

Varsity Roster

3	Joey Koca	5'11"	11
4	Sam Koca	5'11"	12
5	Jake Loberg	6'0"	11
10	Grant Wulf	6'1"	11
14	Nick Hargis	6'0"	12
20	Phil Ehly	6'1"	10
22	Adam Staashelm	5'11"	10
24	Josh Lallman	6'0"	12
32	Andy Wicks	6'1"	12
34	Tyler Kallman	6'0"	12
40	Joey Evans	6'4"	11
42	Connor Lusso	6'6"	12
50	Spencer Sharp	6'6"	12
52	Ben Kositzke	6'7"	10

COACHING STAFF

Varsity
Bill Morrison
Dan Hall

Junior Varsity
Dale Gall
Chad Mustard

Reserve
Frank Ryan

Freshman
Ian Delaet
Jay Sealer

Managers
Bailee Huard
Adam Kotrous
Trey Tomasello
Dylan Zimmerman
Clayton Wederquist

Wildcats Set High Expectations



It's the last chance for the Wildcat seniors to leave their mark. "We have a very close group...that has been through a lot together," coach Bill Morrison said.

Coach Morrison stated that his team has high expectations. "This team wants to play in Lincoln at the end of the year," he said. If everything falls in place, it could happen for the Wildcats.

"I believe that playing in the state tournament is an obtainable goal," Morrison said. "We will have to continue to get better as the season progresses, but I do think it is a goal we can reach."

Connor Lusso could end

up as the school's career leader in steals, rebound, and possibly points. Spencer Sharp is another 6'6" senior who starts, with senior Josh Lallman, a veteran point guard.

After the three returning seniors, the Wildcats have no Varsity experience. "We had a good JV team last year, but we will have to grow up fast." Morrison said.

"It is nice to be given the pre-season rating. It is a tribute to what Josh, Connor and Spencer have done. To stay in the top ten we will have to learn, accept, and execute our roles." Morrison added.

Also on the Varsity roster are seniors Tyler Kallman,

Nick Hargis, Sam Koca, and Andrew Wicks. Joey Koca, Joey Evans, Grant Wulf and Ben Kositzke are the four underclassmen on the roster.

Their schedule should help the Wildcats get off to a better start than last year. They played three of the top-ten teams on the road before Christmas last year. This year, they have five games at home before the Holidays.





Lusso Signs at Truman

Connor Lusso has signed a letter of intent to attend and play basketball at Truman State University. Truman State is an NCAA Division II school in Kirksville, MO.

Connor is a 4-year starter for the Wildcats. He currently holds the record for most rebounds in a game (18 vs. Omaha Northstar in 2010-2011). He has a chance to break the Millard West Career records in rebounds, steals, and points scored.



Class A

Pre-Season Ratings

1. Omaha Central
2. Omaha South
3. Papillion-LaVista
4. Omaha Benson
5. Lincoln Southeast
6. Millard North
7. **Millard West**
8. Creighton Prep
9. Bellevue West
10. Omaha Burke

516

and Counting

Connor Lusso broke the school record for career rebounds during the first weekend of the 2012-2013 season.

Kyle Bakker held the previous record of 515 career rebounds. Bakker was a 3-year starter for Millard West and graduated in 2000.



Millard West Wins Opener

The Millard West boys basketball team used a strong 2nd half performance to beat Norfolk 50-35 in their season opener.

After leading 20-17 at the half, Millard West outscored the Panthers 30-18 in the 2nd half.

Connor Lusso and Spencer Sharp scored 17 points apiece and Josh Lallman added 10 for the Wildcats. Norfolk was led by Taylor Reedy and Tyler Hagedorn with 14 and 10 points respectively.

"After we settled down and were more patient on offense, we started getting some really good looks," Morrison said. "We didn't shoot well, but we took care of the ball and did a great job on the boards."

Millard West only committed 10 turnovers to Norfolk's 15. They also outrebounded the Panthers 31-22 and did not allow a single offensive board by Norfolk for the entire game.

Lusso led the Wildcats with 11 rebounds and 2

blocks, Lallman had 4 assists, Joey Koca led with 4 steals, and Sophomore Ben Kositzke added 2 blocks.

Norf.	8	9	9	9	35
MW	8	12	14	16	50

NORFOLK: Eacker 7, Gerber 2, Hutchison 2, Medel 1, Hagedorn 8, Ready 15.

WEST: Lusso 17, Sharp 17, Lallman 10, Hargis 3, S Koca 2, Wulf 1.

Lusso, Sharp Lead Millard West Past No. 4 Knights

OMAHA – An aggressive first half was enough for Millard West to withstand a Lincoln Southeast second-half comeback, as the Class A No. 7 Wildcats outlasted the fourth-ranked Knights 62-53 in the boys basketball final of the Early Bird Tip-Off Classic at Millard West on Saturday.

The inside duo of 6-foot-6 seniors Spencer Sharp and Connor Lusso com-

bined for 19 points in the first half, helping the Wildcats (2-0) build a lead as large as 18 points in the second quarter before taking a 35-18 cushion into intermission.

Sharp and Lusso each finished with 16 points and eight rebounds as four Wildcats finished in double figures. Joey Koca, who had three three-pointers in the first half, finished with 12

points, and Josh Lallman had 10.

"We were very aggressive the first half and the fact we shot 12 free throws is proof of that," Millard West coach Bill Morrison said. "In the second half, we started settling for 15-foot jump shots instead of attacking. Southeast is very athletic and we knew they'd put pressure on us the second half."

Southeast

Jake Nannen helped to get the Knights (1-1) back in it with 10 third-quarter points. The 6-foot-5 senior, who finished with a team-high 18 points, hit a 15-footer to cap a 10-2 spurt that trimmed Millard West's advantage to 42-39 with 3:05 left in the period.

Another senior, Aaron Walker, added 14 points for the Knights.

Southeast got as close as two points twice in the fourth quarter, the last time at 52-50 with 3:17 left on a basket inside by BJ Day. Millard West, however, answered with a baseline drive and basket from Lusso and two Lallman free throws to push the margin to 56-50.

Lusso added a three-point play with 36 seconds left to give West more breathing room at 61-53.

LSE 11 7 21 14 53
MW 18 17 11 16 62

LSE: Gifford 5, Jackson 5, Peterson 3, Walker 14, Nannen 18, Day 8.

MW: J Koca 12, Hargis 8, Lallman 8, Lusso 16, Sharp 16, Kositzke 2.

Lusso Leads West Past Burke

Twenty turnovers didn't doom Millard West. Nor did spotty free-throw shooting. Those woes only prolonged Friday night's 68-65 overtime victory at Omaha Burke in a matchup of undefeated Metro Conference boys basketball teams.

The preseason No. 7 Wildcats (3-0) got a three-point play from Spencer Sharp to open overtime and never trailed in the extra four minutes before an estimated crowd of 1,100.

Nor did they put away the No. 10 Bulldogs (3-1), largely because they made only three of their final six free throws. Wildcat senior forward Connor Lusso, whose 31 points came on 11-of-14 field-goal shooting, made the second of two free throws with 7.9 seconds left to complete the scoring.

Burke junior guard Trey Carr, who led his team with 23 points, misfired on a 3-point attempt at the buzzer that was shot over the 6-6 Sharp.

"We didn't shoot free throws very well and we didn't execute our defensive game plan the right way," Wildcats coach Bill Morrison said. "They got too many open looks."

Burke trailed by 13 in the first quarter and was still behind 23-11 early in the second before clawing back into the game. "I don't know if the big game got to us or what," new Burke coach Ben Holling said. "This was a well talked-about game this week. They could have folded at 20-8 and didn't."

Carr gave the Bulldogs their first lead since 3-0 on a teardrop shot to start the final quarter. His next basket, for a 45-44 lead, ultimately was Burke's final lead. Millard West led by five before Burke tied the game at 53 on a 3-pointer by Ryan Poppen, who had five for the game, and finally at 56 on two free throws by Rashad McCoy, who had 16 points, with 35 seconds left in regulation.

The 6-foot-6 Lusso, who also had eight rebounds to lead the Wildcats, combined with Sharp for 45 points. "Connor is playing well," Morrison said. "He's slowing down his game, which is letting him see the game better."

The turnovers concerned Morrison. "The count was 13-3 at the half, and we were still up by seven," he said. "We have some things to work on. We're a little better than where I thought we'd be. But to get accomplish our goals, we have to improve and can't let up."

The Wildcats outrebounded Burke 41-23, but the halftime count was 21-6. "That's the only thing I wrote on the board at halftime," said Holling, "That was the difference, losing the rebounds by 18 and only losing by three."

Millard West (3-0) 20 11 11 14 12 — 68
At Om Burke (3-1) 8 16 17 15 9 — 65

MW: Kositzke 7, J Koca 6, Lallman 5, Lusso 31, Sharp 14, Hargis 3, Kallman 3.

BURKE: Carr 23, Dresslar 5, Clayton 1, Henderson 2, McCoy 16, Poppen 17, Gill 1.

A: 1,100 (est.)





Wildcats Move to 4-0 With Win

After a slow start, Millard West's bench inspired a 24-5 run over the rest of the first half. The Millard West Wildcats improved their record to 4-0 with a 53-34 victory over the visiting North Platte Bulldogs. Connor Lusso led three Wildcats in double digits with 12 points. Spencer Sharp and Josh Lallman added 11 and 10 points respectively. Kade Erickson led the Bulldogs with 12 points on four 3-point field goals.

North Platte started the game with a 9-2 lead after a 3-pointer by Kade Erickson. Coach Bill Morrison decided to pull all five starters out of the game. The Wildcat bench did not allow a field goal from the Bulldogs in just over four minutes of play. Baskets by Nick Hargis, Tyler Kallman, and Sam Koca inspired a 7-2 run that sparked the Wildcats to take over the game. "I didn't think we were playing with enough energy," commented Coach Morrison. "The wide open 3-pointer by their best shooter was the final straw." North Platte led 11-10 after the first eight minutes.

A basket by Lusso to start the 2nd quarter gave West their first lead of the game. The Bulldogs would not regain the lead for the rest of the game. North Platte's inside game was hindered when both Luke Wright and Drew Callaghan got into foul trouble in the first half. Lusso and Spencer Sharp, and Ben Kositzke took over the game by scoring all 16 of the Wildcat points in the quarter. Millard West's defense played with more energy in the 2nd quarter. North Platte's only scoring of the quarter came on a 3-point basket by Jack Kenny midway through the quarter. Millard West led 26-14 going into the half.

The Wildcats opened up an 18 point lead early in the 3rd quarter with 3-point baskets by Hargis and Josh Lallman. A 6-0 run by North Platte allowed the Bulldogs to pull back to within 12, 36-24. Millard West finished the quarter with a 7-2 run and led 43-26 after three periods of play.

Both teams exchanged baskets early in the 4th quarter before West extended their lead to 53-32 on a basket by Sam Koca. Both coaches cleared their benches for the remainder of the game.

"We have set some lofty goals. With those goals come high expectations. We did not meet those expectations early in the game," Coach Morrison said. "To be one of the elite teams, we need to be able to play well on back-to-back nights. There are no nights off in the Metro."

