

Philadelphia Electrical's Fisher a straight shooter

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By TED SILARY

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On a list of the world's most difficult questions posed to an athlete, this one hardly deserves headliner status:

Do you usually shoot free throws so well?

Arrocos "Roc" Fisher thought for a moment and offered an answer.

Then thought for a few more moments and offered another answer.

Then thought for a few *more* moments and offered *another* answer.

Holy wishy-washy!

"Yeah," he said. Followed by a smile and then, "Not really." Followed by a larger smile and then, "Sometimes."

Fisher is a 6-foot, 175-pound senior guard for the basketball team at Philadelphia Electrical & Technology Charter and yesterday he slapped together a wonderful overall performance to spark a 65-57 Public B win over visiting George Washington.

Twenty-two points in this column. Seven rebounds in that column. Along with four assists over there and six steals next to that.

But it was on the line that Fisher most earned his keep, going 14-for-17 overall and 11-for-14 in the final quarter. Even better, two of his misses did not come until the waning moments, when victory was already assured.

"I knew if I missed a lot of foul shots, I'd hear about it in practice from the coaches," Fisher said. "They stay *on* us about foul shots. They're always saying, 'You have to make those points *count*.' I didn't want to give them any reasons to come after me.

"Some games, I was real bad. Can't give you any specific numbers. But just bad. I tend to rush. Don't take them important enough. Today I made sure to take my time and concentrate."

He wasn't alone.

Overall, the Chargers - gotta love those good-fit nicknames - sniped 22-for-29 at the line. They were also a respectable 19-for-43 from the floor, including 5-for-10 on three-balls.

All treys came in the third quarter, as PET used a 20-8 rush to leave behind a 31-30 halftime deficit. Sean McCall drained the first four, then made a nifty pass to the left corner to Marcus Langley, whose threebie beat the buzzer.

"That was no surprise," Fisher said of McCall's long-distancing. "He hits 'em like that in practice. When he's on like that, you only have to find him and get him the ball. That was fun. And exciting."

PET, located near Broad and Chestnut (though it practices and plays games in a youth-organization facility near 2nd and Moore, in South Philly), is a third-year Pub member. The coach is Mike Sidebotham, who played as a walk-on at La Salle University for Speedy Morris, and he runs a team that's not only feisty, but fundamentally sound.

One "problem": PET has grown in enrollment and now finds itself in the Class AAA classification, meaning true headway could prove difficult. Eleven of the league's 13 charters are A or AA. (The other exception is Franklin Towne.)

"It's a little scary to move up," Fisher said. "All you can do is work hard and play smart. A game like this helps us. We jumped on them early [9-0], then it was kind of shaky when they came back to take the lead. But we went right back in charge again, which was nice."

Fisher loves the school itself.

"My mom didn't want me going to a regular public school," he said. "I didn't really pick PET. My mom [Mina] signed me up. It's a caring place. The teachers, the principal, everybody. And not just for basketball players. Anybody who needs help, with *anything*, can find it."

McCall finished with 14 points and 10 rebounds. Langley, a live-bodied junior, had 12 points, six boards and three blocks. The rotation also included Brandon Williams (10 points), Chris White (four assists), Kyheim Jackson (three assists) and Marquis Moore (five rebounds).

Miguel Bocachica, a junior forward, led Washington with 24 points (four treys), 11 boards and three rejections.

Fisher, who lives in Mount Airy, has dabbled in street football, but he said he concentrates on basketball "because I love to shoot, and compete."

Meanwhile, the electrical union will have to look elsewhere for new blood.

"I want to go to college for business," he said. "And then own one. Probably a car place."

Can't you hear it someday?

Do sales go well?

Here's hoping Arrocus Fisher will be able to stop responding after answer No. 1.