

## Flying Cows Fall Short Again, Lose to the Breaks 115-120

Sunday May 18th, 2025 Frederick, MD

The now 19-3 Frederick Flying Cows squared off against Chris Smith and the Jersey Shore Breaks, one of Frederick's only losses. But tonight, the rematch had a different tone. The Cows came out hunting for revenge, but fell short, dropping a hard-fought battle 115-120.

Big man Javon Adams, the 22-year-old Pennsylvania native averaging 22 points and 11 rebounds, was back in the lineup and immediately brought physicality and a strong presence around the rim. However, the Cows were missing fan-favorite Ed Dyson, known for his energy off the bench and highlight-reel dunks, a spark they usually lean on early.

The first quarter opened with a rough stretch for Frederick, who shot just 28% in the first five minutes as the Breaks forced them to earn points at the line. Jersey Shore adjusted with sharp weak-side defense, rotating well and limiting Frederick's scoring within the paint. Christian Lyons helped the Breaks maintain control early, scrapping for offensive boards and powering his way to 17 points and 8 rebounds in the game.

The Cows focused their defense on Chris Smith, sending early doubles to disrupt his rhythm. Still, Frederick chipped away as Charlie Marquardt drilled a deep three to cut the 7-point deficit, sparking momentum. He finished with 9 points on 2-of-6 from deep.

By the end of the first, the Flying Cows had pushed past the Breaks, leading 30-25 after a gritty opening quarter.

Javon Adams continued to make his presence felt in the second, running the floor and crashing the boards. His energy sparked Frederick as they began to pull away. Adams finished with 22 points and 14 rebounds.

Midway through the quarter, Frederick had built an 11-point lead, thanks to a couple of fast-break buckets.

Damien Daniels, the 5'7" spark plug, relentlessly attacked the paint, weaving through defenders and finishing through contact. He tallied 24 points and 6 assists, leading the team in scoring.

It wasn't long before Chris Smith took over again, scoring from all three levels and keeping Jersey Shore alive. He sparked a late 7-2 run with a contested three, giving the Breaks a 61-58 lead at halftime.

Jersey Shore came out of the locker room playing with serious physicality, quickly building a 7-point lead. But the Flying Cows responded just as fast, sparked by Captain Tavares Sledge, who poured in 8 points in the quarter. Sledge had a gritty all-around game, finishing with 22 points, 9 rebounds, and 5 assists, often battling for second-chance looks and keeping possessions alive.

Kyle Steward also made timely contributions, scoring 12 points and sinking several tough mid-range shots when the offense stalled.

A theme throughout the quarter was gritty, back-and-forth play where no possession came easy and nearly every shot came late in the shot clock. Still, Frederick managed to claw ahead, taking a 91-86 lead into the fourth.

The Breaks surged in the fourth, snatching the lead and going up 109-106 with four minutes to play. Damien Daniels flipped the momentum with a clutch steal and go-ahead bucket with 1:30 left, but the Breaks answered.

Chris Smith, just like in their last meeting, buried a difficult contested three to even the score, and Tyrone Nash followed it up with a fast-break finish that gave Jersey Shore the lead for good. The Breaks closed it out and handed the Flying Cows a 115-120 loss.

Despite a strong effort, the Flying Cows fell short, troubled by their struggles at the line and their inability to contain Smith. He led the Breaks with 33 points, while six teammates also scored in double figures. With the win, the Breaks keep their playoff hopes alive and now turn their focus to the Vipers on May 22nd.

With the regular season winding down, the Flying Cows now find themselves staring at a potential playoff rematch with Jersey Shore. And if that happens, they'll need to figure out how to stop Chris Smith. After this loss, Frederick no longer controls it's own destiny for the No. 1 overall seed.

Still locked into the playoffs, the Flying Cows will look to bounce back in their final home game of the regular season on Friday, May 23rd, against the 14-3 Raleigh Firebirds. Playoff information will be announced this week. Tickets are available now at goflyingcows.com.

See Flying Cows vs Breaks Box Score Here.