NP	11	3	12	8	34
MW	10	16	17	10	53

NP: Mauch 4, Anderson 2, Erickson 12, Kenny 5, Callaghan 8, Foote 1, Wright 2

MW: J Koca 2, S Koca 5, Hargis 7, Lallman 10, Kallman 2, Lusso 12, Sharp 11, Kositzke 4



Varsity Moves to 5-0 With Bellevue East Win

The Wildcats used a strong first quarter to build a 16-3 lead and never looked back. Bellevue East cut it to nine just after half time, but would not get any closer. Connor Lusso led the Wildcats with 19 points and Josh Lallman and Spencer Sharp added ten points each. Trevor Lenear scored 17 and Lucas Smith added 11 for the Chieftains.

Josh Lallman led five Millard West scorers in the first quarter with six points. The Wildcat defense did not allow a field goal from Bellevue East until the last minute of the first quarter. West led 16-3 at the end of the quarter.

Bellevue East was able to slow down the Wildcats in the 2nd quarter. The Chieftains continued to struggle scoring until Lenear made two 3-pointers late in the half. Lenear scored 11 of East's 15 points in the quarter. West led 27-18 at the break.

Lusso scored 3 field goals as the Wildcats used a 6-0 run to extend their lead to 35-20 early in the 3rd quarter. Lusso ended the quarter with 11 points. Millard West built their lead to 16 and finished the quarter up 44-28.

A basket by Nick Hargis gave the Wildcats their biggest lead of the game at 51-32. East would not quit and cut the lead down to 12 at one point, but could not get an closer. The Wildcats picked up their 5th consecutive win to start the season with a score of 58-44.

Coach Morrison was happy with his team's performance. "We had a lot of energy on defense and hit the boards pretty hard," Morrison said. "It truly was a total team performance. Our bench players played as well as they have all year."

Millard West will put up their 5-0 mark against the #1 Central Eagles tomorrow night in Millard. "I was nervous about tonight's game because everyone is looking forward to tomorrow night. I was really proud of how well our guys prepared for East," Morrison said.

Millard West	16	11	17	14	58
Bellevue East	3	15	10	16	44

MW: Lusso 19, Sharp 10, Lallman 10, Hargis 8, Kallman 4, Wulf 4, Kositzke 2, S Koca 1

BE: Lenear 17, Smith 11, Barrett 8, Cobbs 3, Niang 3, Lovell 2

1000 Points

Connor Lusso scored his 1000th career point in Friday's victory over Bellevue East.





Foul Trouble Doesn't Slow Eagles

Millard West got top-ranked Omaha Central into a little early foul trouble. Hardly enough to stop the Eagles' express from picking up its 39th consecutive victory in boys basketball.

Akoy Agau had 20 points and the Eagles batted .800 on dunks — eight made, two missed — in a 70-51 victory Friday night over the previously undefeated Wildcats.

Central (3-0) is now two games away from the Class A record of 41 by Grand Island, which ended in the 1948-49 season.

The Eagles host preseason No. 10 Omaha Burke at 5 p.m. Saturday in their final game before their appearance in the City of Palms Classic in Fort Myers, Fla., that begins Tuesday.

It took some time for the Eagles to gain control of their game with Millard West and unleash their dunkers. They led 19-16 with 5:08 left in the first half before embarking on a 10-0 spurt over the next three minutes. UNO recruit Nick Billingsley started it with two free throws, then KJ Scott and Tra-Deon Hollins scored before two free throws from Austin McGaugh and a second-chance basket by Scott made it 29-16 with 1:50 left.

Scott finished with 15 points and

Hollins 12. "They have a good team, so we had to compete," Central coach Eric Behrens said. "I thought we played offense pretty effectively in the middle two quarters."

Behrens went deeper into his bench than in either of Central's first two games because 6-foot-6 junior Tre'Shawn Thurman picked up two fouls in the game's first four minutes and Billingsley got his second foul in the second period. "(The officials) were calling things significantly tighter than when we saw in our first two games," Behrens said.

Millard West's leading scorer, Connor Lusso, at times was guarded by Thurman, Tra-Deon Hollins and Agau. Both of Thurman's early fouls were against Lusso. But the 6-6 senior, who had 31 points last week against Burke, made only 2 of 7 free throws and was 0 of 2 from the field in the first half. Lusso finished with 11 points and six rebounds.

"He initiates a lot of contact," Behrens said. "He's like a bull in the china shop, and he's good at getting guys in foul trouble."

West coach Bill Morrison said Lusso was trying to do too much. "He's a better player than he showed tonight," Morrison said. Josh Lallman had 15 points to lead

Millard West.

The third quarter, after No. 7 West (5-1) trailed 33-22 at halftime, is where Morrison felt the game got away from his team. Central outscored the Wildcats 21-10 — including four dunks — for a 54-32 lead.

"They made their run because we started turning it over," he said. "Before the game, we said that we can't turn it over and give them layups. You have to play a near perfect game to beat them."

Central (3-0) ... 13 20 21 16—70
M West (5-1)..... 9 13 10 19—51

C: Agau 20, Scott 15, Hollins 12, Hollins-Johnson 5, Thurman 3, Billingsley 8, McGaugh 3, Allee 2, Nyoach 2,

MW: J Koca 3, Lallman 15, Lusso 11, Sharp 7, Kositzke 10, Hargis 5.



Monarchs Shake Off Slow Start to Top West

Facing its third ranked opponent in four games, Papillion-La Vista looked like it might be suffering a let-down early Friday night.

The Monarchs — after scoring only five points in the first quarter — trailed by 11 on three occasions in the second quarter, turned it over 10 times in the first eight minutes and were stagnant against Millard West's zone.

A 78-second flurry to end the half changed all of that.

Top 10 No. 3 Papio scored eight points in the final 1:18 of the half — including a 40-footer at the buzzer — to swing the momentum, then paced the second half



the way it wanted in its 51-47 victory over No. 7 Millard West.

"We obviously didn't get off to a great start," Papillion-La Vista coach Jason Ryan said. "We knew coming in it'd be a challenge. Millard West, they have lot of experi-

ence, good length. They're tough."

The Wildcats were using both assets in building their final double-digit lead at 23-12 on a Connor Lusso bucket, part of his 15 first-half points. From there, the Monarchs began to chip away. They would score 12 of the final 15 points of the quarter, a spurt capped by Matt Safranek's deep 3 on a set play in the final seconds.

It was reminiscent of the play Bryce Drew of Valparaiso pulled off at the buzzer in a 1998 NCAA tournament game. A long inbounds pass past half-court went to a teammate, who then found Safranek near the sideline. His shot hit nothing but net from deep at the buzzer to cut the Millard West lead to two.

"That's a play we put in (Friday) morning at our walkthrough," Ryan said. "It paid off."

Papio scored eight of the first nine in the second half to grab control and cap the 20-4 run.

Still, Millard West was game. Back-to-back buckets by Spencer Sharp, a three-point play by Lusso and a basket by Josh Lallman put the Wildcats back up. But again Papillion-La Vista finished a quarter strong.

The Monarchs scored the last six for a lead heading into the fourth and never trailed again.

"I said before that I thought that having the lead in the fourth quarter was going to be very big," Millard West coach



Bill Morrison said. "Their pressure got to us a little bit, and we took some quick shots."

In addition, the Wildcats had 12 turnovers in the second half and 22 for the game. Over a 10-minute stretch to end the third and begin the fourth, they made just one field goal.

"Our defense in the second half really battled," Ryan said. (cont pg 2)

Millard West's Lusso had a game-high 25 points on 8-of-10 shooting from the floor and added nine rebounds. The 6-foot-6 senior was 9 of 13 from the line, but missed a couple of key attempts in the fourth quarter, including the front end of a 1-and-1 opportunity.

Nate Maloley and Brett Dougherty had 20 and 19 points, respectively, to lead the Monarchs. Maloley had 12 of his points in the second half and hit three 3-pointers. After missing his first three from the field, Dougherty went 7 of 10 the rest of the way.

PLV-(7-0)..... 5 19 14 13—51

MW-(5-2)....11 15 10 11—47

PLV: Lewis 1-5 2-4 4, Neelon 1-2 0-0 2, Sheard 0-2 0-0 0, Safranek 2-3 0-0 6, Maloley 5-9 7-8 20, T Dougherty 0-3 0-0 0, B Dougherty 7-13 5-8 19 Totals 16-37 14-20 51.

MW: J Koca 0-2 0-0 0, Hargis 0-3 1-2 1, Lallman 4-12 1-2 9, Kallman 0-2 0-0 0, Lusso 8-10 9-13 25, Sharp 4-8 2-2 10, Kositzke 1-1 0-0 2 Totals 17-38 13-19 47.

3-point goals: PLV 5-13, MW 0-3. Rebounds: PLV 21, MW 27. Turnovers: PLV 17, MW 22. Field goal percentage: PLV .432, MW .447. Free throw percentage: PLV .700, MW .684.

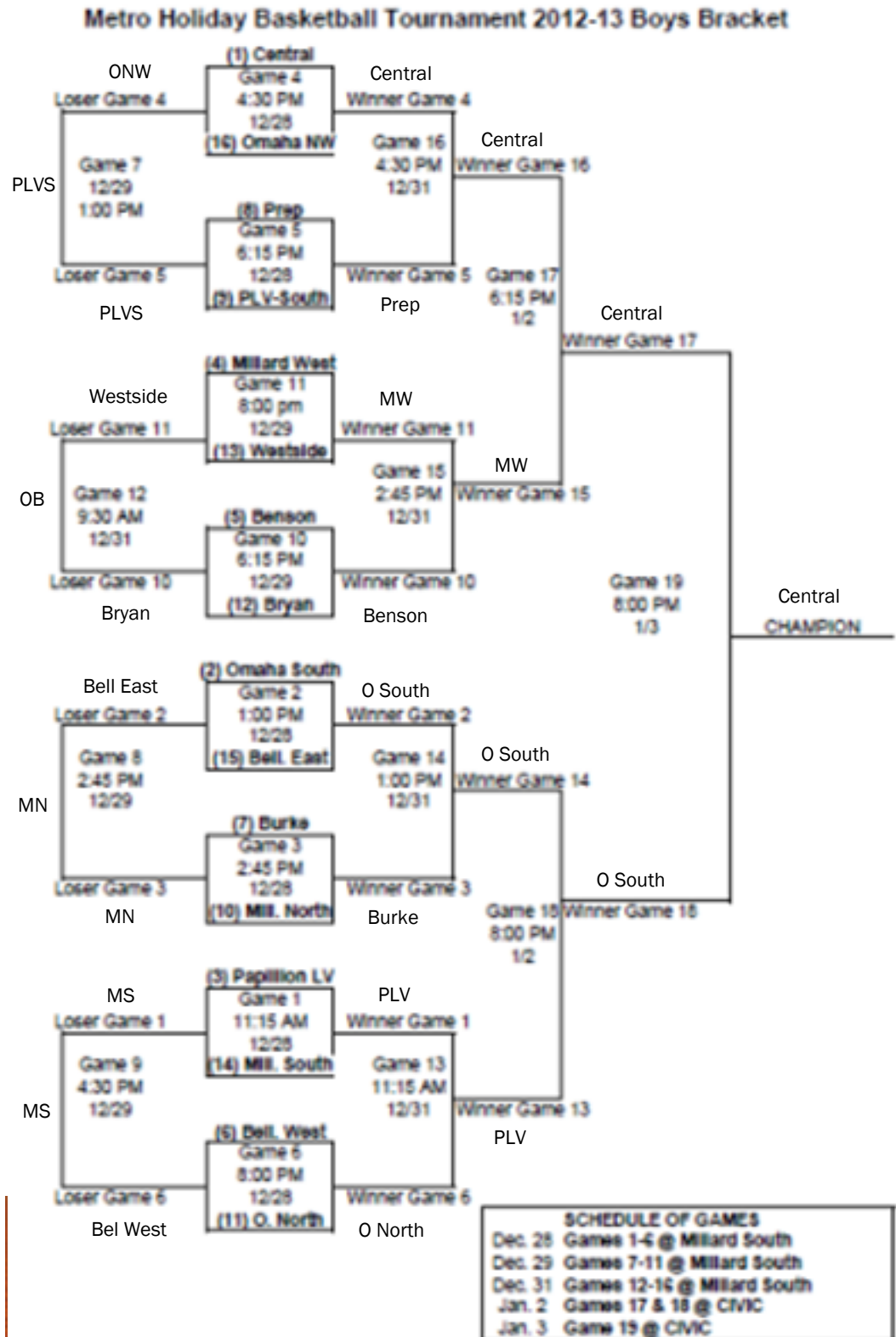


Wildcat Program Starts Off 20-6

The Wildcat Boys Basketball teams are off to a great start this season. All levels have combined for a total record of 20-6.

