three points along with a steal which lead to a lay-up. Spatcher and Kathan both hit jump shots as the Neptunes began to take control of the game. The Neptunes twice stretched the lead out to 11 points but to the Warriors credit they hung on and managed to narrow the lead to 4 points at the end of the 3rd 61 – 57.

In the final quarter the Neptunes did lose the lead for a two minute spell in the middle of the quarter, this was soon restored though when centre Ben Knight, Yates and Spatcher all hit around the basket. Spatcher picked up his 5th personal which saw the Neptunes bring Shafiq Omar back into the game, The Neptunes were back up by 6 points again 83 – 77. The Warriors hit a two which was cancelled out by Mclean's lay-up on the break, the Warriors hit a three pointer in the last 19 seconds to close the game to 3 points, however the Neptunes were fouled and went to the line, with the game pretty much out of reach, the Warriors knew that were about to be dealt their first loss frustration lead to a bench technical foul as the Neptunes closed out the game 90 – 82.

Top scorers for the Neptunes were Mark Spatcher with a game high 34 points, rookie Jonny Yates had an impressive 15 points, while Sam Mennell and Tyler Kathan both hit double digits. Kathan Also picked up 27 rebounds.

The Neptunes travel to Tamworth to take on the Tigers week.

For more information see www.northampton-neptunes.co.uk or contact Dianna Stroud on 07718 324406.

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Division ONE	P	W	L	F	A	Points
Northampton Neptunes	7	7	0	726	540	14
Premier Warriors	7	6	1	572	347	13
Aylesford Hawks	7	3	4	504	588	10
Tile Hill Trojans I	5	2	3	400	379	7
GAC	5	2	3	417	404	7
Tamworth Tigers	5	2	3	342	402	7
Onley Outlaws	4	1	3	253	345	5
Warwick University I	5	0	5	293	439	5