



Santiago Canyon College Men's Basketball Newsletter

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This past week was an exciting one in the Orange Empire Conference. The league is as tight as possible from top to bottom. We had two great games against Saddleback College and Fullerton College. The Wednesday game was at Saddleback and went down to the wire as we lost by 2 points. On Friday, we turned it around and beat Fullerton at home by one point. We hung on to the victory after leading by 13 in the second half. We have been battling through some injuries and sickness. We are looking forward to getting back to full strength in about a week, but we have two tough games this week with Santa Ana and Riverside City College.

SCC Men's Basketball Fast Facts

- 4th in California in points per game: 89.9
- 9th in California in free throw percentage: 73.6%
- 1st in California in free throws made and 2nd in attempted: 447/607
- 7th in California in 3-point field goal percentage: 39.0%
- Massey Rating (as of 1/15/18) = #17 in California
- CCCMBCA Poll (as of 1/15/18) = #14 in Southern California
- Rocket Henderson is 1st in points scored in California with 537 points
- Rocket Henderson is leading the state in scoring during conference play: 33.4 pts/game
- AJ Garrity is averaging 16.8 points per game in conference
- 46.7% as a team from the 3-point line in conference
- 2 Tournament Championships (SCC/SAC Tournament & Pasadena City Tournament)
- Conference Record (as of 1/7/18): 2 – 3
- Overall Record (as of 1/7/18): 15 – 6

Game #21: Game Summary - Friday, January 19, 2018

Opponent: Fullerton College

Score: SCC 70 Fullerton 69

Santiago Canyon College welcomed first place Fullerton College to Santiago Canyon on Friday in an Orange Empire Conference game and it was the Hawks who came away with a thrilling 70-69 victory. The game featured the 6th ranked team in Southern California (Fullerton) against the 11th ranked Hawks. Santiago Canyon is now 15 and 6 this season and 2-3 in league play while Fullerton drops to 15-6 and 4-2. The Hawks were led in scoring and rebounding by sophomore Rocket Henderson who tallied 37 points to go along with a game high 9 rebounds. Henderson, who came into the contest averaging 25.6 points a game, connected on 7 of 12 shots from beyond the arc despite being pressured constantly by the athletic Hornets. Santiago Canyon led by a score of 38-34 at the half and stretched the lead to 13 early in the second half. But Fullerton came back behind the outside shooting of Nigel Carter who led the Hornets in scoring with 18 points while connecting on 6 three point shots. The Hawks had just enough down the stretch to stay ahead by the narrowest of margins as they never relinquished the lead. After Henderson converted 2 clutch free throws to give the Hawks a 70-67 lead with 26 seconds left to play, Fullerton



guard Jason Richardson scored on a driving layup to cut the lead to 1. After a Hawk turnover, Fullerton had an opportunity for the win but a 10-foot jumper went in and then out. The ball was knocked out of bounds by the Hornets and Santiago Canyon had the victory in hand. The Hawks played great defense all night holding the Hornets to 38% shooting from the field while outrebounding Fullerton 34-29. Santiago Canyon shot 47% from the field including a scintillating 14-28 from three-point range. Henderson scored 22 of his 37 points in the second half, but had plenty of help. AJ Garrity scored 16 points, going 4 of 8 from 3-point range while guard Marcus Swain was solid again with 6 points, 4 rebounds, and heady all-around play before fouling out. Coach Todd Dixon was pleased with the outcome. "I thought our guys really competed and played well tonight. After a tough 2-point loss to Saddleback on Wednesday, our team showed a lot of grit and I am happy for them." Santiago Canyon is back in action on Wednesday at home against Santa Ana College. Tipoff is 5:00 p.m.

[SCC vs. Fullerton Box Score](#)

[SCC vs. Fullerton Game Highlights](#)

Game #20: Game Summary - Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Opponent: Saddleback College

Score: SCC 66 Saddleback 68

Santiago Canyon College came up just a little short last night in their Orange Empire Conference game with perennial power Saddleback last night falling to the Gauchos 68-66 in Mission Viejo. The Hawks opened the game on fire taking a 12-3 lead by knocking down their first 4 shots from beyond the arc. They later equaled the 9-point advantage when Rocket Henderson scored to give Santiago canyon a 17-8 lead with 13:46 remaining in the first half. The taller and athletic Gauchos fought back behind the strong play of guard Isaiah Brooks to take a 34-28 halftime lead. Saddleback had no answer for Henderson who torched the nets for 16 first half points including 3 of 4 from 3-point range. The second half began the same way as the opening half, as Santiago Canyon came out red hot. The Hawks scored the first 10 points of the half in regaining the lead at 38-34 with 17:17 remaining. Saddleback fought back again behind Brooks who buried a 3 pointer and 2 free throws late in the game to give the Gauchos a 64-58 advantage with 41 seconds left. The Hawks would not go quietly as guard Marcus Swain (season high 12 points) nailed a 3 pointer with 26 seconds remaining. The Gauchos hit 1 of 2 free throws to extend the lead to 4 before AJ Garrity of the Hawks was fouled on a 3-point attempt. Garrity buried all 3 free throws as the lead dropped to 1 with 7 seconds remaining. Santiago Canyon fouled Brooks who made 1 of 2 free throws, giving the Hawks an opportunity to win the game. The Hawks raced down the court quickly but dribbled into a crowd and were unable to get off a shot attempt before the final buzzer. Henderson finished with a game high of 29 points, connecting on 5 of 10 from beyond the arc. Brooks (averaging 5 points a game on the season) led Saddleback with a season high of 24 points. The loss leaves the Hawks at 14-6 overall and 1-3 in the Orange Empire Conference. Santiago Canyon will now play their next 3 games at home beginning Friday with Fullerton College (15-5 / 3-1). Game time is 5:00 p.m.

[SCC vs. Saddleback Box Score](#)

[SCC vs. Saddleback Game Highlights](#)

Next Games:

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Wednesday, 1/24/18	Santa Ana College	Santiago Canyon College	5:00pm
Friday, 1/26/18	Riverside City College	Santiago Canyon College	5:00pm