



Holley sparks fourth-quarter run for Old Mill

Junior guard explodes for 18 points in final period, Patriots overcome 13-point deficit in 89-79 win at Arundel (VIDEOS here!)

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by Aaron Gray

Holley scored 18 points in the final period — he finished with a game-high 27 — while the Patriots went 15-for-16 from the free-throw line and committed zero turnovers in the final period to overcome a double-digit deficit in the third. When the smoke finally cleared Tuesday on what many predict as a county championship preview, Old Mill left Gambrills on the winning end, 89-79.

The only loss this season for the No. 11 Patriots (10-1 overall, 6-0 in the county) came on a buzzer-beater at St. Mary's. Arundel, ranked No. 13 in the latest DigitalSports Baltimore-metro boys basketball Top 20 Poll, fell for the first time and now stands at 11-1, 6-1.

Old Mill, Arundel, boys basketball



Patriots sealed the win at the free-throw line down the stretch.

"They're kind of like us because we both like to get up and down the court," said Old Mill coach Greg Smith, whose team opened the game on a 11-1 run and finished with four players scoring in double figures.

"So it's a great win for us to come in to their place and get the win. We didn't want to emphasize that this was our season at all. But to come back like we did ... it was a quality win."

After opening a three-point halftime advantage, Arundel went on a 12-2 run in the middle of the third to build a 54-41 cushion with 2:44 left in the third. Five different players scored during the surge, which was capped by a 3-pointer from Andre Hilliard, who knocked down two treys in the period.

Senior Auraum Nuiriankh, who was relatively quiet in the first half, came out in force after the break for Arundel attacking the basket with each touch. He scored 15 points in the third and fourth quarters combined and finished with a team-high 21 points, 18 rebounds, three steals and three blocks.

"It was going to be a game of runs and (Old Mill) really went off in the fourth quarter," said Wildcats coach Jeff Starr, whose team beat Old Mill last season in Millersville when the Patriots were undefeated.

"We couldn't get stops in the end. It looked like we were going at half speed and they were going full speed and we can't let that happen. We were getting up and down with them but they just hit another gear in the last four minutes."

Junior R.J. Harris had 13 points and four rebounds for Arundel while Rhodes and junior guard Terrell

Tullis each chipped in 11 points. Senior guard Greg Rich added three assists and four steals.

Old Mill senior center Marvin Pinkney and sophomore forward Eric Savage had their hands full containing Nuiriankh in the low post but each contributed on offense and avoided fouling out.

Savage blew up for 12 first-half points and played the final 5:32 with four fouls. He finished with 16 points while Pinkney went 7-for-9 from the free-throw line and tallied 17 points. The pair combined for 15 rebounds.

Old Mill (10-1) 19 12 21 37 - 89

Arundel (11-1) 17 17 27 18 - 79

OM: Holley 9(2) 7-8 27, Pratt 0 0-2 0, Day 4(1) 5-5 14, Salmund 1 0-0 2, Joseph 1 1-1 3, Pinkney 5 7-9 17, Savage 7 2-3 16, Summers 3(1) 3-4 8. **Totals** 30(4) 23-32 89.

AR: Hilliard 2(2) 0-0 6, Rich 3 5-6 11, Tullis 3 3-4 9, Rice 1 1-4 3, Harris 6 2-4 14, Conley 2 2-2 6, Rhodes 5(1) 0-1 11, Nuiriankh 6 9-15 21. **Totals** 28(3) 22-36 79.

Half: Arundel, 36-33.

— photos by Barry Miller