

## Warriorettes hope for sectional victory falls in final seconds of final game

Written by Administrator

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by Logan Wells

Correspondent

Charles E. Meyer Gym was packed with fans for the sectional final between the Scottsburg Warriorettes and the Madison Lady Cubs. The teams had already played a game earlier in the season that came down to the final possession with the Warriorettes coming out on top by two points. This game had the same drama and even more intensity as the gym was split in half with colors from each school on opposite sides loudly cheering on their respective teams.

Action got underway with nerves on both sides and sloppy play ensued. Each team ran up and down quickly, but struggled to handle the ball as several turnovers caused no scoring early on. Finally, the Warriorettes jumped out to a small lead and held it for much of the quarter. Scottsburg seemed to be winning most of the possessions, but could not seem to capitalize in the way they wanted and a small run by the Lady Cubs put them in the lead 14-11 after the first quarter.

The momentum from the run at the end of the first quarter carried over into the second for the Lady Cubs as they came out with a big three and crashed the offensive boards to get second chance opportunities which led to more big shots. However, the Warriorettes refused to go away and clawed their way back to a slight lead with three minutes to go in the quarter. After each team shared three pointers, the Warriorettes took a 33-29 lead into halftime.

Again, momentum carried over, but this time for the Warriorettes as freshman Jill Romero hit two big three pointers in a row, forcing a Madison timeout and inciting an explosion from the Warriorette fans. Out of the timeout, it didn't get much better for the Lady Cubs as Romero continued to catch fire and give the Warriorettes a 54-40 lead.

The final quarter seemed as though it would be the final quarter of the Lady Cub's season as they trailed by 16 and the Warriorettes owned all of the momentum. However, they refused to pack it in and cranked up the pressure in a full court defense. This coupled with some slight complacency by the Warriorettes brought about a huge swing of momentum.

With just under six minutes left in the game, the Lady Cubs got a huge and one followed by a steal and a three pointer to cut the lead back to double digits and this time creating an eruption from the opposite side of the gym. Madison continued to turn up the pressure and eventually only trailed 61-60.

Then, two missed free throws by the Warriorettes that could have extended their lead led to two free throws by the Lady Cubs to take their first lead of the second half. The Warriorettes answered by taking the lead, only to watch it go back to the Lady Cubs. A turnover on the next possession prompted the Warriorettes to foul again and one of two free throws gave Madison a two point lead.

14 seconds remained on the clock and the Warriorettes had the length of the floor to go. The inbound came into freshman Kelsey Smith who dribbled to the opposite free throw line and just as she brought the ball up to pass, it was stripped from behind and the Lady Cubs ran out the clock and began celebrating the 2011 sectional title, much to the dismay of the Warriorettes who fought so hard and came up empty.

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