



Millard West Boys Basketball

Wildcat Report

December 9, 2023, Vol. 15 No. 3

Wildcats Go 7-0 This Week

Wildcats Build Big Lead, Hold on For Victory

Millard West beat Bellevue East 58-50 in front of a packed house in their home opener Friday night.

Reece Carson led the team with 15 points. Jordan Gasses added 14 points for West. Cooper Fortune had 4 rebounds, 4 blocks, and 2 steals. Cade Walker grabbed 7 rebounds.

Trey Tolbert led the Chieftains with 19 points, and Kris Brown added 13.

West looked to be in control in the first quarter, but 5/13 shooting for West kept the score close. The Wildcats led 12-7 after the first period.

East's Isaac Gore made a basket to make the score 16-12 in favor of West. The Wildcats went on a 15-0 run to extend their lead to 31-12. West held East scoreless on eight straight possessions and led 31-14 at half-time.

"I thought we were forcing some tough shots and were not moving the ball around very well early in the game," Coach Bill Morrison said. "Once we started moving the ball around, we put some points on the board.

West started the 2nd half on a 10-0 run to build their lead to 40-13.

Bellevue East was able to find a rhythm later in the quarter and cut the lead to 42-25. Bust West scored on their last 3 possessions of the quarter to take a 47-27 lead.

West's offense struggled in the 4th quarter. The Wildcats were 2/7 shooting from behind the arc and turned the ball over five times.

The Chieftains made five 3-pointers in the period and got as close as 50-42 before West regained control by scoring on their last four possessions of the game.

"We settled for quick 3's early in the last quarter. Then we turned the

ball over on four straight possessions to let them get back into the game," Morrison said.

"I told the guys that we need to build on what we did in the first 20 minutes and learn from what happened in the 4th quarter.

BE	7	7	13	23	50
MW	12	19	16	11	58

BE — Gore 5, Brown 13, Tolbert 19, Williams 3, Walker 2, Morton-Swift 2, Miller 6.

MW — Ingebretson 2, Carson 15, Gasen 14, Frohloff 6, Carmichael 3, Fortune 7, Kozney 3, Walker 8.



Scores

Freshman A (2-0)

O Burke W
Bell East W

Freshman B (1-0)

Bell East W

Reserves

No Games

Junior Varsity (3-1)

Bell East W
Fremont W

Varsity (3-1)

Bell East W 58-50
Fremont W 70-51

Wildcats Pull-Away from Tigers in Second Half

Millard West used a 38-22 second half to beat Fremont 70-51 and increase their record to 3-1 on the season.

Cooper Fortune led the Wildcats with 17 points on 7/10 shooting and 3/3 from the line. Max Frohloff and Reece Carson added 14 and 13 points respectively. Cade Walker grabbed seven rebounds in his first start of his career.

Coriahnn Gallatin was the only Tiger win double-digits with 17 points.

The two teams played back and forth throughout the first quarter. There were seven lead changes and two ties in the quarter. Fremont missed a free-throw with 3.9 seconds remaining. Fortune outlet the ball to Jordan Gassen who made a 3-pointer at the buzzer to give West a 20-17 lead.

Fremont took a 26-23 lead after a Gallatin 3-pointer with 5:12 left in the half. West went on a 7-0 run and would not trail the rest of the game. West led 32-29 at the half.

"Our offense got a little stagnant in the 2nd quarter," Coach Bill Morrison said. "We get dribble happy every once in a while. It hurt us early in the quarter.

Both teams' offenses picked up in the 3rd quarter. West scored on nine of their last ten possessions of the quarter, including 8/8 from the free throw line.

But, during that stretch, Fremont was able to convert four 3-pointers and another field goal to stay in reach of the Wildcats. West led 52-43 going into the final period.

The Wildcats' defense only allowed 3 field goals in the 4th quarter and

was able to pull away with the victory.

"A lot of our guys had their best game of the season," Coach Morrison said. "This was our most complete game."

"I was really impressed with our defense," Morrison added. "Fremont had to earn everything they got. And, I thought Jordan and Trye (Abara) did a pretty good job on Gallatin."

MW	20	12	20	18	70
FHS	17	12	14	8	51

MW — Carson 13, Abara 3, Gassen 9, Frohloff 14, Carmichael 3, Fortune 17, LaBorde 5, Walker 6

FHS — Kolm 3, Gallatin 17, Bryant 7, Ridder 5, Gunter 6, Keaton 4, Vacha 7, Menning 2



Lusso Returns to Millard West



Connor Lusso returned to Millard West as the Head Coach of the Fremont Girls team. Connor started 93 games for the Wildcats from 2009-2013. He was a first team all-stater his Senior year and held 10 school records when he graduated.

