

# Millard West Boys Basketball

## Wildcat Report

January 10 2022, Vol. 13 No. 6

### Wildcats Win Two, Lose One This Week

#### Millard West Runs Past the Huskies in the 2nd Half

After a low-scoring first half, Millard West was able to pull away from Omaha Northwest in the 2nd half. West outscored Northwest 34-13 in the 2nd half on their way to a 57-30 victory.

Three Wildcats scored in double-digits. Cole Kirschner led the way with 14 points. Trace Thaden and Peyton Moore added 11 and 10 points respectively. Max Frohloff dished out 4 assists on the night.

West jumped out to a 14-2 first quarter lead over the Huskies. Five points by Northwest on their last two possessions of the quarter made the score 14-7 after the first period of play.

In the 2nd quarter, the West starting line-up got into some foul trouble. Four Wildcat starters had two fouls, and Coach Bill Morrison had to go to his bench.

"We try to sit guys in the first half if they get two fouls because we want them to be able to be aggressive on defense in the 2nd half," Morrison said.

The Wildcats played the last part of the 2nd quarter with their entire starting line-up on the bench. West's subs had trouble scoring, but their defense was able to contain the Huskies. West led by six, 23-17 at the half.

Northwest came out of the half and looked as if they were going to give the Wildcats a game in the 2nd half. Two free throws by Mekhi Marks cut the score to 27-24 with 6:35 left in the quarter. Midway through the quarter, West only led 32-27.

#### Storm's Defense Disrupts Wildcats' Offensive Attack

The Storm from Elkhorn South attacked early and kept the defensive pressure on Millard West as they outscored the Wildcats 53-41.

Cole Kirschner scored 11 points and had 2 steals for Millard West, while Peyton Moore added 11 points, 3 assists and a blocked shot. Trace Thaden led the team with 7 rebounds.

Alec Noonan and Jackson Moeller-Swan led a balanced scoring attack by Elkhorn South by scoring 10 points apiece.

Millard West led 4-2 early after baskets by Max Frohloff and Thaden. Elkhorn South tied the score 4-4 on their 2nd lay-up in transition and Coach Bill Morrison called a time out 1:23 into the game.

"That may be the fastest I have ever called a time-out," Coach Morrison said. "One of our top keys was to stop their fast breaks. I didn't think the guys were in the right mental frame at the beginning of the game."

West still led 9-7 midway through the first quarter before E Hill made a 3-pointer in transition to give Elkhorn South their first lead of the game. The Storm would not relinquish their lead for the remainder of the game.

Elkhorn South turned up their defensive intensity and made it difficult for West to find open looks at the basket. West only scored 7 points in the quarter as they trailed 18-24 going into the half-time break.

"We wanted to get the ball into Trace (Thaden) more, but they did a really nice job

#### Wildcats Beat North After a "Gutsy" 2nd Half

Millard West overcame an 11-point half-time deficit and beat Omaha North 42-38 in their third game of the week.

A 3-pointer by Cole Kirschner with 2:18 left in the game gave West their first lead, 39-36, since the first minute of the game. West held on to their lead for the rest of the game for the victory.

Trace Thaden had 15 points, 7 rebounds, and 2 blocked shots for the Wildcats. Cole Kirschner added 12 points and had 4 steals. Jaidyn Gaius had a solid 2nd half with 3 rebounds, 4 assists, and 4 steals.

Mason Strong had been averaging 16.9 points per game. The Wildcat defense was able to hold him to just 11 points in the game.

West won the tip and scored on the first play of the game as Thaden slipped a screen and scored a lay-up on a pass from Peyton Moore. Jaidyn Gaius added two free-throws to give the Wildcats an early 4-0 lead.

The Viking tied the game up and the two teams exchanged baskets over the next two possessions. North led 15-11 after the first period.

West scored on the first play of the 2nd quarter, but then did not score on their next six possessions as Omaha North built up a 20-15 lead. Back-to-back 3-pointers by Daleron Thomas gave the Vikings a 26-15 lead going into the half.

Coach Bill Morrison said he had to talk to his team about their intensity in the 2nd quarter. "I don't think they were playing very ag-

## Scores

Freshman A (5-3)		Freshman B (4-3)		Reserves (4-4)		Junior Varsity (5-5)		Varsity (5-5)	
ONW	W 63-10	Elk S	L 27-42	ONW	W 60-42	ONW	W 75-20	ONW	W 57-30
Elk S	W 50-47	O North	W 57-48	O North	W 58-37	Elk South	L 48-57	Elk S	L 41-53
O North	L 42-43					O North	L 51-54	O North	W 42-38

## West vs. Omaha Northwest

A basket by Jaidyn Gaius and a 3-point play by Kirschner to end the quarter gave the Wildcats a 37-27 lead going into the 4th quarter.

West did not allow a field goal in the 4th quarter until the final play of the game. Seven Wildcats scored in the fourth quarter as they outscored the Huskies 20-3 in the period.

ONW	7	10	10	3	30
MW	14	9	14	20	57

ONW: Forte-Williams 4, Johnson 6, Busby 1, Marks 6, Hassenstab 6, Tohibozo 4, Breci 3.

