

Flames Open With Two Big Wins

Jacksonville, FL. The 2011-12 edition of the FWBBC Flames opened with a pair of big wins in the Trinity Baptist College Classic. They defeated Macon State 65-62 in the Thursday opener, then won a one-point thriller over the host, 72-71, on Friday.

Sophomores Jabbar Grayson and Kendred Sides led the Flames with 22 and 17 points, respectively. Both had strong games at both ends of the floor. They and David Landers each had nine rebounds to lead the Flames. Sides also led the team with six assists.

"I was pleased with our effort and our execution in our first game of the season," said Flames' head coach, Nathan Willhite. "We still have many things we need to improve, but 1-0 is always a good place to start. Jabbar and Kendred played extremely well for us, and I expect them to do so throughout the season."

In game two against Trinity Baptist, the game was tight, but the Flames held a narrow lead most of the contest. It was back and forth for the last 15 minutes. Then, with under a minute left in regulation, Landers brought the Flames within one, 71-70. After the bucket, he fouled (his 5th) to stop the clock. TBC missed both free throws, and FWBBC got the ball back with 18 seconds remaining. Running down the clock, the Flames were looking to take the last shot. With three seconds left, freshman Steven Terrell hit the game-winning basket. Trinity was unable to get off another shot.

"We had a balanced attack tonight on offense and our defense was good enough to hold on," said Willhite. Steven (Terrell), playing in his first game, gave us a big lift at the point guard position. David Landers, Jake Manning, and Kendred Sides all played well tonight. Adam Gardner played solid defense and rebounding."

Terrell finished with 18 points and seven rebounds. Manning and Sides each chipped in 14 points. Sides led the team in rebounding with eight.

Now, 2-0, the Flames host Champion Baptist College and Trinity Baptist College this weekend.