The Varsity team is off to one of the school's best starts and hold a 5-2 record. They have beaten two pre-season Top 10 teams, and their two losses are to pre-season #1, Central and #3 Papillion La-Vista.

The Freshman B team is the only remaining undefeated team with a 3-0 record.



Sharp Has Double-Double in Tourney Win

Millard West's seniors finally beat Omaha Westside in the Metro Conference boys basketball holiday tournament.

Matched up in the tournament for the fourth consecutive season and the third in a row in the first round, the Wildcats beat Westside after three losses.

Spencer Sharp led the Wildcats with 20 points and 12 rebounds, Josh Lallman scored 15 points and Connor Lusso added 12 in Saturday night's 62-55 win that sends them to Monday's quarterfinals at Millard South.

"Westside plays hard and the first quarter they played harder than us," West coach Bill Morrison said. "We talked before the game that we had to play with a lot of energy because it seemed yesterday the teams that played the hardest were winning the close ones. It didn't happen until later in the game."

Millard West (6-2) gradually pulled away in the final 2½ minutes after Westside (3-5) had closed to 55-52 on a Mike Kiger basket,

Sharp made a short baseline jumper with 2:25 left and Lusso scored with 1:34 left for a 59-52 lead.

"We had three possessions in a row where I thought we could have put the game away, but didn't finish plays," Morrison said. "You know Westside is never going to quit. Nemo does a great job of that."

Jake Koester's 3 brought the Warriors within four, but that proved to end their scoring. West made three of its final eight free-throw attempts.

Kevin Metoyer led Westside with 17 points. The Warriors used a 9-0 run to build an 18-8 lead and were tied with Millard West 29-29 at halftime.

Westside..... 18 11 14 12–55
Millard West.... 9 20 18 15–62

WS: Metoyer 17, Kiger 14, Koester 8, Hutfless 6, Wilkinson 5, Kellogg 3, Sladek 2.

MW: Sharp 20, Lallman 15, Lusso 12, Kositzke 6, Hargis 5, J Koca 2, S Koca 2.



Wildcats Run by Bunnies

The Millard West Wildcats used a strong performance in the first quarter to build a 12-point lead over Benson in the quarter-finals of the Metro Tournament Monday and led by as many as 20 points en route to their 62-52 victory.

Connor Lusso led Millard West with 26 points and 14 rebounds to lead the Wildcats. Khryi Thomas led all scorers with 35 points for Benson. Josh Lallman dished out 9 assists and scored 11 points for Millard West and Spencer Sharp added 10 points.

Benson led 5-4 early in the game before Millard West used a 15-0 run to build a 19-5 lead. The Wildcats used their transition offense early in the game to jump out in front of Benson. Lusso scored 13 of his points in the first quarter.

"I was really pleased with our offensive execution early in the game. Josh Lallman did a nice job of controlling the tempo," Coach Bill Morrison said.

Millard West saw their lead shrink to 30-26 on a Thomas free throw, but it scored the last four points of the first half and the first 10 of the second for an 18-point lead at 44-26.

Benson (5-4) never got closer than 11 after that even though Thomas scored the most points in a tournament game since T.J. Pugh of Prep had 37 against Bellevue West in the 1993-94 season.

A 6-4 junior, Thomas had 14 of the Bunnies' 17 points in the second quarter and 15 of their 18 in the fourth. He was Ben-





(Benson cont.)

son's only reliable scorer. The only other Bunny with more than one basket was 6-8 junior Thik Bol with two.

"I think we are really starting to play better together. Except for a stretch in the second quarter, I thought we really controlled the game," Morrison said. The Wildcats will have to play Benson again on Saturday at Benson High School. "We will have to be ready for them. I am sure they will want a little revenge."

Millard West will face Omaha Central at 6:15 on Wednesday at the Civic Auditorium. The other semi-final game will see Omaha South and Papillion defend their undefeated records.

Omaha Benson (5-4).....9 17 8 18—52

Millard West (7-2).....21 13 12 16—62

B: Khyri Thomas 35, Thik Bol 4, Deion Ross-Wells 3, Will Curtis 3, Tyree Peter 2, Maurice Buckley 2, MarShun Stewart 3

MW: Connor Lusso 26, Joey Koca 4, Sam Koca 3, Nick Hargis 4, Josh Lallman 11, Spencer Sharp 10, Ben Kositzke 4

Lusso Breaks Record

Connor Lusso surpassed the career school record for steals during the quarter finals of the Metro Tournament against Benson High School.

Dan Bruce previously held the record with 92 steals. Bruce was 2001 Millard West graduate.

Lusso currently has 95 career steals.

Eagles Hold on To Earn a Spot in Metro Finals

Central (8-2) remained undefeated against instate competition while turning back Connor Lusso's Millard West team 71-63. Lusso had the night's high of 30 points, including 15 of the Wildcats' 17 in the final quarter.

Central, opened its semifinal by taking a 13-point lead over Millard West only to let the Wildcats back into the game.

"We have to play better than we did tonight," Central coach Eric Behrens said. "No doubt that Millard West outthustled us. But we made the plays down the stretch you need to make to win the close ones."

Lusso was much more of a factor than when he scored 11

points and the Wildcats lost to Central 70-51 last month.

"He'll take anybody on his back with him, that's what kind of competitor he is," Wildcats coach Bill

Morrison said. "He did a better job of staying on balance than he did last time we played them."

The Eagles led 63-52 before Lusso scored the next eight points to make it a three-point game with 2:18 left. West, however, frittered away its only possession with a chance to tie the game on a turnover.

Tre'Shawn Thurman's two free throws with 53.5 seconds left gave Central a 67-62 lead. Tra-Deon Hollins, whose 25 points led the Eagles, scored off a steal soon after and West never got closer than six points.

"We made some big baskets but we had some key turnovers that you can't make against a



(Central cont.)

team as good as them," Morrison said.

Louisville recruit Akoy Agau had 17 points, Nick Billingsley 12 and Thurman 10 for the Eagles.

Mil West (7-3)..... 18 14 14 17– 63

Central (8-2)..... 23 15 16 17– 71

MW: Lusso 30, Sharp 11, Hargis 8, Lallman 6, Kositzke 6. Kallman 2.

C: Tra-Deon Hollins 25, Akoy Agau 17, Nick Billingsley 12, Tre'Shawn Thurman 10, KJ Scott 5, Deandre Hollins-Johnson 2.

Metro – Tournament Team

Akoy Agau	Central
Tre'Shawn Thurman	Central
Cam Williams	South
Brett Dougherty	Papillion
Connor Lusso	Millard West

With 68 points in three games, including 30 in the Wildcats' semifinal loss to Central, Lusso was the tournament's leading scorer.

Benson Boys Get Revenge on Wildcats

On the bright side, Millard West did a better job of slowing Omaha Benson's Khyri Thomas this time.

Unfortunately for the Wildcats, the host Bunnies rode a balanced scoring effort to a 71-64 victory.

Thomas, who lit up Millard West for 35 points in a losing effort at the Metro holiday tournament Monday, was held to 17 points in Saturday's win. But teammates William Curtis and Deion Wells-Ross chipped in



13 each as Benson avenged its 10-point loss.

"We played a better game today," Bunnies coach Donnie Johnson said. "We got going early and guarded them better than last time."

Thomas had 11 in the first half to help Benson take a 32-19 halftime lead. Millard West trimmed the deficit to 10 entering the fourth quarter, but the Bunnies extended the lead to 16 and were never threatened in the final period.

"Playing with that lead most of the way was a good thing," Johnson said.

Johnson added that it helped to have played the Wildcats less than a week before.

"I think that was an advantage for us," he said. "And playing at home always helps."

Benson shot 56 percent from the field and turned the ball over 10 times. Millard West shot 44 percent from the field but was 3 of 11 from behind the arc.

Senior forward Connor Lusso led the Wildcats with 26 points while Spencer Sharp had a game-high 10 rebounds.

M. West (7-4) 6 13 17 28–64

At Benson (6-4). 9 23 14 25–71

MW: S Koca 2, Wulf 3, Hargis 4, Lallman 8, Kallman 7, Lusso 26, Sharp 8, Kositzke 6.

OB: Thomas 17, Stewart 4, Peters 8, Buckley 8, Curtis 13, Wells-Ross 13, Bol 8.





West Rallies to Beat Lincoln East

The Millard West boys did not play their best basketball game of the season, yet only trailed Lincoln East by three points with seven minutes remaining.

“Somehow we were able to keep it close,” said Millard West boys coach Bill Morrison, following the Class A sixth-ranked Wildcats’ 57-54 victory at unranked Lincoln East on

Tuesday.

“I told our assistant coach when it was 48-45 (with seven minutes remaining) that it feels like we were getting killed and we were only down three. I don’t know how that happened exactly.”

Millard West took the lead for good with two free throws by Connor Lusso with 2:29 remaining in the fourth quarter.

East cut the Wildcats’ lead to 55-54 with a baseline jump by Connor Long with 35 seconds to go. Millard West had a turnover on its next possession, but East missed a chance to take the lead on a shot inside with four seconds remaining.

Spencer Sharp made two free throws for Millard West — they were his only attempts of the night — for the final margin. A half-court shot to tie the game at the buzzer was off the mark for East.

Lincoln East had taken control with an 11-0 run in the third quarter to take a 42-32 lead. West followed with a 13-3 run of their own.

In the fourth quarter, East could not get the shots to fall, allowing Millard West to chip into the lead. East did not score in the opening 5½ minutes of the final quarter, going 0-for-7 from the field and missing two free throws in that stretch.

After letting East score easy baskets inside in the first half, while missing several of its own short baskets, Millard West was 3-for-6 from the field in the fourth quarter and 8-for-10 on free throws.

“We got outplayed for 28 minutes,” Morrison said. “(In the fourth quarter) we did a better job rebounding. We didn’t give them that pick-and-roll that they were getting. We just executed a little bit better.”

Sharp led Millard West (8-4) with 20 points and seven rebounds and Lusso added 15 points.

Mike Rilett led East with 15 points and Bryan Reimers had 14. Austin Sankey added eight points for the Spartans.

