Millard West Boys Basketball Wildcat Report

Vol. 8, No. 15

Wildcats **Defend** Territory Against Knights



Colby Gomes said he had a feeling early on that it was going to be a good night.

The Millard West junior poured in 25 points to help the Wildcats run away from Lincoln Southeast 77-53 in a Class A-3 district semifinal. Millard West advances to Monday's final against fourth-ranked Creighton Prep, a 62-61 winner over Omaha Northwest.

"The first quarter, it felt like we couldn't miss, like it was our game and we were meant to win," said

Gomes. "We came out the aggressor, we came out pushing the ball, we came out wanting to win the game. And we did."

Brock Burling scored inside on a botched play, indicating Millard West had something going right. Shae Wyatt sandwiched three-pointers around a three by Gomes for an 11-0 lead, forcing Southeast to call timeout. Gomes hit a free throw before Severyn Foster drove for Southeast's first basket.

After Wyatt got a put-back,

Gomes drove for a bucket and then got a steal and a lay-up to spark an 11-0 run before Isaiah Curry popped a three for Southeast to end the first period 23=5.

"The could do no wrong. We called a couple of timeouts, but we couldn't get anything going offensively," said Southeast coach Jeff Smith. "Both ends of the floor the first five minutes of that game were just horrendous and it was basically game over.

"They really packed it in with

Scores

Freshman A			<u>Varsity</u>			Final Records	
Omaha Bryan	W	88-28	Lincoln Southeast	W	77-53	Freshmen B	16-0
Omaha Benson	W	76-68				Freshmen A	21-1
Millard South	W	73-63				Reserves	16-3
Papillion La-Vista	W	50-39				Junior Varsity	17-5

Wildcats Advance to District Finals

their size. They took away our penetration and so we settled for jumpers and when they're not falling, that's how quick that can get away from you."

The Knights made a little run in the fourth quarter when Brayden Day made a pair of free throws. Isaiah Laughlin go a steal and fed Curry. Day scored after another Millard West miss and then Curry popped a three after a Wildcat turnover to trim the lead to 59-46 with 5:56 left in the game.

But Millard West went on an 8-0 run that included a technical foul to

seal the victory.

"One of our defenses we just put in on Tuesday," said Millard West coach Bill Morrison. "Our goal was to switch defenses a lot on them just to keep them off-balance. We wanted to be the aggressor because we knew how aggressive they were."

Morrison said the Wildcats (15-10) gained confidence from their recent success.

"We've lost close games to good teams. When you're not winning, that's the bottom line. We got a couple wins lately and the guys' bounce is back," he said. "Your goal is to play your best basketball at the end of the season. We are close to that. I don't know if we are there, but we are close."

Lincoln SE 5 19 11 18 53 Millard West 23 19 13 22 77

LSE: Curry 15, Laughlin 8, Davison 7, Foster 6, Anderson 6, Euse 5, Day 4, Hundley 2.

MW: Gomes 25, Wyatt 16, Hay 13, Guido 7, Sidiqi 6, Burling 5, Connell 2, Harmdierks 1.

A-3 District Finals

Monday, February 27
7:00 p.m.
Millard West
At
Creighton Prep







Freshmen Win City Championship



Championship Millard West 50, Papio-LV 39

The Millard West defense showed up big during the championship game, forcing 23 turnovers to help counter a slow shooting day (31%) for the Wildcats.

With the Wildcats clinging to a 37-36 lead with 6:30 to go in the 4th quarter Dalys Beanum got a huge steal and lay up to start a 13-3 run to finish the game.

The Wildcat press forced 6 turnovers in the final 6:30 of the game to help separate from the Monarchs.

Kaedyn Odermann led the scoring with 18 points, while Nate Glantz and Trey Wilbeck each had 10 points, Max Anderson also had 9 points in the Championship game.

The Freshman finished the season with a 21-1 record, believed to be the most wins by a Millard West basketball team in a season.

Semi-Finals Mil West 73, Mil South 63

Millard South opened the game making 8 of their first 10 shots and Millard West got into foul trouble in the first half but kept the game to only a 10 point deficit at half.

The Wildcats switched up their defenses in the 3rd quarter and outscored the Patriots 27-12 in the period.

Kaedyn Odermann scored 22 points (18 in the 3rd Quarter) and Henry Polsley scored 13 points (10 in the 2nd half) to lead the

Wildcats past the Patriots.

Quarterfinals Millard West 76, Benson 68

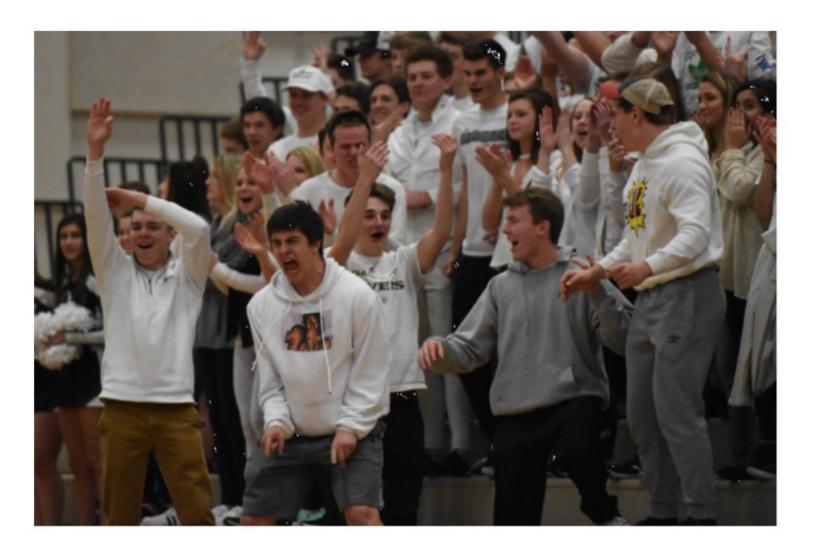
The Freshman got all they could handle from a scrappy Benson team in the quarterfinals. Kaedyn Odermann led the scoring attack with 29 points while Aabid Sidiqi had 12 points.

Round 1 Mil West 88, Omaha South 28

Millard West got out of the gate in Round 1 with a 26-3 first quarter and never looked back.

Twelve different players scored, led by Aabid Sidiqi with 20 points, Nate Glantz with 13, Henry Polsley with 11, and Dalys Beanum with 10.

BeAt Prep



Monday
February 27
7:00 p.m.

Weekly Practice / Game Schedule

Monday, Feb 27 Tuesday, Feb 28 Wednesday, Mar 1

Practice Practice Practice

Meet at 3:30

Bus leaves 5:15 No Practice 3:30–5:00

Games Games Games

7:00 at Prep No Games No Games

Thursday, Mar 2 Friday, Mar 3 Saturday, Mar 4

Practice Practice Practice

TBA 3:30-5:00 TBA

Games Games Games

Girls' State 2:00 Girls State TBA Girls State TBA

Practice/Game times are always subject to change.