

## County tournament gets underway Friday

Written by George Browning

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The Salem boys' basketball team is still in search of their first win after suffering their fourth consecutive loss to start the year.

The Lions fell to the visiting Jackets of Mitchell Friday 53-36.

Salem will try to regroup Friday when they open play in the county tournament at 6 p.m. against West Washington.

The Senators beat the Lions in both teams' season openers, but have dropped three straight.

The latest loss was against Paoli, 39-35, last Friday in Campbellsburg.

While West Washington won on Nov. 21, Salem leads the series 15-7 over the past 15 seasons.

Eastern is also limping into this weekend's county tournament.

They have just won one game and dropped four, one of which was a double over-time thriller against the team they face Friday, Borden.

The Braves are defending champs heading in and are the clear favorite to win the event again.

Borden is 5-0 and is winning their games with a margin of a little more than 21 points per contest.

Saturday the losers of Friday's games will play at 6 p.m. and the winners will play for the championship at approximately 7:45 p.m.

### Lady Lions drop two

After getting off to a fast 5-2 start, the Salem Lady Lions have fallen on hard times, losing four straight.

One of those losses came on Dec. 4 to Borden, 45-37.

Salem led for much of the game, but managed to score just six points in the final eight minutes.

None of the Lady Lions managed double figure scoring. Brittney Walker led the way for Salem with nine points and Treasure Hurst added eight.

Salem regrouped and played well against Brownstown Central.

The Lady Lions were within striking distance with a little more than a minute remaining in the contest, but the host Lady Braves sealed the win at the charity stripe.

Salem trailed throughout, but made a charge in the final quarter thanks to a 23 point effort.

During the spurt Alex Davidson scored nine of her team-high 17 points.

Liz Geralde also found the hot hand, scoring seven of her 12 points, including two three-point baskets.

Krista Baker added five of her 11 points in the final eight minutes, but it was not enough to overcome the Lady Braves.

Salem's latest loss came over the weekend to Corydon Central.

The Lady Panthers won 69-4, dropping the Lady Lions' record to 5-6. Scoring from that game will appear in next week's issue of The Washington County Edition.

In Salem's junior varsity game against Brownstown Central, the Lady Lions lost 45-27.

Sydney Burger and Danielle McIntyre had five points each and Sadie Soliday added three.

Salem will host North Harrison Thursday and then will have a few weeks to work on things as their next contest won't be until Jan. 3 at Mitchell.

Information for the Lady Lions was gathered by Boone DeFord.

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### EHS girls win big

The Eastern High School girls' basketball team improved to 5-2 last Thursday with a 91-32 route of West Washington.

Every player scored for the Lady Musketeers and five were in double figures, led by Brooke Rodewig with 18 points.

Katie Ernstberger added 15 for EHS, Donnelle Rogers and Bailey England scored 12 points each and Katie Feist had 11.

The Lady Senators' lone double-figure scorer was Kalen Nice with 10 points.

Eastern has just one game this week and that will be Thursday at New Washington before returning home to play Austin on Dec. 20.

### EHS boys drop two

After losing 63-55 at Crawford County last Friday, the Eastern boys' basketball team were looking to make a statement against visiting Clarksville Saturday.

In the end, it was the Generals who did the speaking, 48-36.

Clarksville's defense was the key.

The Musketeers led 10-8 at the end of the first quarter and then stretched that margin to four, 12-8 in the early minutes of the second quarter when Tevin Wolf scored a driving basket.

Eastern's points came at the 6:15 mark and they didn't score again until RJ Jackson hit a three-pointer with 43 seconds remaining in the half.

During the scoreless stretch, Clarksville turned their four-point deficit into a nine-point lead.

Eastern never threw in the towel, but also couldn't make a play at crucial times.

In the third quarter, Jude Olesh drained a three and Wolf scored four points, cutting the Clarksville lead to six, 30-24, but Clarksville's Calvin McEwen answered with one of his four three pointers.

Eastern (1-4) never got any closer.

Head Coach Scott Newcomb said his team's inability to make a play at crucial times have hurt them all season.

He said to address that, they will put them in similar situations in practice.

"We feel like once they make those plays a few time, they will get the confidence to go and get it done," he said.

The Musketeers will try to break their two game skid Friday when they host Borden in the second game of the Washington County Holiday Tournament.

Tip is expected to begin at 7:45 p.m.

Friday's winner will play the winner of the first game, Salem-WW, in Saturday's championship, which will also get underway at 7:45 p.m.