“I thought we played one of our best games, and that’s a quality team,” McPherren said. “If they’re (ranked No. 6) in the state we’re not too far away. But we got to make plays, and we didn’t make plays right at the end. We had a missed layup we could have had and some opportunities to score and we didn’t.”

Millard West	12	12	18	14	57
Lincoln East	16	14	18	6	54

MW: J Koca 3, Hargis 2, Lallman 7, Kallman 2, Lusso 15, Sharp 20, Kositzke 8.

LE: Long 6, Dunning 5, Sankey 8, Reimers 14, Shepard 4, Dennis 5, Rilett 15.



Wildcats Beat Northwest in 4th Quarter

Millard West used a 23-6 4th quarter to record a victory over the Omaha Northwest Huskies. Northwest led at the end of the first and second quarters and through much of the 3rd quarter. Ben Kositzke led the Wildcats with 7 of his 16 points in the 4th quarter. Connor Lusso also scored 16 for Millard West. Spencer Sharp and Josh Lallman chipped in 15 and 13 respectively. Ronney Barnes was the only Husky to hit double-digits.

Finis Jones started out hot for Northwest as he scored the first five points of the game. Barnes added 6 points in the first quarter as the Huskies led 15-13 at the end of the first quarter. Kositzke led the Wildcats

with five points in the opening quarter. Northwest forced the Wildcats to turn the ball over on 4 of their last 5 possessions.

Millard West quickly gained the lead in the 2nd quarter but could not shake the Huskies. Northwest kept the score close. The two teams traded leads five times late in the quarter, 6 total in the quarter. DeAngelo Peak led the Huskies with four points in the quarter. The Wildcat front line scored 17 of the team's 19 points in the quarter. Jones broke free at the end of the half and hit a 3-pointer to give Northwest a 34-32 lead going into the half.

Coach Morrison was not happy with his team's performance in the first half. "We made a lot of bad decisions in the first half. We didn't take good shots, threw the ball around, and didn't play much defense," he



said. "Our fundamentals were terrible in the first half."

Northwest led 45-40 midway through the 3rd quarter. Millard west went on a 7-0 run and forced Northwest to turn the ball over on five of their last 7 possessions of the quarter. The Wildcats led 49-45 at the end of the 3rd quarter.

The Wildcats put together a 16-2 run to start the final quarter and put the game out of reach. Eight different Wildcats scored in the final quarter as the Wildcats won 72-51.

"We have played a lot lately. We need to have a few practices and get back to the fundamentals. I wasn't very happy with the way we played on both ends of the

court tonight," Morrison said. "When we finally started playing sound basketball we created some separation and put the game out of reach."

Northwest 15 19 11 6 51

Millard West 13 19 17 23 72

ONW: Robinson 2, Williams 4, Marion 2, Tegels, Wayne 2, Peak 6, Jones 8, Barnes 12, Rowell 5, Walker 2, Keely 8.

MW: J Koca 1, Wulf 3, Hargis 3, Lallman 13, Wicks 1, Kallman 2, Evans 2, Lusso 16, Sharp 15, Kositzke 16.





North Star's Bolles Gets Redemption in Win

Brook Bolles had to wait less than a minute to redeem himself, but those 55 seconds seemed like forever Saturday.

Bolles, who missed a pair of free throws with 1:01 left and the score tied, took a pass from Noah Housh, laid the ball up, then had to wait for a couple of bounces before the ball dropped through the net. That gave Lincoln North Star a 57-55 victory against Class A No. 6 Millard West at the North Star gym.

"We were going to hold for the last shot and we ran an iso for me. Everyone doesn't like it when the guy who's supposed to make the shot passes off, but I got my guy the ball," Housh said. "I got the ball and they doubled me. I saw the white shirt and I just put the pass between the 1s."

Housh, who wears the No. 11 jersey, was shooting free throws after he stole the ball and raced down the court, going up for a dunk. He was undercut and an intentional foul was called.

"I just stepped in front of the pass when (Connor) Lusso slipped, and got smashed going for the dunk," Bolles said. "I was really mad I missed those free throws. I should have made them both."

"It was a good pass from Noah and I just had to take it up strong."

Millard West guard Josh Lallman dribbled the length of the floor, but slipped as he put up his shot, which got stuck between the backboard

and the rim as the buzzer sounded.

"Brook made a tough catch. That says a lot about his character, to come back after missing those free throws," North Star coach Tony Quattrocchi said. "And credit Nate Tederman for the tough defense he played on Lallman coming up the court. He planted and slipped and took a tough shot."

North Star got its offense going in the second quarter to erase a 20-14 deficit and take a 35-29 halftime lead. Housh had seven points and Connor Musiel five as the Gators connected on 9 of 14 shots.

The Gators extended their lead to 46-35 with 2:23 left in the third quarter before Millard West went on a 14-2 run over the next four minutes and took a 49-48 lead on Lallman's basket with 6:29 to play.

Housh fed Trevor Reimnitz to regain the lead, then Nick Hargis hit a three-pointer for the Wildcats and Musiel drove to tie the game.

Lusso connected on 3 of 5 free throws before Housh made one charity shot and drove to tie the game at 55. Both teams turned the ball over, then Bolles stole the ball for the final sequence.

"This was probably the biggest team we'll play. Last year on this weekend, we beat (Lincoln) Southeast and then went to Millard West and got beat by 30, so we talked about making this a great weekend and not just half and half like last year," Quattrocchi said.

Musiel led the Gators (8-5) with

January 14 Ratings

1. Omaha Central
2. Omaha South
3. Papillion-LaVista
4. Omaha Benson
5. Omaha North
6. Millard West
7. Bellevue West
8. Lincoln North Star
9. Lincoln Southeast
10. Lincoln Southwest

18 points and Housh had 14 points, a steal, five rebounds and five assists. Lusso led Millard West (8-5) with 19 points and 12 rebounds.

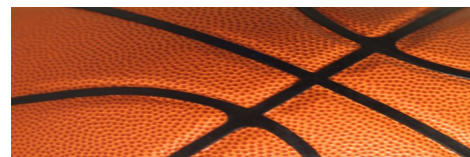
"It was a tough matchup for both teams, so the key was whoever was in the lead could dictate who was playing," Millard West coach Bill Morrison said. "We got it inside under control and Lusso was drawing fouls. But then we had a couple of miscues. They did what we thought they would do at the end. They just executed it well."

Millard West 18 11 13 13 55

Lincoln NStar 14 21 11 11 57

MW Hargis 6, Lallman 12, Lusso 19, Sharp 14, Kositzke 4

LNS: Lueth 2, Housh 14, Coufal 2, Rimnitz 2, Musiel 18, Moore 2, Bolles 4, Horan 8, Holt 5



Wildcats Win Q-Street Rivalry Game

Millard West beat their Q-Street Rival Millard South 53-43 Thursday night behind the play Josh Lallman and Nick Hargis.

The two Wildcats combined for 28 points in a night where the Wildcats two leading scorers, Connor Lusso and Spencer Sharp, spent much of the night on the bench due to foul trouble. Ben Kositzke led the team with 10 rebounds and 3 blocked shots.

Wyatt Miller led the Patriots with 14 points and Jarek Coles added 11.

Millard West's defense started strong forcing turnovers on the first four Patriot possessions. But they could only convert for 3 points on the offensive end. Cold shooting hindered the Wildcats in the first quarter.

Millard South would go on a 7 point run to take a 7-3 lead midway through the opening quarter. Wyatt Miller closed the quarter with the team's third 3-pointer and took a 14-10 lead into the 2nd quarter.

Coach Morrison had mixed feelings about his team's performance to start the game. "I thought we came out with a lot of energy on defense, but we took too many quick shots on the offensive end," he said.

Nick Hargis led the Wildcats with 6 points in the 2nd quarter. West scored seven points to start the quarter and tied the score 17-17.

The Wildcat offense scored 16 points on just 10 possessions in the quarter. The two teams were tied 23-23 with just under 2 minutes remaining in the half. West scored the last 3 points of the quarter and led 26-23 at the break.

Millard South came out aggressive after the half and tied the game 29-29 on a basket by Coles. The Wildcat defense clamped down and only allowed the Patriots to score 2 points for the rest of the quarter. Hargis again led the Wildcats with 5 points in the quarter. West led 37-31 at the end of the 3rd quarter.

South made another run at the beginning of the 4th quarter. A basket by Miller pulled the Patriots to within 4, 39-35.

West used a 10-2 run to gain separation and put the Patriots at a safe distance. Josh Lallman scored 10 points in the final

quarter to lead Millard West. The final score showed West beating South 53-43.

"This was a great win for us," Morrison said about the game. "We had to face some adversity with Connor and Spencer on the Bench. To win when those two only score 11 points says a lot about our team."

MW 10 16 11 16 53
MS 14 9 8 12 43

MS: Coles 11, Miller 13, Fowler 7, Montgomery 1, Sedlacek 5, Mondenhall 3, Knight 2

MW: J Koca 2, S. Koca 2, Hargis 13, Lallman 15, Kallman 2, Lusso 7, Sharp 4, Kositzke 8





Lusso Leads Wildcats Past #5 Vikings

Connor Lusso was far from a one-man show Friday night, but the Millard West senior was still the main act.

Lusso poured in 24 points and got double-digit scoring from three teammates in support as the Top 10 No. 6 Wildcats beat fifth-ranked Omaha North 75-68.

"Everyone in the city knows we're going to (Lusso)," Millard West coach Bill Morrison said. "What we're always looking for is the role players contributing as well."

A fast start by Lusso and company— he made seven of his first eight attempts and the team was 8 of 9 from the floor through 4 ½ minutes — staked Millard West to a lead it would hold wire to wire. Lusso had 12 points in the opening frame.

North would hang around, though, despite missing one of its top offensive weapons for the better part of two quarters.

Senior forward Aireon Porter was whistled for his third foul with five minutes remaining in the first half, then was tagged with his fourth midway through the third quarter.

Millard West would push its lead to as many as 15 to close the third with Porter on the bench, scoring the last ten points of the frame.

It appeared the Wildcats would leave with an easy win, still leading by 11 with just over two minutes to play. But North scrapped its way to down six with the ball a minute later before North coach Ryan Mlnarik was hit with a technical foul.

The Wildcats would make five of six free throws the rest of the way to ice things.

The Wildcats have now won four of their last five games. Of their five losses, four are to teams ranked in the top four in the state and other is to a team also in the ratings.

"It's a big win for us," Lusso said. "We're always trying to get wins against those teams ahead of us."

Spencer Sharp added 16 points for Millard West. Teammates Josh Lallman and Joey Koca added 15 and 12, respectively. The three and Lusso were a combined 22 of 29 from the floor as Millard West shot 65.8 percent from the floor.

"We thought post defense was going to be the key tonight, and it was," Mlnarik said. "They do such a good job of pinning you down in the lane off of transition. That's how they get a lot of those easy buckets."

Porter still managed to lead the Vikings with 20 points, including 13 in the fourth quarter. The anticipated battle with Lusso, though, was one-sided until the final frame.

"He's just a high-intensity player," Mlnarik said of Lusso. "He's got the mid-range shot, he can put it on the floor. You've got to continuously stay low."

The two teams combined to shoot 58 free throws in a game that featured 53 total fouls.

