



# Millard West Boys Basketball Wildcat Report

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## Different Story Line But Same Ending at Prep

Millard West traveled to play at Creighton Prep for the 2nd time in 11 days for the first round game of the Metro Tournament.

In their regular season game, Prep led by as many as 19 before West was able to cut the lead to 2 late in the 4th quarter.

This time, West took an early lead. Prep was able to regain the lead by half-time and built up a 10-point lead in the 3rd quarter.

The 13 seed Wildcats, once again, cut into the lead and had a chance to upset the #4 seed Blue Jays. Prep made enough free throws at the end of the game to prevent West's upset bid.

Cole Kirschner and Trace Thaden led the Wildcats with 16 and 14 points. Casey O'Malley led the Blue Jays with 21 points, including five 3-pointers. Martel Evan added 12 points.

Prep scored the first points of the game. But, West would score on six consecutive possessions to go on a 14-5 run to take a 14-7 lead with 3:27 left in the first quarter.

Two 3's by Prep late in the quarter cut the lead to 17-13 at the end of

the period. All five Wildcat starters scored in the first quarter.

Prep completed a 10-0 run that spanned over the first two quarters when Josh Townley made a basket to give Prep a 20-17 lead.

West answered with baskets by Thaden and Jaidyn Gaius-Anyaegbu to regain the lead 21-20. The two teams exchanged leads three more times to finish the half with Prep leading 25-24.

"I was happy with our defensive execution in the first half," coach Bill Morrison said. "We did a much better job in the first half than we did last week."

West went inside to Thaden to start the 2nd half and took a 26-25

lead. Prep answered with a basket by Evans. The Wildcats had a hard time scoring for the next four-and-a-half minutes and Prep was able to build a 40-30 lead. The quarter ended with Prep leading 40-32.

"We didn't play poorly in the 3rd quarter. We didn't convert on a couple transition lay-ups and we made a couple mistakes defensively," Morrison said.

O'Malley started the 4th quarter with two 3-pointers to give Prep a 46-34 lead with 6:45 left in the game.

The Wildcats continued to battle and scored on six of their next seven possessions to cut the lead to 42-48 with 2:46 left in the game.



## Scores

Freshman A (2-1)

Freshman B (2-1)

Reserves (1-3)

Junior Varsity (4-1)

Varsity (3-3)

Bengton L 37-43

Prep L 47-52

## Prep (cont.)

Prep pulled the ball out with 2:46 left in the game. Both teams only had 2 fouls in the half at that time, and Millard West was forced to start fouling.

Millard West was able to force a turnover with 1:38 left in the game, but gave the ball right back to Prep on the next play.

Evans missed a free throw with 1:02 left in the game and Kirschner was able to convert on a 3-pointer with 51 seconds left to cut the Prep lead to 45-48.

West fouled Evans with 43.5 seconds left. Evans made the first and missed the 2nd free throw. Prep was able to secure the rebound after the miss. West almost tied up Luke Jungers but was called for a foul with 34.5 seconds left in the game.

Jungers made one of two free throws to give Prep a 50-45 lead. The Wildcats tried to go into Thaden again and turned the ball over with 23 seconds left.

Joe Subdeck made both free throws to make the lead 52-47. A basket with 1.3 seconds left for West was not enough for the Wildcats.

Prep's shooting was a major key in their victory. The Blue Jays were 8/13 on 2-point field goals and 10/14 on 3-point field goals.

"Our guys really did a good job of executing our defensive game plan. Prep just made too many 3's," Morrison said. "Some of them were pretty deep and some of them were after loose ball situations."

MW	17	7	8	15	47
CP	13	12	15	12	52

MW: Kirschner 16, Butler 2, Frohloff 2, P. Moore 6, Gaius 2, A. Moore 5, Thaden 14.

CP: Jungers 9, Subdeck 2, Rieschl 6, O'Malley 21, Evans 12, Townley 2



# Lower Levels

## Reserves

On the eve before Winter Break, the Sophomore boys traveled to Bennington to square off against the Badgers. In a back and forth game between the two teams, Bennington was able to pull away in the last minute of the game.

Millard West will look to bounce back in their Holiday Tournament at Prep on Monday and Tuesday after break.

MW	12	8	8	9	37
Ben	13	8	8	14	43

## Metro Tournament Set to Use the Shot-Clock

Millard West will play Papillion-LaVista South in the Consolation game of the Metro Tournament.

For the first time in Nebraska history, the shot clock will be used in high school basketball games.

A proposal to use the shot-clock this year did not pass through the NSAA this year. But, it is expected to be a part of high school basketball next year.

The Metro Conference has been allowed to use the shot clock for their tournament. All games past the first round will use the shot clock.



## ***Weekly Practice / Game Schedule***

		<u>Boys</u>		
		<u>Games</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Gym</u>
<b>12/27</b>	9th tourney in both gyms 10:30/Noon 9A at 10:30 at MW 9B at Noon at MW Reserve 2:30 at Prep JV 11:30 at Papio South		Varsity at 2:00	WC 1
<b>12/28</b>	9th tourney in one gym from 9:00 to 3:30 9A 10:30 or 1:45 at MW 9B 9:00 or 12:15 at MW Reserve 1:00 or 2:30 at Prep JV 11:30 at Papio South		Varsity at 2:00	WC 2
<b>12/29</b>	Varsity 1:45 at BAXTER arena		9th 9 am JV/Res 10:30 am** Var 11:30 am	WC 1
<b>12/30</b>			JV/V 9:00 am Res 11:00 am 9th 12:30 om	WC 1
<b>12/31</b>			JV/ V 9:00 am 9th 11:00 am Res 11:00 am	WC 2
<b>1/1</b>	New Year's Day		no practices	
<b>1/2</b>			All Boys 1:00 ** may need to adjust	Both Gyms

***Practice/Game times are always subject to change.***

***Practice doesn't make perfect.  
Perfect practice makes perfect!***



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**HARD WORK \* INTEGRITY \* TEAMWORK  
FUNDAMENTALS \* SPORTSMANSHIP**