

Mother Nature shut down action in the Lancaster Recreation Department's Youth Basketball program for one week, but a resolute group of players and parents would not let her do it a second week, and games and instruction were held this past Saturday. Braving the snow and cold, the girls of the Bantam Conference kicked things off at Como Park Elementary School. The Pelicans (4-1), behind 22 points from Isabel Zuppa, took down the Roadrunners, 47-32, to remain but one game out of first place. Quinn Longo's nine points and six from Marissa Kremblas supported Zuppa's scoring, as did the four points of Jillian Cummins and the six points trisected by Tessa Kremblas, Peyton Longo and London Tallman.

The Roadrunners were led by Gabby Smiech and Kara Klimtzak, who netted 16 and 12 points respectively. A basket from both Bryn Buchwald and Steller Firestone rounded out the scoring for the 1-4 Runners.

Penguins are no strangers to ice and cold, but even they could not weather the hot shooting of Julianna Pagano, whose 28 points guided the Ducks to victory, 48-40. Lauren Jandzinski also had a big part in the win, having her best game of the season with 10 points, while Maura Millonzi added eight and Mackenzie Kupka two for the 3-2 winners.

Peytyn Chojnacki kept things close for the Penguins (2-3), dropping in 24 points to top their score sheet. Brynn Dillon scored an additional 10 points, while Maria Minsterman, Juliet Mysiak and Sammie Uhteg each contributed a bucket in the loss.

The Cardinals appeared to be on their way to a loss, as well, scoring a paltry two points in the first half, but used a 23-point second half performance to storm back and steal a 25-24 win from the Eagles, keeping their record unblemished at 5-0. Keira Farrugia scored 12 points to lead the comeback, but Olivia Ingersoll's six points, five from Coco Carlsen and a bucket from Autumn Carney all were needed to secure the victory.

Abigail Schlotterbeck matched Farrugia's output with 12 points for the hard-luck Eagles, who dropped to 0-5 on the season. Brenna Buccieri chipped in with six points of her own, while Claire Snyder notched four and Marianna Minnuto two for the losers.

Rounding out the early slate was a well-played game that saw the Orioles end up on the good end of a 28-18 decision over the Blue Jays. Alisa Overton's 12 points and Page Lewandowski's 10 drove the offense in the win. Cara Lewandowski kicked in an additional four points and Katie Myers two more for the 3-2 winners.

Melanie Marcezin again led the Blue Jays' (2-3) offense with 12 points and received help from Sophia Roy, who scored four and Maddie Vanderbosch, who contributed a basket.

The boys of the Midget Conference also laced 'em up at Como Park Elementary School, with a Grizzlies-Braves matchup starting the action. After a closely contested first half the Grizzlies broke things open and remained unvanquished with a 50-22 triumph. Jack Sander led the offensive assault with 16 points, while the trio of Blake Minsterman, Nathan Myers and Cameron Silvestri each added eight points. Rounding out the scoring for the 5-0 Grizzlies were Luke Mysiak, who totaled six points and Matthew King, who hit for four.

Ian Shives scored eight points to head the Braves' (3-2) offense, with Evan Vlahos, Mason Brooks and Nikola Nikolov each providing an additional four. Jaedyn Pawlowski, in his best game to date, rounded out the scoring with a basket of his own.

Firefighters were nearly called to the gym as the Knicks and Spurs played a barn burner of a game, eventually won by the Spurs, 31-30. Balanced scoring, led by eight points from both Cole and Wes Munschauer, secured the Spurs their first

win of the season. Zane Petroffski added six markers, Matthew Penner four, Nolan Herr three and Anthony Sirianni two for the 1-4 winners.

Zachary Harrington's 10 points topped the Knicks' ledger, with Micah Dold netting eight more, Anthony Cervi and Ryan Gilray four each and both Liam Dold and Andrew Moberg two for the winless Knicks (0-5).

Jacob Gabryszak (15 points), Nolan Beach (12) and Carlie Geary (10) all hit for double digits as the Celtics sunk the Lakers, 45-38. Ashton Sikora's six points and a basket from Aiden Lukscsh were also important as the Celtics locked down their third victory against two defeats on the season.