Omaha North (9-5) 14 18 10 26—68

At Millard West (11-5) 22 14 21 18—75

ON: Justin Patton 3-6 2-2 8, Marquise Lewis 0-2 0-0 0, Kameron Bradford 4-8 4-7 15, Zach Martin 3-7 3-7 9, Taidor Bichiok 1-2 0-0, Davion Reed 1-4 0-1 2, Bryan Littlejon 3-7 0-0 7, Aireon Porter 8-14 4-4 20, Howard Glass 1-4 3-4 5 Totals 24-54 16-25 68.



Everything Clicking for Wildcats

Millard West started quickly and never let up Friday night against Papillion South. The Wildcats scored 17 points in the first 6 minutes and continued to beat the Titans 63-37.

Connor Lusso led West with 21 points. Nick Hargis and Spencer Sharp added 15 each. Michael Herrmann led Papio South with 12 points.

Lusso led the first quarter assault scoring 8 points in the quarter. After leading 9-4, the Wildcats went on an 8-0 run.

West shot 65% from the floor in the first half to build a 36-31 lead over the Titans.

The Wildcats pulled their starters with 2 minutes left in the 3rd quarter and a 52-21 lead.

"This was as well as we have played all year." Coach Morrison said. "Every game we try to out rebound, shoot a better percentage, and commit less turnovers than our opponent. This was the first game we accomplished all three."

The #4 Wildcats moved to 12-5 on the season. Papio South dropped to 5-10.

MW	19	17	16	11	63
PS	9	12	8	8	37

MW—S Koca 2, Hargis 15, Lallman 3, Kallman 2, Lusso 21, Sharp 15, Kositzke 5.

PS— Kirsch 3, Godsden 2, Blackwell 5, Gregerson 2, Swift 2, Rothermund 3, Herrmann 12, Johnson 3, Isiah Martin 3.

Wildcats Down Another Top-10 Foe

Millard West beat #8 Bellevue West 62-60 in Overtime Saturday night at MWHS. Nick Hargis made a 3-pointer in overtime and added 2 free throws with 4.6 seconds remaining to help the Wildcats seal the victory.

The Wildcats again started out strong in the first quarter and continued to control the game for much of the first 3 quarters.

The ball seemed to start bounding the Thunderbirds' way late in the third quarter. Bellevue West took the momentum into the final period and outscored Millard West 19-9 in the final period to take the game into overtime.

Coach Morrison was happy with his team's intensity in the first half. "The guys really came out to play. Holding a team to 20 points in a half is impressive, no matter who you are playing.



The Wildcats outscored the Bellevue West 15-14 in the 3rd quarter, but Coach Morrison could tell the Thunderbird defensive pressure was starting to get to Millard West.

"They really turned up the pressure and the refs let them play. I didn't think we were handling it very well," Morrison said.

Millard West led 44-34 going into the final period. The Thunderbirds forced 3 turnovers on the first five possessions to help them cut into the lead. Malik Hleuchowecyk scored the first 10 points of the quarter for Bellevue West. After a basket by Dion Pettigrew, Millard West led 48-46.

Bellevue West took their first lead at 51-50 since early in the first quarter on a put-back and free throw by Christian Hatterle. The Wildcats made 3 of 4 free throws and the Pettigrew made a basket for the Thunderbirds to finish the scoring in regulation.

12 of Bellevue West's 19 4th quarter points came as second-chance points. "I think we had to work so hard taking care of the ball that we got tired. We weren't getting the rebounds and loose balls that we were getting the first three quarters," Morrison said.

The Thunderbirds seemed destined to win in overtime as they scored the first four points of the extra period. Josh Lallman scored a field goal for the Wildcats, but Brad Brazeal answered with two free throws to hold a 59-55 lead for Bellevue West.

(Cont. pg. 18)





Wildcats Sweep Bears

Bellevue West (cont.)

The Thunderbirds switched to a zone defense and Nick Hargis connected on a 3-pointer to bring the Wildcats to within one. After a turnover, Connor Lusso scored and was fouled with 12.7 seconds left. Millard West led 60-59. After Lusso missed the free throw, Millard West fouled Hatterle with 7.5 seconds left. Hatterle missed the first free throw and made the 2nd to tie the game 60-60.

Chris Martin fouled Nick Hargis with 4.6 seconds left. Hargis made both free throws and Bellevue West called timeout. The Thunderbirds inbounded the ball to Pettigrew who got a good look at a lay up but could not convert as the Wildcats won 62-60.

Morrison was excited about the victory. "They put on so much pressure defensively that it is hard to run your sets. We fought through some adversity and beat a pretty good team," Morrison said. "This was a district type atmosphere and we handled it pretty well."

MW	13	16	15	9	9	62
BW	6	14	14	19	7	60

MW— J. Koca 5, Hargis 9, Lallman 11, Lusso 18, Sharp 13, Kositzke 6.
BW— Brazeal 8, Pettigrew 22, Hleuchowecyj 19, Knapp 2, Moore 2, Strawmier 1, Hatterle 6.

The win by the Millard West Boys Varsity team completed a 4-game sweep over Omaha Bryan on Saturday. The varsity dodged a 4th quarter come-back attempt by the bears and moved their record to 14-5 with the 59-55 victory. Spencer Sharp led the Wildcats with 18 points. Connor Lusso added 13 and Ben Kositzke chipped in 10 for Millard West. Bryan had two players score in double digits. Goy DoLuony lead all scorers with 22 and Kaliq Johnson scored 13.

Bryan started the game with a lot of energy and forced Millard West into eight turnovers in the opening period. The Bears had trouble taking advantage of the turnovers by committing six turnovers of their own. The two teams exchanged the lead seven times in the period. DoLuony made a 3-pointer at the buzzer to give the Bears a 15-13 to end the quarter.

"We did not start with very much intensity," Coach Bill Morrison. "I thought, from the start of the game, they played with much more energy." The Wildcats gained the lead early in the 2nd quarter on a 3-pointer by Joey Koca and never trailed the rest of the period. Bryan could only manage to score six points in the quarter. The Wildcats led 26-21 going into the half.

The Bears continue to tame the Wildcats in the 3rd quarter as they held West scoreless for the first 3 minutes of the quarter. Bryan tied the score at 28-28 before West scored on four straight possessions to take a 36-29 lead. Millard West upped their lead to double digits by scoring on their first five possessions of the final period. Three turnovers by West gave Bryan a chance to stay in the game.

The Bears started a 12-4 run with the help of the turnovers and cut the Wildcat lead to 51-48. Millard West scored on their final five possessions and never lost the lead. But the victory did not come without a scare.

Down two, Bryan's Evan Drake missed a 3-point attempt off the front of the rim. Sharp grabbed the rebound for West and was fouled with 0.3 seconds left. Sharp made both free throws to win the game 59-55. "It's great that we held on to win, but we have to stop letting up in the 4th quarter," Coach Morrison said. "We have to manage the game better to keep teams at bay."

West has four games remaining before district play. Morrison commented on what his team needs to do over the remainder of the season. "We've had a great season, but we have to continue to get better over the next two weeks. We have to keep looking forward to reach our goals."

Bryan	15	6	8	26	55
Mil West	13	13	10	23	59

OB; Cannon 3, Williams 4, Johnson 13, Bufford 7, DoLuony 22, Drake 5, Nekola 1
MW: J. Koca 4, Hargis 5, Lallman 6, Kallman 2, Lusso 13, Sharp 18, Kositzke 10

Warriors Roll the Wildcats

The Millard West boys basketball game suffered a set back Friday night getting beat 66-44 by Omaha Westside. The Wildcats had beaten Westside 62-55 in the Metro Tournament earlier this season.

Westside was led with impressive performance by Kevin Metoyer and Mike Kiger who scored 26 and 20 respectively. Connor Lusso scored 17 for the Wildcats.

The Warriors jumped out on West early in the first quarter. Westside was up 7-0 before West Coach Bill Morrison called a timeout. Westside scored on seven straight possessions to take an 18-2 lead at the end of the first quarter.

The Wildcats were not content on giving the game to Westside. They reversed the tables and went on a 16-3 run of their own. The Warriors never lost the lead as the closest Millard West came was 21-18. Westside built their lead back to as much as 10 and hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer that did not count. Westside led 30-23 at the break.

Morrison was not happy with his team's defensive execution. "Our whole emphasis was to not give up the 3-pointer. They hit four in the first quarter and two more in the 2nd," he commented.

Westside controlled the tempo of the 2nd half and never allowed the Wildcats to pose a serious come-back attempt. Westside outscored West 36-21 in the second half and won 66-44.

"Westside is a good team, but we just didn't play with any energy," Morrison said. "That usually doesn't equate to wins."

MW	2	21	10	11	44
OW	18	12	18	18	66

MW: J. Koca 2, S. Koca 3, Wulf 1, Hargis 5, Staashelm 2, Lallman 4, Evans 2, Lusso 17, Sharp 4, Kositzke 4

OW: Metoyer 26, Wilkinson, 2, Kiger 20, Koester 8, Sladek 2, Nemecek 2, Meyers 3, Al. Meeks 2, AJ Meeks 1



Fourth-ranked Wildcats top No. 1 Packers

If Class A was up in the air before Saturday night, it landed square on its head after.

Just 24 hours after getting blown out by an Omaha Westside team that hasn't been above .500 since the opening weekend of the season, fourth-ranked Millard West added to a season of surprises with its 54-50 victory over No. 1 Omaha South.

The Packers held the top spot in the rankings for the last two weeks after beating three-time defending state champion Omaha Central earlier this month. But a packed house watched Millard West earn its first win against a top-ranked team in Bill Morrison's four seasons as the head coach.

"We didn't talk about South all week," Morrison said. "Everything was about Westside. I knew we'd have energy tonight."

The Wildcats fired out to a 7-0 lead less than two minutes in and led for a majority of the first half. The second-half featured five ties and seven lead changes, the final coming on Connor Lusso's three-point play with 2 1/2 minutes to play.

After a turnover, Lusso added another bucket to push the Millard West lead to four. Each team made one of two from the line before the Wildcats iced things with offensive rebounds and free throws.

Nick Hargis made a pair with 52.4 seconds left — Millard West was 3 of 9 from the stripe in the fourth quarter before those makes. Cam Williams sank two free throws

with just more than 30 seconds left before a key sequence went the way of the Wildcats.

West's Joey Koca hit the first of two free throws and saw his miss on the second attempt get rebounded by Lusso. The 6-foot-6 senior made his first try and also missed his second, but this time the ball was rebounded by teammate Spencer Sharp, who promptly knocked down both of his shots.

"We rebounded very well," Morrison said. "A lot of them were our own missed free throws, though."



Lusso's 21 points led all scorers. He added nine rebounds on the night. Spencer Sharp chipped in a double-double with 12 points and 10 rebounds.

Millard West, without a real marquee victory on the season, was a

combined 1-4 against the other teams in the top five before Saturday.

"This might put us up with those top three in the state," Morrison said of South, Central and Papillion-La Vista. "They all obviously deserve to be up there, but I think this puts us in the mix with them."

Williams scored 15 points for South and teammate Lyle Hexom added 14 points, including two monster dunks, and seven rebounds.

Packers coach Bruce Chubick said he sensed that his team could be ripe for an upset Saturday.

"I don't know that there are ever good losses, but this might be one," he said. "They outhustled us. It'll refocus us."

OS (19-3).....11 10 14 15—50
At MW (15-6).....11 9 15 19—54

OS: Dumes 0-2 0-0 0, Tuach 4-8 1-2 9, Hall 1-7 0-0 3, Williams 5-12 5-7 15, Harkins 1-3 4-6 6, Hexom 5-8 4-4 14, Lage 1-4 1-4 3 Totals 17-44 15-23 50.