"Connor was one of the hardest workers I ever coached," Coach Bill Morrison said. "He never took a drill or a play off. His effort brought out the best in every one around him. That work-ethic will help him re-build the Fremont Girls Basketball program."

Lower Levels

Jr. Varsity

After the first 32 seconds of the game, the Wildcats were down 9-0. A timeout was taken to re-focus, and the rest of the 1st half saw Millard West go on a 54-7 run.

The defense was energized and the secondary break was being executed, which led to layups.

All 11 players got into the scoring column with Vince Long leading the way with 15 points. Cade Walker contributed 10 points.

MW	22	32	14	11	79
BE	11	5	6	5	27

The JV boys took on the Fremont Tigers and played their most complete game of the year so far. An opening possession 3 pointer by Vince Long got the game going on the right track.

The Wildcats kept the pressure on the Tigers and were leading by 10 at the end of the first quarter.

Millard West continued their defensive pressure and kept getting early offense by running the floor to increase their lead to 14 by the half. During the 2nd half, many hustle plays led to layups. The lead increased to 24 by the end of the 3rd quarter.

The Wildcats continued to play hard to finish the game by the final tally.

Jayden Kozney led the team with 13 points. Vince Long and Josh Fabrikant each contributed 10 points.

MW	17	18	20	15	70
FHS	7	14	10	14	45

Freshmen B

The Freshman B team won their first game of the year 96-18 over Bellevue East.

The Wildcats were led offensively by Jake Schramm's 26 points. Other scoring for West included Unger 18, Sander 16, Erickson 10, I Morrison 7, Malik 6, Combs 5, Simons 4, Teter 2, and J Morrison 2.

Combs led the team with 5 steals. Schramm and Ericson grabbed 7 boards each.

MW	24	33	19	20	96
BE	8	2	4	4	18

Freshmen A

The Freshman A team started their year off with a 70-28 victory at Burke.

The boys took control of the game early, leading 22-2 after the first quarter. Eleven players scored for West.

Gavin Miller led the young Wildcats with 16 points. Jacob Morrison added 10 points. Brock Kudlacek, Ben LaBorde, and Gavin Olsen scored 8 points each. Matt Erickson netted 5 points, and Davis Unger and Jackson VanWinkle rounded out the scoring with 4 points each.

MW	22	23	16	9	70
OB	2	10	10	6	28

The Freshman A team held Bellevue East to single digits in all four quarters as they beat the Chieftains 79-22.

West was able to get a lot of players into the game. Fifteen different players scored in the victory.

Blake Kozney and Matt Erickson led the Wildcats with 13 and 12 points respectively.

Kudlacek 4, Simons 2, Cauble 5, J Morrison 2, LaBorde 6, Unger 7, Malik 5, Van Winkle 2, Sander 2, Miller 8, Williams 6, Olsen 3, Kozney 13, Schramm 4, Erickson 12.

MW	20	25	15	19	79
BE	6	8	3	5	22



Weekly Practice / Game Schedule

Monday, Dec 11

Practice

JV/V 3:40-5:40

Games

9A @ Elk South 6:00

9B @ Elk South 7:30

Bus: 4:50

Res vs Bel East 7:30

Tuesday, Dec 12

Practice

JV/V 3:40-5:40

Games

9A vs Skutt 6:00

9B vs Skutt 7:30

Res @ Elk South

No Bus, Be there 6:45

Wednesday, Dec 13

Practice

Res 6:00 am

JV/V 3:40-5:10

9th 5:10—6:30

Games

JV/V 3:40-5:30

Practice/Game times are always subject to change.

Thursday, Dec 14

Practice

No Practices

Games

9A at O South 5:30

9B at O South 7:00

Bus: 4:00

JV at Elk South 5:30

Var at Elk South 7:15

No Buses

Res vs Skutt 7:30

Friday, Dec 15

Practice

JV/V 3:40-5:10

Res No Practice

9th No Practice

Games

No Games

Saturday, Dec 16

Practice

All Boys 10:30 a.m.

Games

JV vs Gretna 2:00

Var vs Gretna 3:45

December 11, 2023



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December 11, 2023



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