



Trailblazers Academy 76 – Birmingham Mets 61

Derby Trailblazers secured a play-off spot with a hard fought, 76-61, victory over Birmingham Mets in this Friday night fixture.

It was Jake Wesseling's sharp second half shooting that blew the game wide open as he netted 7/8 from down town to finish with 26 second half points.

Derby move onto 8-4 on the season knowing one win in their last two games would secure a third place finish but they can't be caught in the top four.

Derby started brightly, pressing Mets throughout the first half forcing many turnovers including 8 points coming off steals. The Mets hung close netting several deep two pointers as the half ended a low scoring 32-25.

Derby used a variety of presses in the second half slowly wearing the Mets down extending their advantage to 21 points heading into the final period. Mets won the final quarter 11-17 but it was too little too late as the Trailblazers cruised to victory.

For the Trailblazers, Barrett-Ratcliffe continued his good form with 9 points and 17 rebounds, King had 16 and 10 assists but it was Wesseling's season high 30 points who really caught the eye.

Derby's assistant Coach Phil Storer commented:

"It was a good win today and we are delighted to be in the play-offs. Birmingham are always tough to play against and I thought our guys played with a lot of determination today. Hopefully we can finish the season strong."

Derby plays Charnwood at home on Monday and Gateway on the road on Thursday. While Mets close out the season with an away trip to Charnwood.