MW: J Koca 0-2 2-4 2, Hargis 1-6 3-5 5, Lallman 2-6 3-5 8, Kallman 1-1 0-0 2, Lusso 9-13 3-6 21, Sharp 4-10 4-4 12, Kositzke 2-4 0-0 4 Totals 19-42 15-24 54.

3's: OS 1-9, MW 1-7. Rebs: OS 27 (Hexom 7), MW 35 (Sharp 10). TO's: OS 15, MW 18. FG%: OS .386, MW .452. FT%: OS .652, MW .625. Att: 1,250 (est)

Strong 4th Lifts #4 Wildcats

A strong fourth quarter allowed fourth-ranked Millard West to fend off the upset bid of sixth-ranked Millard North.

The visiting Wildcats grabbed the lead at the start of the fourth Friday night and refused to give it up in a 54-50 boys basketball win. Millard West boosted its record to 16-6 while the Mustangs fell to 11-10.

The game was tied 41-41 entering the final period when Spencer Sharp sank a jumper to put the Wildcats ahead to stay. The senior forward later added a layup and finished with a team-high 16 points.

"I thought Spencer had a nice game for us," Millard West coach Bill Morrison said. "We also played better defense in the second half, and I think that was the difference."

While the Wildcats wouldn't surrender their fourth-quarter lead, they led by no more than four until the final minute. A layup by Josiah Gustafson cut the Mustangs' deficit

to one with 1:30 left, but that was as close as they'd get.

"That was a hard-fought game between two good teams," Mustangs coach Chip Bahe said. "I thought we both played hard to the end."

After Gustafson's basket, junior guard Joey Koca knocked down a pair of free throws to put Millard West ahead 51-48 with 57 seconds left. Gustafson missed a 3-pointer on the Mustangs' next possession and Koca was again fouled, though he missed both free throws.

Senior forward Connor Lusso hustled in and grabbed the rebound for the Wildcats and was fouled. He sank one of two free throws and went back to the line again after sophomore center Ben Kositzke blocked a Gustafson shot at the other end.

Lusso sank both free throws with 32 seconds left as Millard West opened a six-point advantage. A

basket with three seconds left by Gustafson, who finished with a game-high 26 points, provided the final margin.

"I thought we were able to control the game a little better than we have been in the fourth quarter when we had that lead," Morrison said.

Lusso finished with a double-double — 13 points and 13 rebounds. Teammate Josh Lallman added 13 points, including three 3-pointers.

MW (16-6) 14 12 15 13—54

MN (11-10) 17 14 10 9—50

MW: J Koca 5, Lallman 13, Kallman 2, Lusso 13, Sharp 16, Kositzke 5.

MN: Roth 7, Stull 2, Nelson 3, Steed 6, Gustafson 26, Walter 4, Seyler 2.

Blue Jays Cage the Wildcats

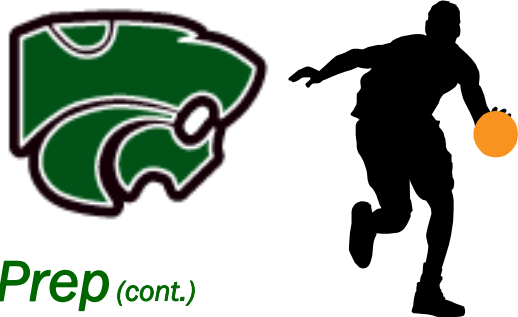
The Creighton Prep Blue Jays used a 15-18 effort from the free throw line to beat Millard West 58-40 in the final season of the regular season. With an eight point lead going into the final period. Prep used a deliberate offense to get to the free throw line and proceeded to make 13 of 16 attempted to keep the Wildcats out of reach. Kevin Dineen scored 20 points for Prep and Chad Witecy added 12. Connor Lusso was the only Wildcat who scored in double figures with 17 points.

West started the game by quickly jumping out to a 7-2 lead in the first quarter. Lusso scored the last 8 points of the quarter for Millard West who led 16-12 at the end of the first period.

Prep outscored West 6-2 in the first 3 possessions of the 2nd quarter to take their first lead of the game, 18-17. With West leading 23-22 late in the quarter, Lusso was called for an offensive foul and the Blue Jays scored back to back baskets after another Wildcat turnover. Prep outscored West 14-7 in the period and took a 26-23 lead into the 2nd half.

Both teams went scoreless for the first half of the 3rd quarter. Then the teams exchanged baskets. Spencer Sharp made 1 of 2 free throws to pull to within 3, 30-33. In the last minute of the quarter, Witecy made a basket from the block and Drew Homan made a 3-pointer after another Wildcat turnover. Prep led 38-30 going into the 4th qtr.





Prep (cont.)

Wildcat turnovers and Prep’s free throw shooting kept the game out of reach for Millard West. West committed 7 turnovers in the final period and Prep scored 13 points from the free throw line to win 58-40.

“Prep was more physical than us. I think that wore on us.” Coach Bill Morrison said. He added a couple other reasons for the loss. “We turned it over too much, and we didn’t make our free throws.”

Millard West ended the regular season with a 16-7 record while Prep finished 12-10. District assignments will be set Tuesday.

MW	16	7	7	10	40
CP	12	14	12	20	58

MW — S Koca 2, Hargis 4, Lallman 5, Lusso 17, Sharp 9, Kositzke 3

CP — Emodi 2, Dineen 20, Kudlacz 2, Kirby 3, Hump 5, Toney 3, A Allberry 6, J Allberry 3, Schmitz 2, Witocy 12.

**Lusso Breaks
Scoring Record**

Connor Lusso surpassed the Millard West career scoring record while scoring 17 points Saturday night against Creighton Prep.

Lusso broke Kyle Bakker’s record of 1333 points. Baker played for Millard West from 1997 to 2000.

Lusso has scored 1337 points in

Wildcats Advance to District Finals

Millard West defeated Omaha Northwest 59-48 in the first round of the A-5 District Tournament. The Wildcats used their inside game to seal the victory.

Connor Lusso, Spencer Sharp, and Ben Kositzke combined for 42 points on 16 of 23 shooting from the floor and 24 rebounds.

Lusso led the Wildcats with 20 points and 11 rebounds and Sharp added 14 points and 6 rebounds. Ronney Barnes led all scorers with 21 points for Northwest.

Barnes made a 3-pointer early in the game to give the Huskies a 3-2 lead. That would be the only time Northwest would lead in the game. Lusso would score the next six points for the Wildcats to build their lead to 8-3. After a basket by DeAngelo Peak, the Wildcats would score on five straight possessions. West led 19-7 after the 1st period.

Coach Bill Morrison was pleased with the way his team started the game. “I thought we really came out aggressive to start the game. That set the tempo for the first half.”

In the 2nd quarter, the Huskies switched to a zone defense and were able to slow the Wildcat scoring. But, they were not able to put points on the scoreboard. Millard West outscored Northwest 8-6 in the quarter and led 26-23 going into the half.

“We didn’t move the ball very well nor did we make very good cuts against their zone,” Morrison said.

The Wildcats scored on their first four possessions of the second half to take a 34-16 lead. With the score 36-20, Millard West was assessed with a technical foul.

Northwest was able to cut into the lead by getting to the free throw line and by forcing turnovers. They made 5 of 8 from the line and forced 4 turnovers as they outscored west 9-3 to close the period.

The Huskies continued to attack. They went on a 14-5 run to tie the game 43-43. Northwest scored on 7 of their first 8 possessions of the final period. Millard West was able to stop the attack by hitting back-to-back 3-pointers by Nick Hargis and Joey Koca. Another 3-pointer by Koca would make the score 55-48. West scored the final four points and won 59-48.

“Overall, I thought we played a pretty good game. I didn’t like the way we let them back into the game, but we held on for the win,” Coach Morrison said. “We got sped up and turned the ball over too much. And, we have to make free throws,” Morrison added.

MW	18	8	13	20	59
ONW	7	6	16	19	48

MW: J. Koca 7, Hargis 3, Staashelm 5, Lallman 2, Lusso 20, Sharp 14, Kositzke 8.

ONW: Robinson 7, Marion 4, Bush 2, Peak 10, Jones 4, Barnes 21.

Wildcats Win A-5 District Tournament

Bill Morrison calls them “four-minute games.”

They’re the ones decided late, or even in overtime, and those four-minute sessions are a staple of his Millard West team’s practices.

On Monday night, the Class A No. 5 Wildcats won the four-minute game, going 9 of 10 from the free-throw line in the last minute for a 69-64 overtime win over 10th-ranked Omaha Creighton Prep in the District A-5 championship game in front of a reporter-estimated 1,500 at Millard West.

The victory sends the Wildcats to the state tournament, for just the fourth time in program history and first time in a decade.

“This is a great group,” Morrison said of his squad, now 3-0 in overtime games this season. “It’s an easy group to coach. They come to work every day.”

And it’s a group that had its work cut out for it Monday night.

The same Prep team that beat Millard West by 18 just 10 days ago pushed the game to overtime with a pair of free throws by Chad Witocy with 30 seconds to play.

The Junior Jays had a chance at the end of regulation following a Millard West turnover, but Drew Homa’s jumper from the right corner rimmed out.

Millard West struck first in overtime on a bucket by Connor Lusso just 10 seconds in. Alexander Allbery an-

*“It’s an easy group
to coach.
They come to work
every day.”*

swered on the ensuing possession for Prep before back-to-back Wildcat baskets by Spencer Sharp and Lusso.

Prep’s Kevin Dineen hit the second of two free throws with 1:43 to play to cut the deficit to 60-57.

The Wildcats ran off almost half of the remaining time before starting their parade to the free-throw line. Four players each hit a pair and Lusso capped it by hitting one of two with five seconds left.

“They lived at the line,” Prep coach Josh Luedtke said. “You can’t give a good team like that as many free throws as we gave them. Free throws and rebounding cost us tonight.”

Millard West was 19 of 29 from the line on the night. Sharp led all scorers with 22 points. The senior forward was 8 of 11 from the floor and made all six attempts from the line. He added a team-high eight rebounds.

That production was key as Lusso, the Wildcats’ leading scorer, was held in check for most of the night. Lusso finished with 13 points, but went without a point the entire second half. His bucket to start overtime was his first since beating the second-quarter buzzer.

“I’m sure their game plan was to take Connor out of the game,” Morrison said. “That’s what everyone’s plan is. When teams play off other guys, they can hurt you. Connor makes other guys better.”

Witocy led four Prep players in double figures with 16 points. Alexander and Jason Allbery added 15 each and Dineen chipped in 10 for the Junior Jays.

Creighton Prep (13-11) 11 13 12 18 10—64

At Millard West (18-7) 11 16 15 12 15—69

OCP: Michael Emodi 0-1 0-0 0, Kevin Dineen 4-10 1-2 10, Kirkland Kudlacz 1-3 0-0 2, Patrick Kirby 1-1 0-0 3, Drew Homa 1-10 0-0 3, Alexander Allbery 6-13 3-3 15, Jason Allbery 5-6 1-4 15, Chad Witocy 6-6 4-5 16 Totals 24-50 9-14 64.

