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EMUS OVERWHELM GREECE AT FOUR NATIONS TOURNAMENT

This article is courtesy of Kimberly Lewis, Basketball Australia.

Australia's Under-19 Men's team, the Emus, trounced Greece 96-74 at the Under-19 Four Nations tournament tonight at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre.

Greece and Australia went toe-to-toe in the first half but the Emus were unstoppable in the second, stepping up their defence and pouring on 55 points.

Greece scored the first two baskets but the Emus fought their way into the quarter and Australia led 19-17 at the first break.

The second quarter was a grind as both coaches used timeouts to halt the momentum of the opposition; down 28-30 midway through the term Australia called a timeout and went on a 7-2 run, forcing Greece to use the same tactic. But the Emus continued to dominate and Boomers squad member Brock Motum went on a rampage in the final two minutes of the half, scoring six points and grabbing two rebounds and a steal, giving Australia a 41-36 advantage at halftime.

Five minutes into the third term the game had blown wide open as Australia held a 17-point lead. And as the Emus bench got on their feet to cheer their teammates Australia ran out the quarter to take a comfortable 72-55 lead into the final term.

The vocal Greek spectators tried to fire up their team in the fourth quarter but Greece failed to convert a basket in the first four and a half minutes of the term as the Emus posted 11 unanswered points and ran it home for the 22-point win.

Australia's 206cm power forward Motum was a standout, posting game high numbers with 23 points and 10 rebounds.

In the earlier game France stole the win from Spain, 74-71, after trailing by as much as 10 points early in the final term.

Tomorrow France and Greece go head-to-head at 2.00pm while the Emus will face Spain at 4.00pm in a preview of their preliminary round clash at the 2009 FIBA Under-19 World Championship on July 3 in Auckland.

Quarter by quarter:

1: AUST 19 GRE 17
H: AUST 41 GRE 36 (22-19)
3: AUST 72 GRE 55 (31-19)
F: AUST 96 GRE 74 (24-19)

AUSTRALIA 96 (Brock Motum 23, Ryan Broekhoff 17, Cody Ellis 13, Jordan Page 13) bt

GREECE 74 (Nikolaos Pappas 18, Leonidas Kaselakis 14, Konstantinos Papanikolaou 13)

[Official Tournament Website](#)

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