MW: Kirschner 14, Frohloff 2, P. Moore 10, Gaius 7, Gassen 2, Kolar 4, Fortune 7, Thaden 11.

## Storm Overcomes Millard West

of sinking in and making it tough for him,” Morrison said.

Henry Burt started the 3rd quarter by scoring on each of the Storm’s first two possessions to help South take a 28-18 lead. Kirschner made a 3-pointer to get the lead back under 10 points, but five turnovers by the Wildcats prevented them from cutting into the lead. Elkhorn South led 40-26 going into the final period.

West did not give up and started attacking the basket in the 4th quarter. The Wildcats made 8 of 9 free throws to stay in the game, but could not ever get the Storm lead under 10 points.

“We need to find some ways to score,” Morrison said. “We missed Avery (Moore) on both ends of the floor. We needed his physicality tonight. Elkhorn South is a pretty big team.

Avery Moore has had to sit out the last two games because of a concussion sustained in the Papillion-South game. He is expected to return next week.

MW	11	7	8	15	41
ES	15	9	16	13	53

MW: Kirschner 11, Butler 4, Frohloff 2, P. Moore 11, Gaius 7, Thaden 6.

ES: Noonan 10, Moeller-Swan 10, Peterson 5, Anderson 2, Chochon 4, Werner 6, Hill 9, Burt 7

## Wildcats Show Composure In Win Over Vikings

gressively. You don’t have much of a chance in Class A basketball if you are not going to be aggressive,” Morrison said.

The Wildcats got the half-time message and came out on the attack. West scored the first six points of the half and cut the lead to 29-23.

West was not able to score on their next three possessions, but the Wildcats were able to force three turnovers and hold the score at 29-23.

West scored eight points on four possessions and forced three more Viking turnovers to cut the lead to 32-31 at the end of the 3rd quarter.

“I liked our intensity in the 3rd quarter on both ends of the floor,” Morrison said. “We didn’t play perfectly, but at least we played harder.”

The Wildcats pulled to within 32-31 after Kirschner made a 3-pointer with 1:52 left in the quarter. Neither team was able to score for the remainder of the period.

“I had a good feeling after last ‘three’ of the 3rd quarter,” Morrison said. “We were playing a little too fast and things were a little hectic. Jaidyn pulled the ball out and called a play for Cole to get a shot. That showed a lot of composure by our guys.”

Omaha North scored four points to start the 4th quarter and extended their lead to 36-31. The Wildcats held the Vikings scoreless over their next ten possessions.

In the middle of that defensive stretch, Kirschner made a 3-pointer to take the lead, 39-36, with 2:18 left in the game.

“Max missed a three. We got the rebound and Max stepped up and took another three,” Morrison recalled. “Both looked good but didn’t go. We got the rebound. I almost called timeout, but Cole (Kirschner) got the ball and nailed a ‘three’ at the top of the key.”

West’s lead withstood two turnovers in the remaining three minutes of the game as they pulled off the come-back victory.

“This was a very gutsy win for our guys. We haven’t played very well offensively in the last four games. Our defense carried us tonight,” Morrison said. “We are continuing to get better. Sometimes I forget how young and in-experienced we are out there. This group is a lot of fun to work with.”

MW	11	4	16	11	42
ON	15	11	6	6	38

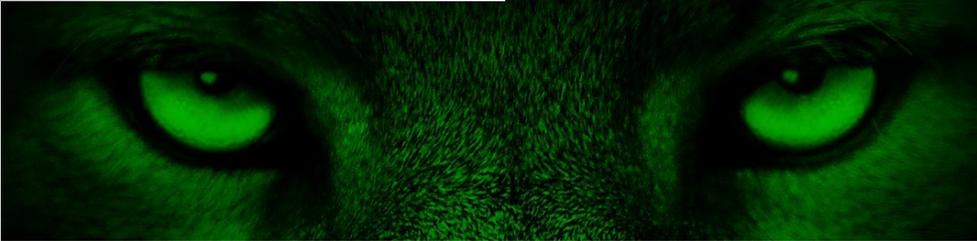
MW: Kirschner 12, Frohloff 5, P. Moore 4, Gaius 6, Thaden 15

ON: R. Thomas 3, D. Thomas 8, Strong 6, Lew 6, J. Williams 8, K. Williams 2.

Photos by Bridget Young



## Lower Levels



Millard West outscored Omaha Northwest 255-102 in their four game sweep of the Huskies.

### Freshmen A

The Millard West Freshmen beat Omaha Northwest 63-10.

The Wildcats led Northwest 27-8 at half-time and outscored the Huskies 26-2 in the 3rd quarter.

The Wildcats had great ball movement and played great team defense as they gave up zero points in the fourth quarter.

All of the Wildcats scored in the win against Omaha Northwest. Lucas Johnson led the team with 14 points.

The Millard West Wildcats came out slow against Elkhorn South in the first quarter and found themselves down four, 11-7, at the end of the first quarter.

A strong second quarter put the Wildcats down 34-36 at half.