MW: Joey Koca 0-2 3-4 3, Nicholas Hargis 4-6 2-4 12, Adam Staashelm 0-2 1-2 1, Josh Lallman 3-5 3-4 9, Tyler Kallman 1-1 0-0 2, Connor Lusso 6-14 1-3 13, Spencer Sharp 8-11 6-6 22, Ben Kositzke 2-4 3-6 7 Totals 24-45 19-29 69.





Class A: Lusso leads 'Cats out of the wild

Millard West is making its first appearance in a decade at the Class A boys state basketball tournament, but the Wildcats aren't short on game experience.

The Wildcat atop that list is four-year starter Connor Lusso.

Lusso heads to state averaging 18.4 points and 8.8 rebounds as Millard West (18-7) opens tournament play against Omaha Benson (18-5) at 10:45 a.m. Thursday.

Bill Morrison, who has coached Lusso all four seasons, has seen the 6-foot-6 senior's play mature over the years.

"When he was doubled before, he'd rush. That really hasn't been a problem this year," Morrison said. "The game has slowed down for him, but he still plays fast. He doesn't turn the ball over as much, he doesn't take as many bad shots. The biggest thing, though, is that he has really emerged as a leader."

Lusso will leave Millard West as the statistical leader, too.

He broke the school's career scoring record on Feb. 16 against Creighton Prep and goes into state with 1,370 points. He also has 725 career rebounds, setting the school record during the first weekend of the season.

Lusso decided before this season that he'll play collegiately at Truman State (Mo.), a Divi-

sion II program that went 10-17 this season.

"I think he has the chance to be a better college player than he was in high school because he won't be doubled as much," Morrison said.

Lusso has put up numbers despite being the focus of every opponent's defense. The Wildcats also have gotten good production from fellow seniors Spencer Sharp, who is averaging 13.2 points and 6.0 rebounds per game, and Josh Lallman, who averages 9.4 points. Lallman is getting looked at by UNK, while Sharp has gotten attention from a number of area NAIA schools.

"We have three really good players," Morrison said, "and the rest of the guys have kind of accepted their roles and are really playing well."

The Wildcats have won nine of their past 11 games, including a 54-50 win over then-No. 1 Omaha South on Feb. 9. Lusso scored a game-high 21 points and grabbed nine rebounds in that win.

Earlier, though, Millard West had a stretch when it dropped four of six games around the holidays, which included two losses to No. 1 Omaha Central.

"I don't think we were playing bad. We just played some tough teams early in the year,"

Morrison said. "For the most part, we are playing pretty well right now."

Also during that six-game span, the Wildcats split games with Benson, their first-round state opponent. Millard West defeated the Bunnies 62-52 in the Metro tournament on Dec. 31 before Benson won 71-64 five days later.

"We were able to run and score in transition in the first half of that first game, and they hit shots in that second game," Morrison said. "They were similar games, just the roles switched."

That means Thursday's third matchup should be tightly contested.



Rabbits Run Away in the 2nd Half



LINCOLN

Those blue-and-black clad Bunnies of Omaha Benson left Millard West feeling blue-and-black Thursday.

Wait a minute. Blue-and-black?

Yep. The Bunnies, who left Omaha without their green road uniforms, donned those of the Papillion-La Vista South Titans and beat the Wildcats 76-56 in the Class A first round at the Devaney Center.

Khyri Thomas paced No. 4 Benson (19-5) with 24 points to lead it into Friday's 9 a.m. semifinal at

Devaney against No. 1 Omaha Central (24-4), a team the Bunnies haven't seen yet this season.

"There's not as much to lose for us," Thomas said.

Benson outscored the No. 5 Wildcats 45-25 in the second half. Byron Snoddy had 12 of his 15 points, including two of the Bunnies' five 3-pointers in the third quarter.

After Snoddy made his second 3, for a 40-35 lead, Benson coach Donnie Johnson immediately called timeout.

"You're making shots, but you can't lose focus on guarding, can't forget about playing defense," Johnson said.

His words were heeded. Millard West (18-8) scored only nine points in the final 6:51 of the quarter and trailed by as much as 13.

Benson then opened the final quarter with a 17-5 burst for its first 20-point lead at 70-50.

"They came out and shot the ball well from the start," Millard West coach Bill Morrison said. "I don't know if we were forcing it too much, but our goal was to try to get to the basket and the free-throw line and that didn't happen."

Connor Lusso had eight of his team-high 19 points in the first quarter for the Wildcats. Spencer Sharp opened the game by making one of two free throws awarded for the technical foul assessed for the Benson uniform snafu.

Benson.....	17	14	22	23	—	76
Mil West.....	20	11	13	12	—	56



B: Khyri Thomas 24, Byron Snoddy 15, Thik Bol 11, Tyree Peter 8, Maurice Buckley 6, Marshun Stewart 5, Deion Ross-Wells 3, Will Curtis 2, Brandon Reed 1, Michol Bradley 1.

MW: Connor Lusso 19, Spencer Sharp 12, Nick Hargis 8, Ben Kasitzke 6, Joey Koca 5, Josh Lollman 4, Tyler Kallman 2.

Officials: Justin Pavich, Ken Mar, Chris Kabourek





2012-13 Final Stats



Player	GP	FGM-A	3PM-A	FTM-A	REB-O	AST	STL	BLK	TO	PF	CT	PTS
Lusso	26	180-339	0-3	120-189	230-90	37	33	26	71	59	5	480
Sharp	26	137-234	0-5	67-91	161-52	25	22	21	41	45	1	341
Lallman	26	61-163	19-57	60-92	72-10	132	47	3	123	40	0	239
Kositzke	26	57-129	0-0	32-51	144-54	41	13	43	40	48	1	146
Hargis	26	36-71	13-56	35-71	73-15	42	27	4	36	60	3	146
J Koca	26	6-31	14-44	26-47	54-9	30	31	2	31	49	3	80
Kallman	25	10-22	1-7	8-12	33-12	9	3	0	17	21	0	31
S Koca	19	7-14	2-14	4-9	9-4	12	12	0	8	14	0	24
Wulf	7	2-3	1-3	5-8	4-1	0	0	0	0	3	0	12
Staashelm	12	2-7	1-7	2-4	6-2	5	4	1	6	7	0	9
Evans	6	2-4	0-0	0-1	3-1	0	0	0	1	3	0	4
Wicks	12	0-1	0-3	1-2	5-0	5	1	0	3	3	0	1
Ehly	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

The world of sports is both a classroom and a laboratory. Through competition we learn from a young age the value of training, practice, and discipline, as well as the meaning of fair play. Sports teach us how to persevere, how to deal with adversity, how to become a part of a single heartbeat that defines a team. Sports teach lessons in leadership, respect and courage.

New School Records and Leaders

<u>Season Records/Leaders</u>				<u>Game</u>		
1st	Team	18	Wins	Spencer Sharp	8/9	2FG%
1st	Team	1513	Points	Connor Lusso	12	2FG's Made
1st	Team	500	2FG's Made			
1st	Team	850	Rebounds			
1st	Team	360	FT's Made	<u>Career Records / Leaders</u>		
1st	Team	577	FT's Attempted	1st	Connor Lusso	1389 Points
1st	Team	543	Def Rebounds	1st	Connor Lusso	735 Rebounds
2nd	Team	194	Steals	1st	Connor Lusso	230 Off Rebounds
2nd	Team	100	Blocks	1st	Connor Lusso	496 Def Rebounds
				1st	Connor Lusso	93 Games Played
1st	Josh Lallman	132	Assists	1st	Connor Lusso	338 FT's Made
1st	Connor Lusso	230	Rebounds	1st	Connor Lusso	115 Steals
1st	Connor Lusso	90	Off Rebounds	2nd	Connor Lusso	92 Blocks
2nd	Connor Lusso	120	FT's Made	2nd	Connor Lusso	16 Charges Taken
2nd	Connor Lusso	480	Points	2nd	Connor Lusso	518 2FG's Made
2nd	Connor Lusso	180	2FG's Made	2nd	Connor Lusso	14.9 Points per Game
3rd	Josh Lallman	47	Steals	2nd	Josh Lallman	268 Assists
3rd	Connor Lusso	140	Def Rebounds	2nd	Josh Lallman	67 Games Played
4th	Ben Kositzke	43	Blocks	3rd	Spencer Sharp	250 2FG's Made
7th	Connor Lusso	26	Blocks	3rd	Ben Kositzke	43 Blocks
5thT	Connor Lusso	18.5	Points per Game	4th	Spencer Sharp	213 Def Rebounds
7th	Spencer Sharp	161	Rebounds	4th	Spencer Sharp	328 Rebounds
7thT	Spencer Sharp	109	Def Rebounds	4th	Spencer Sharp	638 Points
7th	Spencer Sharp	137	2FG's Made	4th	Spencer Sharp	58.4% 2FG%
8th	Ben Kositzke	54	Off Rebounds	4th	Spencer Sharp	72.3% FT%
8thT	Spencer Sharp	21	Blocks	4th	Spencer Sharp	115 Off Rebounds
8th	Spencer Sharp	341	Points	4thT	Josh Lallman	85 Steals
9thT	Connor Lusso	5	Charges Taken	5th	Spencer Sharp	138 FT's Made
9th	Spencer Sharp	52	Off Rebounds	5th	Spencer Sharp	35 Blocks
10th	Spencer Sharp	67	FT's Made	6th	Spencer Sharp	10.1 Points per Game
11th	Spencer Sharp	58.5%	2FG%	6thT	Spencer Sharp	63 Games Played
12thT	Connor Lusso	33	Steals	8th	Josh Lallman	113 FT's Made
12th	Spencer Sharp	13.1	Points per Game	8th	Connor Lusso	54.4% 2FG%
12th	Ben Kositzke	144	Rebounds	9th	Connor Lusso	150 Assists
13th	Spencer Sharp	73.6%	FT%	11th	Josh Lallman	423 Points
15thT	Josh Lallman	60	FT's Made	13th	Josh Lallman	34 3FG's Made
16th	Ben Kositzke	90	Def Rebounds	13th	Josh Lallman	34.0% 3FG%
18th	Josh Lallman	239	Points	14th	Spencer Sharp	50 Steals
19thT	Joey Koca	31	Steals	15thT	Josh Lallman	66.5% FT%
20th	Connor Lusso	53.6%	2FG%	15th	Josh Lallman	104 2FG's Made
				17th	Ben Kositzke	54 Off Rebounds



Omaha-World Herald

All-Metro 1st Team

Akoy Agau	Central
Brett Dougherty	Papillion—LV
TraDeon Hollins	Central
Connor Lusso	Millard West
Cam Williams	Omaha South

All-Metro 2nd Team

Khyri Thomas	Benson
Josiah Gustafson	Millard North
Kevin Dineen	Prep
Aireon Porter	O North
KJ Scott	Central

All-Metro 3rd Team

Spencer Lewis	Papillion
Nick Billingsley	Central
Kevin Metoyer	Westside
Tre Shawn Thurman	Central
Lyle Hexom	O South

2012-2013 Final Rankings

1. Central	25-4
2. Papillion	24-4
3. O South	25-4
4. O Benson	19-7
5. Mil West	18-8
6. Prep	13-11
7. Mil North	12-12
8. Lincoln SE	16-9
9. O North	13-10
10. Lincoln SW	16-9

