

JUAN DIEGO BASKETBALL

Dec. 4 – Juan Diego 52, Richfield 40

Story of the game: Ajay Pizza scored 16 points and Morgan Hesleph added 13 as Juan Diego built a big lead and then held off the hometown Richfield team in the first day of the 2A/3A preview tournament.

Juan Diego's highlights: The Soaring Eagle built a 30-14 halftime lead and then avoided a serious Richfield comeback. Pizza showed some outside shooting ability with a pair of three-pointers. Logan Mortensen added 11 points.

Richfield's highlights: The Wildcats cut the margin to eight points in the third quarter with a tough defense that held Juan Diego to six points in that time period. David Bean had 10 points for Richfield.

Statistical notes: Richfield had a big foul advantage, and hit 12-19 free throws, while Juan Diego was just 2-3. Bean had Richfield's only three-pointer.

What we learned from this game: The 3A beat the 2A team on its home court, which is not an easy thing to do. Both teams, however, were not playing at full strength. Juan Diego still is trying to adapt while bringing in football players, while Richfield has some injury problems. Leading scorer Eric Peterson was out.

GAME SUMMARY

Juan Diego	15	15	6	16	-	52
Richfield	7	7	12	12	-	40

JUAN DIEGO (52) – Morgan Hesleph 6 0-1 13, A.J. Bernstein 0 0-0 0, James Russell-Field 0 0-0 0, Jalin Ames 0 0-0 0, Brian Curran 3 0-0 6, Logan Mortensen 5 0-0 11, Ajay Pizza 6 2-2 16, Dylan Gilbert 1 0-0 2, Trever McFalls 2 0-0 4, Jake Glissmeyer 0 0-0 0, Drew Billings 0 0-0 0, Daniel Milovich 0 0-0 0. Totals 23 2-3 52.

RICHFIELD (40) – Tyler Anderson 1 1-2 4, David Bean 2 3-3 8, Ben Jorgensen 1 0-1 2, Robert Torgerson 3 1-2 7, Jordan Kemp 1 4-5 6, Tyler Thomas 5 3-6 13, Tanner Monroe 0 0-0 0. Totals 13 12-19 40.

Total fouls: Juan Diego 20, Richfield 5.
Fouled out: None. **Three-pointers:** Juan Diego 4 (Pizza 2, Mortensen, Hesleph), Richfield 2 (Anderson, Bean).

Dec. 5 – Juan Diego 63, Manti 54 (OT)

Story of the game: Ajay Pizza scored 22 points and Juan Diego rallied in the fourth quarter to force overtime, and then overtook Manti to claim its second win at the 2A/3A preview tournament in Richfield.

Juan Diego's highlights: The Soaring Eagle fell behind in the third period, but came back to force overtime. Juan Diego then outscored Manti 17-8 in the extra session. Morgan Hesleph had 17 points and Logan Mortensen 12.

Manti's highlights: The Templars put up a good fight, and outscored Juan Diego 15-7 in the third quarter to take a 37-33 lead. Kyle Moore led the way with 17 points. Walker Schaffer had 13.

Statistical notes: Juan Diego won it from the free-throw line, hitting 28-32 shots, and Hesleph and Pizza were the main reasons why. Manti was just 8-13. Hesleph had a pair of three-pointers for Juan Diego.

What we learned from this game: The Soaring Eagle won this pressure-packed game, which was not an easy task. This would be the first of two overtime contests this season. If they had an all-tourney team, Pizza would have been a good choice.

GAME SUMMARY

Manti	12	10	15	9	8	-	54
Juan Diego	13	13	7	13	17	-	63

MANTI (54) – Brady Aste 2 3-4 7, Kyle Moore 7 1-2 17, Braden Jackson 1 2-2 4, Walker Shaffer 6 1-3 13, Russ Hegentobler 4 1-2 11, Jansen Howe 1 09-0 2, Nate Dodge 0 0-0 0, Jayson Cole 0 0-0 0, Zach Brown 0 0-0 0. Totals 21 8-13 54.

JUAN DIEGO (63) – Morgan Hesleph 5 5-6 17, James Russell-Field 0 2-3 2, Jalin Ames 1 0-0 2, Brian Curran 0 2-2 2, Logan Mortensen 4 4-5 12, Ajay Pizza 6 10-12 22, Trever McFalls 1 3-4 5, Dylan Gilbert 0 0-0 0, A.J. Bernstein 0 0-0 0. Totals 17 27-33 63.

Total fouls: Manti 24, Juan Diego 16.
Fouled out: Moore, Jackson, Hesleph.
Three-pointers: Manti 4 (Moore 2, Humentobler 2), Juan Diego 2 (Hesleph 2).