The 2-3 Lakers played a strong game, getting scoring from eight different players, but game up short nonetheless. Alex Derkovitz, Alex Fabian, Jason O'Neill, Carter Sexton and Petar Stefanov each scored six points, to go with four from Colin Ertl and a basket from both Cooper Hillman and Gianluca Pietrantonio, but it all went for naught in the loss.

The Clippers, after an opening game loss, have now strung together four consecutive victories with a 46-34 triumph over the Bulls. Robbie Uhteg kept up his torrid scoring pace, pouring in 22 points to guide the offense. Anthony Santiago had an impressive eight-point performance, while Brayden Stroehlein connected for six and Sean Both four more. A basket from each of Gianni Pusteri, Quinn Randall and Jordan Szymanski rounded out the scoring for the victors.

The Bulls got eight points from both Lincoln Coughlin and Drew Zmoyzinski, six apiece from Blake Osika and Parker Waite, four from Christopher Vlahoff and a deuce from Jayden Schaefer, but took it on the chin all the same and dropped to 2-3.

Five games comprised the Junior Conference slate at Lancaster Middle School, including the undefeated Thunder taking on the Nets. When the dust settled, the Thunder were on the good end of a 61-36 score, courtesy of 18 points from Connor Kettleman and 15 points from Ryan Andolina. Tyler Jiang, Chris Wargo and Michael Wolski supplemented that with six points each, while Brayden Jiang and Jack Speyer knocked down four points apiece and Andrew Caligiuri added two.

The Nets, who dropped to 1-4, were led by Adam Gabryszak, who hit for a season-high 22 points. Michael Diegelmann aided Gabryszak with six points. Rounding out the Nets' scoring was four points from Tyler Derkovitz and a basket each from Nicholas Jalovick and Mitch Mycek.

The Suns needed a win to keep pace with the Thunder, and got it with a 45-36 decision over the Nuggets. Jack Harrington scored 23 points and C.J. Kanick 16 to guide the offense. Four points from Tyler Tedesco and a basket from Nathan Wick completed the winners' (5-0) scoring.

James Berent kept things close for the Nuggets (2-3), scoring 12 points, while Jackson Tulley tallied eight more, Zach Schmitt and Noah Boling scored six each and Braden Callahan and Kaiden Smiech split four.

The closest game of the day was a back and forth contest between the Raptors and Warriors that ended with a 50-49 Warriors' win. Ryan Taylor and Troy Zamrok piloted the offense with 17 and 16 points, respectively. Brayden Monk also put in a hard day's work, finishing with nine points, while Nate Stojanovski added six and Matt Gullo two as the winners boosted their record to 2-3.

Mark Sirianni took game scoring honors, notching 21 points, and with the help of 10 points from his brother Tom, kept the outcome in doubt until the final horn. Jayden Duncan's six points, four from both Nick Sirianni and Stefan Stefanov, and another four split by Sam Mecca and Cameron Vega rounded out the Raptors' (1-4) scoring.

Another tight game followed, with the Bucks (4-1) escaping their matchup against the Sixers with a 58-57 win. Eighteen points each from Braden Deacon and John Counihan, 15 from Noah Zimpfer and eight from Carter Brown were just enough to take home the "W".

The 2-3 Sixers got 17 points from both Ryan Corcoran and Jack Martindale, but came up just short. Peter Skulski's 10 points, seven from Jack Jennings and a deuce apiece from Dylan Bucciferro, Micah Harry and Liam Jennings finished the Sixers' scoring.

Defense was in short supply as the Cavs and Wolves combined for 130 points in the 80-50 Wolves' victory. Eric Fry's ripped the twines to the tune of 26 points, while Max Stoldt poured in 20 and Zach Doering 18 more in the exciting, up and down contest. Matt Gattuso joined the scoring with eight points, Owen Nowak chimed in with four and Gabe Kerner and Darius Cervi both provided a bucket as the Wolves upped their record to 3-2.

Jack Bergum scored a game-high 27 points in the loss. Dean Wendel and Sam Bergum split 12 points in support, while Ben Merz scored five, Dillon Macpherson four and Christian Carlsen two for the winless Cavs (0-5).