

The Truth - Local Sports

Local sports: IBL — Battle Creek beats Elgin in East semifinal

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By [Anthony Anderson](#)

Truth Assistant Sports Editor

ELKHART -- Battle Creek busted loose of a 77-77 deadlock through three quarters by outscoring Elgin 39-23 in the fourth quarter for a 116-100 victory in Saturday's International Basketball League East Conference semifinal at North Side Gym.

The Knights (10-11) advanced into today's 5 p.m. East championship against the Elkhart Express (22-1).

Kendrick Cornelius scored 25 points for the winners and Mike Williams 24. Bobby Madison added 19, while Rashi Johnson, a former Express player, netted 13 points to go with a game-high seven assists.

The Racers (9-12) were playing minus their top scorer and assist man on the season, Brandon Watkins, who was attending a camp.

Keith Gayden paced Elgin with 23 points and led all players with 17 rebounds.

IBL PLAYOFFS

(East Semifinal)

BATTLE CREEK 116, ELGIN 100

Battle Creek -- Bobby Madison 8-15 3-5 19, Mike Williams 7-14 6-7 24, Duke Cleveland 4-5 2-2 10, Kendrick Cornelius 10-17 2-2 25, Ricky Willis 2-3 1-2 5, Rashi Johnson 5-12 0-0 13, Roberto Fortes 2-3 0-0 4, Ty Brunson 1-2 0-1 2, Ed McCants 0-9 2-2 2, Jamaal Davis 6-13 0-0 12. Totals: 45-93 (.484) 16-21 (.762) 116.

Elgin -- Chris Martin 5-13 2-2 15, Majak Kou 6-10 0-0 14, Keith Gayden 10-21 3-4 23, Emmanuel Dildy 3-10 0-0 8, DeAnthony Bowden 5-22 1-2 16, Phil Watson 3-7 1-2 9, Demario Eddins 0-0 0-0 0, Wes Wilcox 1-3 0-2 2, Nick Michael 6-18 0-0 13. Totals: 39-105 (.371) 7-12 (.583) 100.

Scoring By Quarters

Battle Creek 26 15 36 39 -- 116

Elgin 19 27 31 23 -- 100

3-point goals: Battle Creek (10-33) -- Williams 4-7, Cornelius 3-9, Johnson 3-9, Willis 0-1, Madison 0-3, McCants 0-4; Elgin (15-43) -- Bowden 5-13, Martin 3-10, Kou 2-2, Watson 2-3, Dildy 2-8, Michael 1-5, Gayden 0-2.

Rebounds: Battle Creek (53) -- Madison 9, Williams 9, Davis 7; Elgin (60) -- Gayden 17, Kou 10, Martin 8, Michael 8.

Assists: Battle Creek (28) -- Johnson 7, Williams 4; Elgin (16) -- Bowden 4.

Steals: Battle Creek (6) -- Johnson 2; Elgin (9) -- Bowden 4.

Turnovers: Battle Creek 22, Elgin 24.

Total fouls: Battle Creek 14, Elgin 23. Fouled out -- none

Officials: Mike Spann, Terry Tyks, C.K. Williams.

Attendance: 332.

Team records: Battle Creek 10-11, Elgin 9-12.

Next game: Battle Creek vs. Elkhart in IBL East championship today at North Side Gym, 5 p.m.

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