

Written by Administrator

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The girls' basketball season is winding down, with sectional play beginning this week, and the last regular season week having played out last week. North Harrison defeated Eastern Thursday night by a 57-38 score, in the last home game for the Lady Cats' eight seniors. The Lady Cats finished the regular season Saturday in a make up game at Brownstown and won 44-43, outlasting the Lady Braves in a battle for the outright winner of the Mid Southern Conference (MSC). North finished with an 8-1 MSC slate, good enough for first place. They finished 18-3 overall.

In boys' action, the Lanesville Eagles won a big Southern Athletic Conference contest against the invading New Washington Mustangs, by a 47-46 decision Friday night. And the Floyd Central Highlanders won a runaway 85-27 rout of South Central on the road.

### **Girls' -**

#### **North Harrison 57, Eastern 38 -**

North Harrison's girls' won their first conference title either outright or in a multi-team tie when they defeated Brownstown Saturday, but they had to win three league contests this last week. The second of the three games was against Eastern, and they managed to pull out the win.

With the eight seniors at North Harrison having just undergone an emotional Senior Night ceremony, they got off to a slow start, according to Lady Cats' coach Hal Pearson. The 1st period ended with a 10-10 tie, with Kayla Lambert scoring five of her 19 points in the opening quarter.

"Kayla Lambert played really well," said North Harrison coach Hal Pearson.

Eastern wasn't about to play dead in the game, and they started to come back in the 2nd quarter, closing the margin to 19-14 in North's favor by 2:14 in the period, when Jocelyn Mousty scored a basket. The Lady Cats answered not long after, but Melissa Lewis scored for Eastern with 4.7 seconds in the first half to make it 21-16 in the Lady Cats' favor at the half.

In the 3rd quarter, The Lady Musketeers scored three quick points to get within 21-19, but the Lady Cats went on a 6-0 run before Eastern called a full time out at 5:08. In the 6-0 run by North, Grangier scored a pair of free throws, and Lambert scored a pair of baskets.

Up 27-19 at the time of the time out, Lambert scored another pair of free throws (4:40) and a bucket at 4:11 (on an assist from Sasha Grangier). Grangier got her own basket seconds later, making the score 33-19 in North's favor.

Mousty briefly gave Eastern a breather with a basket (3:10) to make it 33-21, but Grangier scored a pair of free throws and Kacey Cox scored a three at 2:37 to boost the North Harrison lead to 38-21. The Lady Musketeers went on a 4-2 skein the rest of the 3rd quarter, to get within 40-25.

After Lambert scored another basket for North Harrison early in the 4th quarter, Emily Newcomb responded for Eastern with a three, and got within 43-28. North Harrison called a full time out with 5:53 left in the game, and Wynn Shroyer scored on a spin move in the paint, and Cox scored off of a fast break, upping the Lady Cats' lead to 50-30, the highest lead of the game.

After Eastern's Hannah Friedmeyer scored, Cox scored three off of a traditional three point play for the Lady Cats, and Friedmeyer answered with an old fashioned three point play of her own (53-35). Savannah Martin and Katie Watts then got the North Harrison bench in the scoring column at the end of the game, when each scored baskets.

Eastern coach Mike McBride said, "In the 2nd half, we got a little fatigued, a little tired. We just didn't have the effort to compete and get back in the game."

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McBride noted the effort of Lambert for North Harrison. "She presents a match up problem for us, because of her height."

"This was our 3rd game in four days," McBride noted, with the ice storm the previous week limiting practice or games for both teams.

"We've not practiced much," added Pearson of North Harrison. "We were a little bit rusty. Everybody's going through the same things we are. The second half was a lot more like what we do. We'll play our way back into shape."

"The seniors accomplished a big goal tonight. We finished undefeated on our home floor. We've gone every game one game at a time, and it's worked pretty well so far."

#### **Boys' -**

#### **Lanesville 47, New Washington 46 (OT) -**

With Lanesville down by two points, the Eagles' Jeff Hammond drained a three pointer with 3.1 seconds left in the extra period win for the win.

Vincent Minton and Devin Freels scored consecutive three pointers to open the overtime period, and give the visiting Mustangs a 43-37 lead.

Jeff Hammond and Nick Hammond scored to close it to 43-41, and Jeff Hammond scored a single free throw with 1:12 in the extra period to get within a point (43-42).

The Mustangs called a time out with 1:01 left in the overtime, and New Washington's Minton hit two freebies to raise the New Washington advantage to 45-42. Lanesville answered with a basket, and the Mustangs scored a single free throw to give the visitors a 46-44 score with 25.5 seconds, setting up the Jeff Hammond heroics at the buzzer.

New Washington coach Jonathan May was glad to see his team escape with the win.

"Lanesville does a really good job," said May. "Their zone makes it hard to pass around them. Our ball movement was not good in the first half."

New Washington was the team to send it into overtime, and May explained what the plan was.

"We called a time out, and tried to run a set play, but Lanesville stopped it. You expect your seniors to step up, and that's exactly what (Vincent) Minton did for us." Minton was the player who sent the game into overtime.

The contest was tied up at 4-4 early, but Lanesville closed out the 1st period on a 6-0 run, to go out in front 10-4. Jarrett Beach scored the final two baskets in the period for Lanesville.

The Eagles had the largest lead either side enjoyed in the game when they went out in front by 10 points, when Bryant Conder scored to give the Eagles a 23-13 lead with 36 seconds in the first half.

The game was tied two times in the 4th quarter, at 28-28 and 30-30, before Minton's basket tied it at 37-37, and sent into overtime.

Minton said, "You don't like losing, but it's easier going home at night when you know the kids gave it everything"

The win gave Lanesville a 9-5 record overall, and a 3-1 Southern Athletic Conference (SAC) slate. New Washington is now 10-7 overall, and 1-3 on the SAC.

Jeff Hammond led Lanesville with 18 points, and Minton led the Mustangs with 13 points. Bryant Conder and Jarrett Beach added 12 each for Lanesville.

#### **Floyd Central 85, South Central 27 -**

It didn't take long for the Floyd Central Highlanders to jump out far in front of the host South Central Rebels. Ryan Adam had a lot to do with the Highlanders' flurry in the opening period, which saw the visitors go up 27-9 by the end of it.

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Adam hit three treys, and a deuce in the 1st period, and team mate Cody Banet hit a three as well.

Andrew Mitchell, Brandon Codey, Ben Allen, Barrett Crone, Buddy McAfee, and Jeff Thompson all scored at least one point in the 1st period as well for the Highlanders.

Adam hit three straight buckets to start off the 2nd period, and Ben Allen hit two straight threes, giving the Highlanders a 40-9 advantage.

Dillon Miller gave the Rebels a brief reprieve with a basket in response, but Banet scored five points for the Highlanders, McAfee scored eight straight points, and a pair of free throws was sunk by Jeffrey Thompson to give Floyd a whopping 55-11 half time lead.

Floyd hit 14 of 19 free throws in the second half, along with eight baskets to keep the margin up.

Floyd Central coach Randy Gianfagna was pleased with the focus his team showed after they gained the large lead.

"I thought our kids did a good job of staying focused in the second half," said Gianfagna. He noted that a 15-0 run the Highlanders had in the 1st quarter was a key. "That freed us up to do some things we wanted to do."

Noting that his team had a tough Hoosier Hills Conference contest against Bedford-North Lawrence the previous night, Gianfagna said "we hadn't talked about South Central until we came in this afternoon."

Floyd Central (7-8) had 14 players score in the game, and the balance (Ryan Adam led with 15) pleased the Floyd Central coach. He said, "It's nice we got everybody in the scoring column."