



# Millard West Boys Basketball Wildcat Report

January 30, 2023, Vol. 14 No. 9

## Wildcats Flip Script and Hold Off Comeback

Millard West traveled to Omaha Westview and recorded a win in the two schools' first ever meeting. West built a lead early and held on in the fourth quarter to win 63-55.

Peyton Moore led the team with 19 points and 8 rebounds. Cole Kirschner added 16 points and had 3 steals. Jaidyn Gaius-Anyegbu dished out 4 assists, had 3 steals and 3 rebounds. Zac Grandgenett had 5 assists and 4 rebounds.

Westview only had five players score, but four of them scored in double digits. T Griggs led the way with 15 points. C Healy and T Murphy scored 14 points each. J Sims added 10 points.

West jumped out to an early lead. Their defense held Westview scoreless for the first five minutes of the game. The Wildcats led 14-5 at the end of the 1st quarter.

The Wildcats had trouble scoring in the first part of the 2nd quarter due, in part, to committing four turnovers. Their defense was able to limit the Wolverines' scoring. West led 24-15 at the end of the half.

"Our defense was pretty good in the first half. We did not allow them

to drive into the paint and only gave up offensive rebounds in three possessions," Coach Bill Morrison said. "We had too many turnovers and quick shots on the offensive end. Otherwise, we could have put the game away early.

The Wildcats scored on six of their first eight possessions of the 2nd half to build a 38-22 lead. But Westview answered by scoring 12 points on their last five possessions of the quarter to cut the lead to 41-34.



After two free throws by Healy to make the score 42-41, West scored two easy baskets by breaking the Wolverine press. Westview fought back by making back-to-back 3-pointers and drew to within one, 48-47.

The Wildcats would make eight consecutive free throws and build their lead back up to eight points.

In the last 1:30 of the game, West went cold from the free throw line to allow the Wolverines to stay in the game. The Wildcats made just enough from the line to hold on to the victory.

"We did a lot of good things tonight," Morrison said. "It would have been nice to hold onto our lead, but we showed some grit tonight and didn't allow Westview to take the lead.

MW	14	10	17	22	63
OW	5	10	19	21	55

MW — Kirschner 16, Gassen 6, Frohloff 1, Moore 19, Gaius 6, Grandgenett 9, Fortune 6.

OW — Griggs 15, Patterson 2, Sims 10, Healy 14, Murphy 14

## Scores

### Freshman A (11-3)

C Prep L 46-43  
Lin East W 62-35

### Freshman B (7-4)

C Prep L 58-21

### Reserves (9-3)

Westside W 68-66

### Junior Varsity (7-6)

Westside L 51-66  
Lin NS W 63-51

### Varsity (5-12)

Gretna L 43-53  
Westview W 63-55  
Lin NS L 60-65

## #2 Gretna Beats Wildcats by 10

#2 Gretna came into Millard West's gym and was able to get a 53-43 victory over the Wildcats.

In a low scoring game, Ty Smolinski and Landon Porkorski were the only two players from either team to score in double-digits. They both scored 12 points for the Dragons.

Cole Kirschner and Peyton Moore led the Wildcats with 8 points each.

In the first quarter, three Wildcats made 3-pointers. Two Dragons also connected from behind the arc as the two teams were tied 11-11 at the end of the quarter.

Gretna switched to a 2-3 zone in the 2nd quarter. The Wildcats had trouble getting good looks in the period. West was 0-7 from 3-point land and only scored 6 points in the quarter. In the meantime, Gretna scored

20 points to open up a 31-17 lead going into the half.

"Gretna's offense is so efficient. They screen well, they cut hard, and they move the ball well," Coach Bill Morrison said.

Gretna outscored West 15-11 in the third quarter. Gretna scored 12 points on their first six possessions of the 3rd quarter to take a 43-24 lead midway through the quarter.

West's defense tightened up and got six stops in a row and cut the lead to 43-28. On Gretna's last possession of the 3rd quarter, the Dragons grabbed three offensive rebounds before Derek Deerking hit a 3-pointer from the corner to make the score 46-28.

"That was a big possession," Morrison said. "We talked in the timeout

about the importance of getting a stop and a score to end the quarter."

Gretna was able to maintain a 19-point lead, 52-33, through the first half of the last period.

In Wildcat fashion, West did not quit. The Wildcats went on a 10-1 run to end the game.

GHS	11	20	15	7	53
MW	11	6	11	15	43

GHS—Deerking 5, Wilkins 4, Currie 1, Bains 2, Rozella 6, Smolinski 12, Porkorski 12, Wilcoxon 9, Cook 2

MW—Young 5, Kirschner 8, Gassen 7, Moore 8, Gaius 2, Grandgenett 4, Fortune 6, Ingebretson 1, Johnson 2.

## Navigators Hold Off Comeback Attempt

Millard West traveled to Lincoln North Star for their 3rd game of the week. The Navigators built an 11 point lead in the last two minutes of the half and then held off a comeback attempt to win 65-60.

Zac Grandgenett led the Wildcats with 16 points. Grandgenett scored 12 of his points in the 4th quarter on four 3-pointers. Max Frohloff added 10 points for the Wildcats.

Four Navigators scored all but one point for North Star. Antallah Sandline led all scoring with 28 points. KG Gatwech scored 14. Lazerek Houston scored 12 and Brennon Clemmons added 10 points.

Peyton Moore scored all five of his points in the first quarter to help keep the Wildcats close early. West trailed

11-9 after the first period. The two teams exchanged baskets through the first six minutes of the 2nd quarter. North Star led 21-18 with 1:51 left in the half. The Navigators went on a 9-1 lead at the end of the half to lead 30-19.

