

Stingarees win Humidity Bowl

By RYAN ANDERSON
Texas City Sun

Basketball at its simplest level is a game of dribbling and shooting the big orange ball on a nice dry court.

Throw in a standing-room only gymnasium full of rapid fans on a humid night in Texas and the game takes on a whole new dimension.

Such was the case Friday night at Texas City High School when the homestanding Stingarees hosted the Hitchcock Bulldogs in boys' basketball action.

After three quarters of sliding around on a humid gym surface, the game was called with the Stingarees leading the Bulldogs 49-33.

"Any time you get this many people in this gym, this is going to happen," said Darrell Collins, Texas City coach. "I went into the Hitchcock locker room after the game and apologized to the coaches and players for having to end the game early."

Although Collins was making apologies, the decision to end the game was mutual.

After numerous official timeouts to try to dry the court failed to improve the playing conditions, Collins and Hitchcock head coach Jeff Keener decided to call it a game at the end of the third quarter.

"We both have too much at stake to risk injuring our players by continuing to play under these conditions," Collins said.

The Sting started the game strong rolling to an 8-0 lead. Texas City ended the first period of play with a 20-15 lead.

The Stings extended their lead to 39-24 at the end of the first half, but it was clear that the playing conditions were starting to turn.

By the third quarter, the court resembled an ice rink and the big orange ball became difficult to handle leading to just 10 points for Texas City and nine for Hitchcock.

Alex Holloway led the Stings with 23 points including five three-point shots in the first half. Other Stings on the scoring board were Chris Watkins (eight points), Dion Dowell (seven points) and Chris Watkins (six points).

Dante McDaniel led Hitchcock with eight points.

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Texas City will return to action next Friday night with a game against Ball High School. Game time is set for 7:30 p.m.

“Hopefully we can have the air-conditioning working for that game,” Collins said.