West and South found themselves going back and forth trading blows in second half. The Wildcats made their free throws in crunch time, finishing the game, 7-8 from the line as they won 50-47.

Jayden Kozney was letting it fly and finished with 12 points. DJ Schiemann also finished with 12 in the game.

At Omaha North, the Cats struggled on offense for the first three quarters but still had a chance to win at the buzzer.

West trailed 27-23 at half-time. The Vikings outscored the Wildcat 13-

5 in the 3rd quarter to take a 12 point lead.

The Wildcats played aggressive defense to stay in the game and held North to just four points in the fourth to have a chance to win the game.

DJ Schiemann led the team with 18 points. Jayden Kozney had seven off the bench hitting two big threes late in the fourth quarter.

### Freshmen B

The Wildcats were as cold as the gym as they just could not get the ball to fall through the net as Elkhorn South beat West 42-27.

The Wildcats offensively were led by Hayden Hughes who came off the bench to score 6 points. Miles Mollring also came off the bench to give the Wildcats a spark and score their first points of the game late in first quarter.

The Wildcats' other scoring Mollring, Osborne, and Meier had 4, Schmitz 3, Betts and Greenlee 2, Fitzke and Zealand 1.

Millard West Freshman B team beat Omaha North 57-48.

The Wildcats outscored the Vikings 17-9 in the first quarter and led 28-19 at the half.

North fought back and cut the Wildcat lead to 41-38 at the end of the 3rd quarter. West was able to pull away in the 4th quarter for the

victory.

The Wildcats offense was led by Tyson Meier who had 12 points. Miles Mollring came off the bench this game and scored a season high 10 points. Drew Zealand also came off the bench to score 10 points. Other Wildcats scoring were McIver 8, Hughes and Fitzke 5, and Betts and Greenlee had 2 points.

### Reserves

The Millard West Reserves were able to get back into the win column with a 60-42 victory over Omaha Northwest.

The Wildcats used a strong first half to set the tone for the game. West outscored the Huskies 31-18 in the first half.

Luke Wu had a huge second half, scoring 11 of his 15 points for West. Jackson Schulz added 14 points to the cause.

The Wildcats were ready to go for an early Saturday morning game at Omaha North. West won 58-37.

West scored 19 points in the first quarter and led 33-26 at the half. The Wildcat defense shut down the Vikings and only allowed North to score 11 2nd half points.

In a very balanced scoring attack, Luke Wu led the Wildcats with 12 points.

# Jr. Varsity

Millard West beat Omaha North-west 75-20 in their first of three games of the week.

The JV boys basketball team started on fire by scoring their first 14 points in the first 3 minutes of the game.

After cooling down, they ended the 1st half on a 12-0 run and led 34-8 at the break.

The team got most of their 2nd half points due to their defense.

Jessie Cauble led the team with 17 points. Jackson Schulz contributed 15 points, and Jordan Gassen chipped in 13 for the Wildcats.

Against Elkhorn South, the JV team came out with some intensity and held an early lead. Elkhorn battled back and tied the score 12-12 at the end of the 1st quarter.

The Storm used a 13-6 2nd quarter to build a lead that the Wildcats would not be able to overcome.

South's lead got up to 18 points. The Wildcats made an attempt to comeback in the 4th quarter. They cut the deficit to 6 but could not get any closer.

Jacob Young led with 11 points. Jordan Gassen contributed 8 points.

In a game of runs, Omaha North beat Millard West's JV team 51-54.

In the first quarter, the Vikings attacked the offensive boards and created a 19-12 lead.

The defense and rebounding improved to get MW the halftime lead.

The Wildcats stretched the lead to 14 in the 3rd quarter. The Vikings started to apply more defensive pressure and was able to get back in the game.

Too many turnovers allowed Omaha North to grab the lead after a 3-pointer with 30 seconds left in the game.

After a couple timeouts, Jordan Gassen hit a shot to tie the game with 9 seconds remaining.

Omaha North did not call a timeout and hit a half-court shot at the buzzer for the win.

Jacob Young had 10 points. Jessie Cauble contributed 9 points. Jordan Gassen and Tag Carmichael chipped in 8 points each.

Photos by Bridget Young



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

### Monday, Jan 10

#### Practice

Var 3:40-5:00

#### Games

9A at PLVS 6:00

JV at PLVS 6:00

9B at PLVS 7:30

Res at PLVS 7:30

### Tuesday, Jan 11

#### Practice

V/JV/R 3:40-5:40

9th 5:40-7:40

#### Games

No Games

### Wednesday, Jan 12

#### Practice

V/JV/R 3:40-5:10

9th 5:10-6:30

#### Games

No Games

### Thursday, Jan 13

#### Practice

JV/V 3:40-5:10

9/R 5:10-6:40

#### Games

No Games

### Friday, Jan 14

#### Practice

Boys 3:30—5:00

#### Games

Var at PLVS 7:15

### Saturday, Jan 15

#### Practice

JV/V 11:00 am

#### Games

9A at PLV 9:00 am

9B at PLV 10:30 am

Res vs Elk N 10:30 am

JV vs Roncalli 4:00 pm

Var vs Roncalli 5:45 pm

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



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