"North Star has two guys that are really big. We did a pretty good defensively on their bigs in the first half, but they really disrupted our offense," Morrison said. "We forced a lot of shots and shot a lot of off-balance shots in the paint."

West came out more aggressive in the 3rd quarter. The Wildcats were able to score 15 points in the quarter. But, as the Wildcat defense tried to shut down the middle, the Navigators were able to make some outside shots

and extend their lead to 48-34.

It looked as if North Star was going to win the game going away at the beginning of the 4th quarter. Houston completed an old-fashioned three point play to make the score 53-36 with 5:31 left in the game. Millard West was able to mount a 7-0 run and had the ball with a chance to cut the lead to less than 10. Houston got a steal and lay up to put the Navigators up 55-43.

West continued to battle and cut the lead to 56-50 with 2:11 left. After a 3-pointer by Grandgenett with 1:02 left, the Wildcats trailed 60-55. The Navigators would not allow the Wildcats to get any closer as they pulled off the victory.

### Reserves

The Millard West Boys Reserve team were able to overcome a 15 point deficit to beat Omaha Westside 68-66 with a basket at the buzzer.

The Wildcats had a rough start and trailed by 11 at halftime.

The boys adjusted to the physical play but still trailed by 10 going into the 4th quarter.

During the final five minutes of play, the Wildcats started forcing turnovers and creating easy baskets in transition to tie the game at 66-66.

Breck Osborne made an incredible defensive play by stealing the ball with 7 seconds to play and took the ball coast-to-coast to win with time expiring.

The leading scores for West were Carson Hutteger with 19 points, Colvin Zimmerman with 17, and Breck Osborne with 15.

The Reserve team extended their win streak to 7 games with a 48-46 victory over Lincoln East.

The Wildcats started slow and were tied with with Spartans 15-15 at the end of the first quarter.

West would flip the switch in the 2nd quarter and go into the half leading 31-29.

East came out of the half hot and took the lead in the 3rd quarter. The Spartans led 39-38 going into the final period.

West was able to get the lead back at the 4-minute mark and hold onto the lead for the remainder of the game.

Nolan Lord and Carson Hutteger led the team with 8 points each. Tyson Meier add 7 points for the Wildcats.



### Junior Varsity

Omaha Westside was able to outscore Millard West in each of the first three quarters on their way to a 66-51 victory.

It was a physical game! The game started slow with the score 2-2 after a couple of minutes before the intensity picked up and continued throughout the game. The Wildcats continued to battle but had difficulty with limiting dribble penetration.

After halftime, the Wildcats just could not get enough stops defensively to make a comeback attempt.

West traveled to Lincoln and beat Lincoln North Star 63-51 in a physical battle with the Navigators.

After giving up 20 points in the first 6 minutes of the game, the Wildcats buckled in and held the Gators to 31 points in the last 26 minutes.

Lincoln North Star played an aggressive, trapping defense. The key was to handle the pressure and make plays for each other. Many transition offense opportunities were available when the Wildcats finished defensive possessions.

Jayden Kozney led the Wildcats with 21 points. Trey Abara chipped in 10 points.

### Freshmen A

The Wildcats had a set back as Prep came from behind and beat the Wildcats 46-43.

West got off to a great start and led 16-9 at the end of the first. Vincent Long and Josh Fabrikant led the way with 6 and 5 points in the first quarter.

West was outscored 11-9 but was able to hold their lead through the

## Lower Levels

1st half, leading 25-20 at the break.

Prep came out of the half in attack mode and took a 38-36 lead going into the final period. The teams exchanged leads throughout the 4th quarter, but Prep held the lead at the end of regulation.

Seven Wildcats scored in the game. Long scored 10 points to lead West. Nat Marable and Bryson Williams added 8 and 7 points.

After the first quarter against Lincoln East, the score was tied 11-11. The Wildcats extended the lead to 31-16 due to a combination of good team offense and solid defense.

West outscored the Spartans 14-11 in the third quarter before breaking the game wide open in the 4th quarter. West won the game 62-35.

Vince Long led the team with 16 points. Josh Fabrikant and Nate Marable both added 11 to the cause. Nine Wildcats scored in the victory.

### Freshman B

The Bluejays pestered the Wildcats all night and held them to a season low as the Wildcats lost 58-21.

The Wildcats on a positive note did hold the Blue Jays to 0 pts in the 4th quarter.

The Wildcats offensively were led by Connor Morris who had 6 points. Other Wildcats scoring were Chevis, Chapp and Teager each had 3 points. White had 2 points, Ward, Cooper, McDonald and Samson Baker each with 1 point.



January 30, 2023



# *mha2mw*

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



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# *mba2mw*

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FUNDAMENTALS \* SPORTSMANSHIP**



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

### Monday, Jan 30

#### Practice

JV/V 3:40-5:10

#### Games

9A at PLVS 6:00 (4:50)

9B at PLVS 7:30 (4:50)

Res at PLV 7:30 (6:00)

### Tuesday, Jan 31

#### Practice

No Boys Practices

#### Games

V at O South 7:15 (4:45)

### Wednesday, Feb 1

#### Practice

JV/V 3:40-5:10

9th/R 5:10-6:30

#### Games

No Games

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### Thursday, Feb 2

#### Practice

JV/V 3:30—5:00

Res 5:00-6:30

#### Games

9A vs PLV 6:00

9B vs PLV 7:30

### Friday, Feb 3

#### Practice

Res 6:00 a.m.

9th 3:30-4:30

#### Games

JV vs PLV 5:30

Var vs PLV 7:15

### Saturday, Feb 4

#### Practice

Boys 10:00-11:30

#### Games

No Games