

Delaware Angels 13A Grab 4 Wins at Nationals!

(posted 07-19-10)



*Photo courtesy of the Delaware Angels.
Angels in Cincinnati.*

The 13U Angels traveled to Cincinnati last week to play in the AAU 2010 National Championships. The girls qualified for the Nationals by winning their second consecutive Mid-Atlantic Championship and were hoping to improve on their 7th place finish last year.

In the first game against the Kentucky state champion Shining Stars, the Angels quickly fell behind. The Shining Stars took advantage of numerous Angel turnovers to take a 20-5 first quarter lead. The second quarter would not be the same as the Angels stormed back behind eight points from Claudia Seemans and six from Amber Cale to trail at halftime by a score of 30-29. After a back and forth second half and a brief Angel lead, late turnovers hurt the comeback bid and the Angels lost 59-52.

Game two against the Maine Firecrackers saw the Angels fall behind early again and spend too much energy fighting to get back in the game. When they did get back in the game and within a couple of points, foul trouble and turnovers came back to haunt them again and they fell to the Firecrackers 54-47. Heart, desire, and the will to fight til the very end is what kept these girls in the games right up to the final minute.

With two tough opening day losses behind them, the Angels took on the MD Lady Lakers on Sunday and chalked up their first win of the tourney with a swarming team defense and balanced scoring. Cassidy Flanigan spearheaded the defense with five steals and numerous forced turnovers while Hannah Schlegel provided tough inside play at both ends of the floor. Amber Cale (10 pts., 12 rebs.), Sabrina Hackendorn (9 pts., 10 rebs.), and Emma Matthews (9 pts., 6 rebs.) led the offense as the Angels held on for a 55-46 win that seemed to instill some much needed confidence in the team.

On day three, the girls had two very tough, very exciting games as they beat the Minnesota Heat Elite 65-57 and the Wizards from Virginia (in OT) 57-55. In the first game against Minnesota, Rachel Liszkewycz led the way with 18 points, 8 rebounds, and 4 assists while Claudia Seemans added 13 points and 7 rebounds. Later in the day against a very tall Wizards team, the Angels fell behind by eleven at the half 27-16. The feisty Angels would not quit though, and rallied behind 14 second half points from Sabrina and 9 from Claudia to pull within two points at 48-46 with less than a minute to play. With 4.4 seconds remaining and trailing by two, Sabrina was fouled while grabbing an offensive rebound and calmly sank two clutch free throws to send the game into overtime where Amber took over and would make a couple more big foul shots to secure the win. Sabrina finished with 19 points and 16 rebounds, Laura had 9 points and 6 steals and Claudia had 9 points and 5 steals.

The girls lost two hard fought games on Tuesday to the Dayton Lady Hoopstars and Cincinnati's Finest but stayed close throughout both games. Against the Hoopstars, Emma led at both ends of the court with 9 points and seven steals while Maddy Waegele and Rachel added 7 points each. In the loss to Cinci's Finest the scoring was balanced with 10 points and 10 rebounds from Sabrina, 8 points from Emma, 7 points from Claudia, and 6 points from Cassidy.

The tourney finale on Wednesday was against the Connecticut Wave. Cassidy and Sabrina got things going offensively while Laura Hurff, Christy McDermott, and Brittany Conner turned up the heat on defense with Hannah Schlegel and Ashley Muschiatti battling inside. The girls from The First State rolled to a 47-35 victory to end their Nationals experience on a positive note.

Laura, Brittany, and Christy played intense, fierce defense throughout the entire tournament. Laura Hurff's speed, quickness, and tenacity frustrated opponents in every game. She is a pit bull in sneakers!

The team finished 4 and 4 but more important was the time spent together, the memories shared, and the pride that this team brings to their fans. Every

girl on this team gave her heart and soul from the first game to the last and they should be proud of themselves for being back to back Mid-Atlantic Champs and qualifying for the Nationals two years in a row.

We wish all of these girls the very best as they move on to continued success in high school basketball. Judging by the past, the future looks very bright!

Game #1	Claudia	13 pts, 6 steals
	Amber Cale	10 pts, 9 rebs
	Laura Hurff	8 pts, 6 rebs, 2 assists

Game #2	Emma	11 pts, 6 rebs, 2 steals
	Claudia	11 pts, 2 blks
	Laura	7 pts, 6 steals

Game #3	Amber	10 pts, 12 rebs
	Sabrina	9 pts, 10 rebs, 2 blks
	Emma	9 pts, 6 rebs
	Cassidy	7 pts, 5 steals

Game #4	Rachel	18 pts, 8 rebs, 4 assists
	Claudia	13 pts, 7 rebs, 2 steals
	Emma	11 pts, 3 assists, 3 steals
	Sabrina	9 pts, 8 rebs, 5 steals

Game #5	Sabrina	19 pts, 16 rebs, 3 steals
	Laura	9 pts, 6 steals, 4 rebs
	Claudia	9 pts, 5 steals
	Amber	7 pts, 13 rebs

Game #6	Emma	9 pts, 7 steals
	Rachel	7 pts, 8 rebs
	Maddy	7 pts

Game #7	Sabrina	10 pts, 10 rebs, 4 steals
	Emma	8 pts
	Claudia	7 pts
	Cassidy	6 pts

Game #8	Sabrina	11 pts, 7 rebs
	Cassidy	10 pts, 3 steals
	Rachel	8 pts, 6 rebs, 5 assists
	Emma	8 pts, 4 steals

Cumulative:

- #1 Christy 12 pts, 6 rebs 5 a's, 12 steals
- #3 Laura 39 pts, 26 rebs, 5 a's, 25 steals
- #4 Rachel 52 pts, 40 rebs, 20 a's, 10 steals
- #11 Maddy 15 pts, 11 rebs, 1 blk
- #12 Brittany 19 pts, 15 rebs, 4 a's, 9 steals, 4 blocks
- #13 Emma 66 pts, 27 rebs, 12 a's, 20 steals 2 blks
- #14 Cassidy 24 pts, 10 rebs, 2 a's, 15 steals, 1 blk
- #20 Sabrina 71 pts, 72 rebs, 6 a's, 24 steals, 7 blks
- #21 Hannah 15 pts, 13 rebs, 1 a, 3 steals, 1 blk
- #25 Claudia 66 pts, 20 rebs, 13 a's, 18 steals, 4 blks
- #50 Ashley 2 pts, 11 rebs, 1 a, 1 steal
- #55 Amber 32 pts, 49 rebs, 2 a's, 3 steals 4 blks



Sabrina & Claudia



Hannah & Cassidy

Submitted by Mike Hackendorn