Scholar Athlete Awards

Lincoln Journal Star

Josh Lallman
Spencer Sharp
Tyler Kallman

NSAA

Tyler Kallman
Josh Lallman

Metro Conference

Tyler Kallman
Josh Lallman
Andy Wicks

Honorable Mention

All—Metro

Ben Kositzke
Josh Lallman
Spencer Sharp

All—State

Ben Kositzke
Josh Lallman
Spencer Sharp



All-Nebraska First Team

<i>Akoy Agau</i>	<i>Omaha Central</i>
<i>Brett Dougherty</i>	<i>Papillion—LV</i>
<i>TraDeon Hollins</i>	<i>Omaha Central</i>
<i>Connor Lusso</i>	<i>Millard West</i>
<i>Cam Williams</i>	<i>Omaha South</i>

State Tournament

#8 PLV South (9-15), 39.6250 Game 1 – Sports Center Mar 7 – 9:00 AM	Omaha Central 61-41	CLASS A
#1 Omaha Cent. (21-2), 45.1304	Game 5 Mar 8 – 9:00 AM Sports Center	Omaha Cent. 80-50
#5 Millard West (18-7), 43.4400 Game 2 – Sports Center Mar 7 – 10:45 AM	Omaha Benson 76-56	Game 8 1:00 PM Mar 9 Sports Center Omaha Cent. 69-44 Champion
#4 Om. Benson (18-5), 43.5652	Omaha South 52-36	Papillion-LV 55-49
#7 North Platte (16-7), 41.9565 Game 3 – Sports Center Mar 7 – 2:00 PM	Game 6 Mar 8 – 10:45 AM Sports Center	Omaha Benson
#2 Omaha South (23-3), 45.0385	Papillion-LV 55-47	Game 7 Omaha South 70-62 Mar 9 – 10:00 AM Omaha South
#3 Papillion-LV (22-3), 44.9600 Game 4 – Sports Center Mar 7 – 3:45 PM		
#6 Lincoln SE (16-8), 42.2083		

All-Nebraska 2nd Team

Khyri Thomas	Benson
Joshiah Gustason	Mil North
Adam Moon	O'Neill StM
KJ Scott	Central
Rylee Reinertson	Gibbon

All Nebraska 3rd Team

Ryan Tegtmeier	BDS
Nate Kuhl	Johnson Co.
Kevin Dineen	Prep
Noah Housh	Lincoln NS
Michael Hadden	Scottsbluff

Class A 1st Team

Akoy Agau	Central
Brett Dougherty	Papillion-LV
Tra-Deon Hollins	Central
Connor Lusso	Millard West
Cam Williams	O South

Class A 2nd Team

Khryi Thomas	Benson
Josiah Gustafson	Mil North
KJ Scott	Central
Kevin Dineen	Prep
Noah Housh	Lincoln NS



	Season Leader	Stat
Made Free Throws	Connor Lusso	120
Free Throw Percentage	Spencer Sharp	73.6%
2-Pointers Made	Connor Lusso	180
2-Point Percentage	Spencer Sharp	58.5%
3-Pointers Made	Josh Lallman	19
3-Point Percentage	Josh Lallman	33.3%
Points	Connor Lusso	480
Assists	Josh Lallman	132
Blocked Shots	Ben Kositzke	43
Rebounds	Connor Lusso	230
Steals	Josh Lallman	47
Charges Taken	Connor Lusso	5
Double-Doubles	Connor Lusso	12



Team	W/L	Us	They	Assists	Blocks	Rebounds	Steals	Points
Norfolk	W	50	35	Lallman 4	CL, BK 2	Lusso 11	CL, SK 3	CL, SS 17
Lincoln SE	W	62	53	Lallman 6	Lusso 2	Lusso 8	CL, NH 2	CL, SS 16
Omaha Burke	W	68	65	Lallman 4	Kositzke 2	Lusso 9	Sharp 1	Lusso 31
North Platte	W	53	34	Lallman 6	Kositzke 2	Lusso 7	Lusso 2	Lusso 12
Bellevue East	W	58	44	Lallman 3	SS, BK 1	Kositzke 9	Lallman 3	Lusso 19
Omaha Central	L	51	70	Lallman 5	-	Kositzke 9	S Koca 2	Lallman 15
Papillion LV	L	47	51	Lallman 4	SS, BK 1	Lusso 10	Lallman 5	Lusso 25
HT: Westside	W	62	55	Lallman 5	Sharp 3	Sharp 12	Lallman 4	Sharp 20
HT: Omaha Benson	W	62	52	Lallman 9	Kositzke 2	Lusso 14	Lallman 4	Lusso 28
HT: Omaha Central	L	61	71	Lallman 8	1	Lusso 11	Lallman 4	Lusso 30
Omaha Benson	L	64	71	Lallman 8	Kositzke 3	Sharp 13	2	Lusso 26
Lincoln East	W	57	54	Lallman 4	Kositzke 3	Sharp 8	3	Sharp 20
Northwest	W	72	51	Lallman 8	Kositzke 2	Lusso 8	SS, JL 3	CL, BK 16
Lincoln NS	L	55	57	Lallman 5	CL, SS 1	Lusso 11	CL, JK 2	Lusso 19
Millard South	W	53	43	JL, BK 4	Kositzke 3	Kositzke 10	Lallman 4	Lallman 15
Omaha North	W	75	68	Lallman 5	Kositzke 4	CL, BK 6	Lusso 2	Lusso 24
Papio South	W	63	37	Hargis 6	Kositzke 4	Lusso 9	Hargis 2	Lusso 21
Bellevue West	W	62	60	Lallman 5	Sharp 3	Lusso 10	JL, JK 2	Lusso 18
Omaha Bryan	W	59	55	Lallman 6	Lusso 2	Lusso 11	NH, JK 2	Sharp 18
Westside	L	44	66	JL, CL 2	SS, BK 1	Lusso 10	J Koca 3	Lusso 17
Omaha South	W	54	50	Hargis 3	Lusso 3	CL, SS 8	Sharp 3	Lusso 21
Millard North	W	54	50	Lallman 4	CL, BK 2	Lusso 14	Kositzke 2	Sharp 16
Creighton Prep	L	40	58	Lallman 3	Lusso 2	Sharp 9	1	Lusso 17
D: Northwest	W	59	48	Lallman 5	Lusso 3	Lusso 11	Lusso 1	Lusso 20
D: Creighton Prep	W	69	64	Lallman 6	Lusso 4	Sharp 8	CL, JK 2	Sharp 22
S: Omaha Benson	L	76	56	Lallman 8	Kositzke 2	CL, SS 10	Lusso 2	Lusso 19
Season Total	18-8	58.2	55.3	Lallman 132	Blocks 43	Lusso 240	Lallman 47	Lusso 480





2012—2013 Team Records

Varsity 18-8

Junior Varsity 11-10



Reserves 16-2

Freshmen: A 17-4 & B 11-4



Varsity

#	Name	Ht.	Gr.	Pos.
3	Koca, Joey	5'11	11	G
4	Koca, Sam	5'11	12	G
5	Loberg, Jake	6'0	11	G
10	Wulf, Grant	6'1	11	G
14	Hargis, Nick	6'0	12	G
20	Phil Ehly	6'1	10	F
22	Staashelm, Adam	5'11	10	G
24	Lallman, Josh	6'0	12	G
32	Wicks, Andrew	6'1	12	F
34	Kallman, Tyler	6'0	12	F
40	Evans, Joey	6'4	11	F
42	Lusso, Connor	6'6	12	F
50	Sharp, Spencer	6'6	12	F
52	Kositzke, Ben	6'7	10	C

Freshmen

Back Row: Coach Delaet, Andrew Dubas, Cole Stobbe, Jack Domandle, Alec White, Logan Anderjaska, Andrew White, Spencer Lear, Coach Sealer

Middle Row: Chris Russell, Matthew Loberg, Kyle Stevens, Austin Hall, Dallen Self, Dylan Thompson, Trey Tomasello.

Front Row: Quintin Van Ackeren, Nico Mariniello, Robert Hay, Jonathan Short, Connor Hargis, Tommy Ho, Cameron Burke

Not Pictured: Preston Humphrey

Junior Varsity

#	Name	Ht.	Gr.	Pos.
3	Koca, Joey	5'11	11	G
4	Butler, Matt	5'9	11	G
5	Loberg, Jacob	6'0	11	G
10	Wulf, Grant	6'1	10	G
12	Sealer, Max	5'8	10	G
20	Ehly, Philip	6'1	10	G
22	Staashelm, Adam	5'11	10	G
24	Longacre, Hunter	6'4	11	G
32	Olson, Eric	6'5	11	F
40	Evans, Joey	6'4	11	F
44	Neville, Cole	6'5	10	C
55	Ragan, Mitch	6'1	10	F

Reserves

#	Name	Ht.	Gr.	Pos.
2	Netsch, Cooper	5'7	10	G
11	Adams, Mani	5'10	10	G
12	Tupper, Connor	5'8	10	G
13	Longacre, Westin	6'7	10	F
21	Sharp, Tyler	6'2	10	G
22	Peterson, Chandler	6'1	10	G
23	Sullivan, Zach	6'1	10	G
31	Charvat, Mike	6'2	10	F
32	Eardensohn, Matt	6'2	10	G
33	Bishop, Chase	6'4	10	F
41	Christensen, Blake	6'5	10	F
51	Conway, Caleb	6'4	10	C



JUNIOR VARSITY		
Norfolk	W	56-33
Lincoln Southeast	W	65-58
Burke	L	51-57
North Platte	W	61-21
Central	W	57-40
Bellevue East	W	44-33
Papio LV	W	49-41
Millard South	W	61-53
Millard North	W	62-54
Benson	L	52-55
Lincoln East	W	58-56
Lincoln North Star	W	52-45
Omaha North	L	49-52
Papio LV South	W	60-44
Bellevue West	L-ot	62-64
Northwest	L	60-70
Bryan	W	46-42
Westside	L	48-51
Omaha South	W	67-47
Millard North	L	40-52
Prep	L	48-49

RESERVES		
Norfolk	W	56-40
Burke	W	56-47
Central	L	61-62
Bellevue East	W	75-42
Papio LV	W	53-37
Papio South	W	61-21
Prep	W	47-42
Benson	W	66-37
Omaha North	W	65-42
Papio South	W	53-47
Bellevue West	W	72-48
Northwest	W	69-35
Prep	L	44-53
Bryan	W	72-25
Omaha South	W	65-55
Westside	W	69-39
Pius X	W	62-39
Millard North	W	54-51

FRESHMEN A			FRESHMEN B		
Burke	W	64-34	Burke	W	59-54
Fremont	W	50-36	Central	W	57-40
Central	L	62-68	Bellevue East	W	77-34
Bellevue East	W	75-15	Benson	W	81-22
Bellevue West	W	66-48	Papio LV	W	56-42
Millard South	L	41-48	Millard South	L	39-54
Benson	W	68-47	Papio South	W	43-41
Papio LV	W-OT	58-54	Bellevue West	W	74-41
Millard South	W	57-36	Northwest	W	46-37
Papio South	W	50-40	Bryan	W	53-27
Bellevue West	W	69-42	Westside	L	39-52
Northwest	W	69-30	Omaha North	W	49-43
Lin Northeast	W	63-37	Millard South	W	54-47
Bryan	W	81-36	Millard North	L	54-58
Westside	W	54-51	Prep	L	30-48
Omaha North	W	58-45			
Omaha South	W	63-59			
Millard North	L	51-57			
Prep	L	43-45			
Burke	W	56-50			
Westside	W	53-43			
Central	L	51-68			

Future Wildcats





Class Of 2013

