

Arrington leads Warriors past J-Hawks, 56-41

Written by Tom Fruehling
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With up-and-coming junior jumping jack Maurice Arrington playing his second great game in a row, the Washington boys rolled over Jefferson 56-41 Friday night in the J-Hawk gym.

The long-limbed 6-foot-6 first-year starter, who scored 17 two weeks ago in a loss to Kennedy, had a career-high 19 points on a variety of slick inside moves and even one 3-pointer.

"He's consistently getting better and better," Warrior Coach Adam Sanchez said of the athletic stringbean. "He's starting to understand how he can become a really good player."

Several of Arrington's baskets came on tip-ins after missed shots.

"My mindset is to crash the boards," he said. "I want get to the glass and put in points."

Sanchez felt an overall strong board play was the difference in the contest.

"I thought our inside game with our rebounding wore them down," he said. "And we did a great job offensively. A lot of our points came on second shots."

For the most part, the Warriors also bottled up Jefferson playmaker and leading scorer Jacob Olson.

In his first game back after missing the last two with a sprained ankle, the silky smooth senior seemed slightly slower than usual. He took only five shots in the first half and made his only two points on free throws.

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For the night, Olson was only 2-for-15 but did sink all six of his free throws for 11 points.

“Obviously, he's going to be the focal point of your defense,” the soft-spoken Sanchez noted. “He came in averaging 22 points, and I thought we did a great job guarding him.”

Rangy 6-foot-3 Razadon Taylor was given the task of hounding Olson all over the floor.

“Taylor is super athletic,” his coach pointed out. “Olson is a great player, but I think Raz really bothered him.”

The J-Hawks made a mere 10 field goals all night, four of them from broad-shouldered junior Tyler Konigsmark. He led Jefferson with 17 points and displayed an aggressive streak on both ends of the court.

Washington (2-4, 1-2 MVC) led all the way, jumping off to a 5-0 start on Arrington's first put-back and a 3-pointer by sophomore sharpshooter Jared Printy.

With all 10 of his points coming in the first half, Printy helped the Warriors take a 24-18 lead.

Diamond-in-the-rough junior reserve Keegan Moore tipped in a rebound at the buzzer to give his team a 10-point edge after three quarters, and they coasted from there.

The J-Hawks (1-5, 0-3 MVC) came as close as seven on Olson's only 3-pointer with 1:33 left, but the Warriors made the last eight points.

“We've had some ups and downs so far this year,” said Arrington, who scored the final two on

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free throws after a technical foul was called on Olson. "But we keep getting better. New year, new season. This was our best game, for sure."

WASHINGTON (56): Razadon Taylor 1 2-4 4, Reid Snitker 1 1-1 3, Jacob Kramer 2 1-2 7, Maurice Arrington 7 4-8 19, Jared Printy 4 0-0 10, Drew Hoeger 2 3-3 7, Keegan Moore 2 0-0 4, Tyler Soenksen 1 0-0 2, C.J. Nelson 0 0-0 0. Totals 20 11-18 56.

JEFFERSON (41): Jacob Olson 2 6-6 11, Jake Van Oort 1 0-0 2, Brandon Wiederin 0 0-0 0, Lucas Larson 1 1-2 3, Tyler Konigsmark 4 8-14 17, Adam Van Oort 1 4-4 6, Bryce Cardis 1 0-0 2, Davis Hall 0 0-0 0, Brock Hunt 0 0-0 0. Totals 10 19-26 41.

Halftime – Washington 24, Jefferson 18. 3-point goals – Washington 5 (Printy 2, Kramer 2, Arrington 1), Jefferson 2 (Olson 1, Konigsmark 1). Total fouls – Washington 20, Jefferson 13. Fouled out – none.