



Santiago Canyon College Men's Basketball Newsletter

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Volume 1

Issue 8

Happy New Year! Orange Empire Conference play started this past week. We opened on the road at Riverside City College. In a physical and intense game, we fell short in double overtime 87-90. On Friday, we had our first home game in conference play against Copper Mountain. This game was a display of great offense and shooting. We won the game 103-96. The OEC is the best conference in the state and it is going to show with a lot of highly contested, close games throughout January and February.

SCC Men's Basketball Fast Facts

- 3rd in California in points per game: 92.7
- 6th in California in free throw percentage: 74.5%
- 1st in California in free throws made and 2nd in attempted: 410/550
- Massey Rating (as of 1/6/18) = #13 in California
- CCCMBCA Poll (as of 1/2/18) = #10 in California
- CCCMBCA Poll (as of 1/2/18) = #6 in Southern California
- Rocket Henderson is 1st in points scored in California with 446 points
- 2 Tournament Championships (SCC/SAC Tournament & Pasadena City Tournament)
- Conference Record (as of 1/7/18): 1 – 1
- Overall Record (as of 1/7/18): 14 – 4

Game #17: Game Summary - Wednesday, January 3, 2018

Opponent: Riverside City College

Final Score: SCC 87 RCC 90 (2OT)

After an extensive layoff, Santiago Canyon opened conference play at Riverside City College on Wednesday and came oh so close to earning their first league victory, falling 90-87 in double overtime to the Tigers. Riverside is now 10-5 overall on the season while the Hawks are now 13-4. Santiago Canyon led at the half by a score of 33-30 behind 15 points from A.J. Garrity who connected on 5 three point baskets in the first half. The second half was close the entire way with no team building more than a 6-point lead. With the game tied and the clock winding down, Riverside guard Rico Tate was fouled with 3 seconds to go and was awarded 2 shots. After missing the first free throw, Coach Todd Dixon elected to use his final timeout. Tate missed the second free throw and Rocket Henderson secured the rebound for the Hawks to force overtime. In the 5-minute overtime, the Hawks raced to a 4-point lead behind 2 straight baskets by Henderson, who finished with a game high 32 points. Riverside battled back to tie the game and the Hawks had a chance to win it at the buzzer but Henderson's 30-footer glanced off the back rim. In the second overtime, it was Riverside who raced to a 6-point advantage but Garrity, who finished with a season high 30 points on 8 three pointers, scored on a reverse layup and Shaun Maeder drilled a 3



pointer to trim the lead to 87-86. After a defensive stop by the Hawks, Henderson was fouled with 10 seconds remaining. Henderson made the first, but missed the second free throw. Riverside got the rebound and Brae Ivey sank a three pointer with 4 seconds left for the victory. Ivey, who was a high school teammate of Santiago Canyon's A.J. Garrity at Edison High School in Huntington Beach, led the Tigers with 32 points. The Hawks shot 43% from the field, including 16-34 from 3-point range. This was the first game for the Hawks since they defeated College of the Desert 87-77 on December 16. Santiago Canyon will play at home on Friday as they take on Copper Mountain College from Joshua Tree on Friday at 5:00 p.m. Copper Mountain, like Santiago Canyon, is in their first year of community college basketball. They have a record of 14-4 and defeated Cypress College on Wednesday in their Orange Empire debut. Coach Todd Dixon was disappointed in the outcome but pleased with his team's effort on Wednesday. "It was a great basketball game that obviously could have gone either way. Our guys really battled. We will have a light practice on Thursday and get ready for our league home opener against a very good opponent."

[SCC vs. Riverside City College Box Score](#)

[SCC vs. Riverside City College Game Highlights](#)

Game #18: Game Summary - Friday, January 5, 2018

Opponent: Copper Mountain

Final Score: SCC 103 Copper Mountain 96

In a highly entertaining game on Friday, Santiago Canyon came away with a hard earned 103-96 victory over Copper Mountain College in Orange. Copper Mountain, like Santiago Canyon College, is competing in collegiate basketball for the first time and both teams are making the always competitive Orange Empire Conference even tougher. With the win, the Hawks are now 1-1 in league play and 14-4 overall while the Fighting Cacti (Yes, the Fighting Cacti) fall to 1-1 and 14-5 on the season. Rocket Henderson led the way for the Hawks with a career high of 44 points. Despite sitting out much of the first half after receiving his second personal foul, Henderson scored from all over the floor, knocking down 5 of 7 from 3-point land, connecting on 17 of 21 free throws, and displaying a post-up and mid-range game that delighted the home town fans and had the Copper Mountain players and coaches shaking their heads. Copper Mountain raced to a 12-5 lead to open the game forcing Hawk coach Todd Dixon to call an early timeout. The loud and perhaps over confident Fighting Cacti raced to their bench during the timeout but the Hawks showed poise and discipline throughout the contest and led at halftime by a score of 55-53 behind the scoring of Henderson and AJ Garrity, who had 15 at the break draining all 4 of his 3 point shots. Both teams shot a sizzling 58% from the field in the first half. Santiago Canyon began to pull away midway through the second half and led by as many as 11 but Copper Mountain battled back with a balanced array of scoring. They had 6 players score in double figures led by Jailen Moore's 18 points. Henderson was brilliant all night but he had plenty of help. Garrity continued his torrid shooting and finished with 20 points before fouling out with under a minute to play. Myles Garvin was a presence inside and out all game as he finished with 14 points and 6 rebounds. Point guard Travis Kettering was solid with 4 points, 8 assists, and 5 rebounds, and Troy Recktenwald gave the Hawks a huge lift off the bench with 8 points, 4 rebounds, and 2 assists. Copper Mountain cut the lead down to 2 points with 4 minutes left but the Hawks continued to answer with big baskets down the stretch and never relinquished the lead. With under a minute to play, Henderson secured a defensive rebound and a personal foul and a technical



foul was called against Copper Mountain. The Fighting Cacti then seemed to lose their fight as the Hawks came away with the victory. Santiago Canyon shot 53% for the game from the field while Copper Mountain shot 54%. The Hawks were a sizzling 14-28 from 3-point land. Coach Dixon commented on his team's win, "I thought our guys played very well tonight and we needed that type of performance to come away with the win. After a tough double overtime loss on Wednesday to Riverside, we had a lot of fight and energy tonight. Rocket was sensational, but a lot of guys stepped up and battled". The Hawks play next at home on Wednesday against the Orange Coast Pirates. Orange Coast is 1-1 in conference play following an 84-82 double overtime win on Friday against Cypress College. Game time is 5:00pm.

[SCC vs. Copper Mountain Box Score](#)

[SCC vs. Copper Mountain Game Highlights](#)

Next Games:

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Wednesday, 1/10/18	Orange Coast College	Santiago Canyon College	5:00pm
Wednesday, 1/17/18	Saddleback College	Saddleback College	5:00pm
Friday, 1/19/18	Fullerton College	Santiago Canyon College	5:00pm