

# 1999 IHSAA Boys Basketball

## Tournament of Champions Game 1

### **NORTH CENTRAL ADVANCES WITH 69-64 VICTORY**

Class 4A state champion North Central of Indianapolis got all it could handle from Class A champ Tecumseh as the Panthers held on for a 69-64 semifinal victory in the Tournament of Champions on Saturday at Hinkle Fieldhouse in Indianapolis.

North Central (24-5), under the direction of coach Doug Mitchell, advances to the championship game against the Plainfield-Westview winner on Saturday at 8 p.m. Tecumseh, located in Lynnville about 25 miles northeast of Evansville, won the school's first sectional this year and finished at 23-5 under coach Kevin Oxley.

North Central jumped out to a 9-2 lead in the first quarter before Tecumseh stormed back to take a 10-9 advantage. The two teams traded baskets before Jimmy Funkhouser canned a fadeaway jumper just before the buzzer to give the Braves a 15-14 lead at the first break.

Tecumseh ran off a six straight points at the beginning of the second quarter to take a 21-14 lead, its largest of the game. North Central closed to within 30-29 on a Jason Gardner trey in the final minute of the half before Jake Holder, last week's Trester Award winner, nailed a jumper with :34 seconds remaining to put the Braves up 32-29 at the midway point.

The deciding point in the game came in the first 2:44 of the second half as the Panthers took control with a 10-0 run capped by another Gardner three-pointer that put his team up 39-32. North Central pushed its lead to 10 points with 1:22 left in the third as Gardner stole the ball after a Tecumseh rebound and went in for a reverse layup and was fouled. Bound for the University of Arizona next fall, Gardner scored a game-high 25 points on 8-14 shooting, including 4-8 from behind the arc. Shawn Radford pulled down 12 rebounds for North Central while Eric Rhodes scored 21 points and tallied 10 rebounds.

Tecumseh, which continued to play inspired basketball, kept hopes for an upset alive by closing to within 64-61 on a Chris King steal and layup with 1:18 remaining. Rhodes hit a jumper seconds later for a 66-61 North Central lead and the Panthers hit 3-4 free throws in the last 38 seconds to all but wrap it up.

Four Tecumseh players reached double figures led by King with 20 points. Holder added 15 and Funkhouser and Jeremy Broshears had 11 each.



|                          |            |              |             |              |           |           |           |          |           |           |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Shawn Radford            | 25         | 5-12         | 0-0         | 3-5          | 12        | 2         | 2         | 0        | 4         | 13        |
| Jason Gardner            | 26         | 8-14         | 4-8         | 5-7          | 6         | 2         | 1         | 4        | 0         | 25        |
| Erik Chapman             | 12         | 2-2          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 1         | 3         | 5         | 1        | 5         | 4         |
| Lucas Query              | 22         | 0-4          | 0-3         | 1-2          | 0         | 1         | 1         | 0        | 2         | 1         |
| Wegahta<br>Ghebremichael | 4          | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0        | 1         | 0         |
| Eric Rhodes              | 25         | 9-14         | 0-0         | 3-4          | 10        | 2         | 3         | 3        | 0         | 21        |
| Doug Moore               | 1          | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0         |
| Donald Yates             | 10         | 0-2          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 2         | 1         | 1         | 0        | 0         | 0         |
| John Hayes               | 3          | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0        | 0         | 0         |
| Max Matthews             | 5          | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 1         | 0         | 0         | 1        | 1         | 0         |
| <b>Team Totals</b>       | <b>160</b> | <b>26-53</b> | <b>5-13</b> | <b>12-18</b> | <b>37</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>69</b> |
| <b>Percentages</b>       |            | <b>.491</b>  | <b>.385</b> | <b>.667</b>  |           |           |           |          |           |           |

Team Rebounds: 3

### Score by Quarters:

|                                 |    |    |    |    |   |    |
|---------------------------------|----|----|----|----|---|----|
| Tecumseh                        | 15 | 17 | 15 | 17 | - | 64 |
| North Central<br>(Indianapolis) | 14 | 15 | 23 | 17 | - | 69 |

Attendance (Two-game session):

Officials: Tim Smith, Steve Kvachkoff