

Salem Sabres 2013 PAC NW Champions

Salem Oregon. The Salem Sabres defeated the Kitsap Admirals 128-127 in a thrilling championship game Sunday night at Chemeketa Community College in Salem.

Both teams won semi-final games on Saturday to advance to the title game in the 2013 American Basketball Association (ABA) Pacific Northwest Conference tournament.

The Admirals based in Bremerton, WA came out firing on all cylinders and held an early lead. Salem stormed back with some great shooting and tough defense to take command of the game. Fueled by the scoring of Jeff Dunn and playmaking of Cory Largent Salem led by as many as eighteen points.

Salem used the strong play of Sergio Rosario, Doug Lamb and Kyle Long to maintain the lead going into the fourth period.

Kitsap continued to show what got them to the championship game by displaying some incredible shooting from way beyond the three point line. They also showed some muscle inside with some tough finishes at the basket. The Admirals concluded an incredible comeback with a deep three pointer to tie the score at 114-114.

Salem countered with some firepower of their own as several Sabre players including Kris White, Jahmez Dixon, Scott Starkey and Wyatt Graziano made clutch games plays down the stretch to regain the lead and capture the title.

Largent was selected as the Most Valuable Player of the tournament. Dunn who finished with a spectacular 50 points in the game and Daniel Dean of the Sabres were named to the All-Tournament team.

Brian Bahr, Travis Brown, Xavier Watson and Joe Howard throughout the whole season helped contribute to the success of the Sabres road to the Championship.

The Sabres a first year team in the league were excited to win the championship against a great team and in front of the hometown fans. "It was a great win for our team, we came out playing hard and battled back when Kitsap made their run. Everyone contributed to the win and that is special in a championship game. We showed a lot of heart by sticking together and making plays when it counted." Exclaimed General Manager Joe Becerra as he held the championship trophy.

The Salem Sabres will continue play as they will be playing in the Spring/Summer League with IBL. You can get more information from the IBL website at www.ibl.com.



Jeff Dunn

Photos by: Kelvin Watkins