

1999 IHSAA Boys Basketball

Tournament of Champions Final Game

NORTH CENTRAL WINS TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

Class 4A state champion North Central of Indianapolis held off a determined Westview squad for a 67-63 triumph in the title game of the IHSAA Tournament of Champions on Saturday at Hinkle Fieldhouse in Indianapolis.

The Panthers title came one week after winning the school's first state championship in boys basketball. North Central, with the largest four-year enrollment in the state, finished its season at 25-5 and on an 11-game winning streak under coach Doug Mitchell. Westview, a Class 2A school with an enrollment of 395 students, closed at 24-4.

For the second year in a row, the Class 4A state champion took home the trophy and North Central became the second suburban Indianapolis school to do so as Pike defeated Lafayette Central Catholic (Class A) in last year's finale.

North Central was led in scoring by senior guard Jason Gardner who finished with 24 points and seven rebounds. He got help from Eric Rhodes with 19 points and Shawn Radford with 15. Westview, coached by Troy Neely, received 22 points and nine rebounds from junior center Jeff Nelson. Scott Hostetler pitched in 15 points for the Warriors.

North Central's edge in rebounding proved to be a big advantage during the game as the Panthers owned the glass, 36-23, including 17-10 on the offensive side. A majority of North Central's points came in the post area as the Panthers outscored the Warriors down low, 44-26.

Neither team could pull away from the other when it had the lead. Westview actually led by eight points in the second quarter and thoughts of a second consecutive upset were alive. Scott Hostetler hit a three-pointer with 4:32 remaining in the second quarter to put the Warriors up, 34-26. North Central came back to pull within one point at the half, 39-38.

North Central took the lead for good at the 3:31 mark of the fourth quarter when Gardner hit the front end of a one-and-one to make it 61-60. Two more free throws by Gardner and a pair of Radford layups in the last 2:13 sealed the win for the Panthers and gave them their largest lead of the game at 67-60.

TITLE GAME BOX SCORE

North Central (Indianapolis) (25-5)

Name	Min.	FG	3FG	FT	R	A	F	S	TO	TP
Nick Gardner	17	0-3	0-1	0-0	1	1	4	0	0	0
Zach Scott	10	1-1	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	0	1	2
Shawn Radford	28	7-12	0-0	1-1	7	3	1	1	2	15
Jason Gardner	32	8-16	3-8	5-6	7	7	3	3	4	24
Erik Chapman	17	2-9	0-3	0-0	8	3	1	0	1	4
Lucas Query	13	1-3	0-1	0-0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Eric Rhodes	26	8-11	0-0	3-4	6	2	2	3	4	19
Donald Yates	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Max Matthews	16	0-2	0-0	1-2	3	1	3	0	1	1
Team Totals	160	27-57	3-13	10-13	36	18	16	7	14	67
Percentages		.474	.231	.769						

Team Rebounds: 2

Westview (24-4)

Name	Min.	FG	3FG	FT	R	A	F	S	TO	TP
Derek Yoder	22	3-12	3-9	0-0	5	3	1	0	1	9
Scott Hostetler	27	6-14	3-8	0-0	2	1	1	0	0	15
Jeff Nelson	25	7-8	0-0	8-8	9	3	3	0	1	22
Mark Miller	23	2-8	1-5	0-0	3	3	4	3	2	5
Eric Yoder	26	2-6	0-3	0-0	1	4	2	1	7	4
Adam Bontreger	15	0-0	0-0	2-2	1	2	1	2	1	2
Michael Christner	10	1-4	1-1	1-2	1	0	1	0	1	4

Randy Miller	5	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Jeff Fought	7	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Team Total	160	22-53	8-26	11-12	23	16	15	6	13	63
Percentages		.415	.308	.917						

Team Rebounds: 1

Score by Quarters:

North Central (Indianapolis)	20	18	19	10	-	67
Westview	19	20	17	7	-	63

Attendance (One-game session): 2,714

Officials: Jerry Taylor, Bill Nimnicht