

BASKETBALL LADY WILDCATS START 2016-17 SEASON WITH 45-26 WIN OVER WINFIELD

The Montgomery County R-2 Lady Wildcats Basketball and new Head Coach Joe Basinger got off to a successful start to the 2016-17 season as the Varsity team and the Jr. Varsity team each won their game against Winfield last Monday, November 21. The Varsity came away with a 45-26 win, while the JV (coached by Assistant Coach Stephanie Finke) won 42-9.

The Varsity team has a busy schedule this week (Nov.28-Dec.3), as they will play 3 games in the 46th Annual Montgomery County R-2 Tournament. The JV team does not have any games this week, and will not play again until this coming Monday, December 5. More information on the tournament games and next week's games is at the end of this report on the Varsity game.

Montgomery County never trailed in this game, as the Lady Wildcats scored the first 6 points of the game in the first 2½ minutes of the first quarter. Winfield made its first basket at the 5:20 mark of the first quarter to make the score 6-2, however, the Lady Wildcats scored the next 6 points in the next minute and 15 seconds to take a 12-2 lead with 4:05 left in the first quarter.

There was almost no scoring the rest of the quarter, as Winfield outscored Montgomery County 4-2 during the last 4 minutes of the quarter, giving the Lady Wildcats a 14-6 lead at the end of the quarter.

There was a lot of "action" in the second quarter, but again not a lot of scoring. The Lady Wildcats outscored Winfield 6-4 in the first 4 minutes of the quarter to take a 20-10 lead. It took another 2½ minutes before either team would score again, with Montgomery County making a basket with 1:30 left in the half to take a 22-10 lead. Winfield then scored the last 4 points of the quarter, to cut the Lady Wildcats lead back to 8 points at 22-14.

Each team scored 2 points in the first 1½ minutes of the third quarter to make the score 24-16 with 6:30 left in the quarter. Then Montgomery County outscored Winfield 6-2 over the next 3 minutes to increase the Lady Wildcats' lead to 30-18 with 3:23 left in the quarter. Each team scored 4 points through the rest of the quarter to give Montgomery County a 34-22 lead heading into the fourth quarter.

Winfield scored the first 2 points of the fourth quarter to make the score 34-24, but Montgomery County then had its first of two 6-0 scoring runs to take a 40-24 lead with 4:05 left in the game. Winfield made another basket at the 3:51 mark, but the Lady Wildcats finished the game with another 6-0 scoring run to come away with the 45-26 win to start the new season.

All 10 Lady Wildcats on the Varsity team played in this game, with 6 of them scoring at least 1 point. Kayla Schmidt was the leading scorer for Montgomery County with 15 points (5 field goals/FGs, and 3 of 3 free throws/FTs). She was followed in the scoring by Lydia Bishop with 11 points (4 FGs, 3 of 6 FTs); Anna Henke and Hannah Prior with 8 points each (Henke 3 FGs, 2 of 2 FTs; and Prior 4 FGs); Macy Block with 2 points (1 FG); and Ashley Queathem with 1 point (1 of 4 FTs). Jasmine Hensley, Gretchen Ecton, Paige Oden, and Cassie Sublette also played in the game, but did not score. Brooke Oden is also on the Varsity team, but did not play due to a leg injury. No other statistics were available for this game when this report was written.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

As was mentioned earlier in this report, the Varsity is playing in the 46th Annual R-2 Tournament this week. Montgomery County received the #5 seed for the tournament (8 teams in the tournament), which is the highest seed the Lady Wildcats have received in several years for this tournament.

Montgomery County played New Haven (#4 seed) on Monday night. Tonight/Wednesday night the Lady Wildcats will play either Clopton (#1 seed) or Wellsville-Middletown (#8 seed) at 5:30 p.m. If they won on Monday, they will play at the High School gym. However, if they lost on Monday they will play at the Middle School gym.

The Lady Wildcats will play a third game in the tournament either on Friday or Saturday. If they won their game on Monday, they will play on Saturday, either at 3:00 or 6:00 at the High School gym.

If they lost their game on Monday, they will play on Friday either at 5:30 or 7:00. The gym location for Friday's game will be determined by the results of Wednesday's game.

NEXT WEEK'S GAMES

Montgomery County has 2 non-conference games next week. On Monday, December 5, the Lady Wildcats will host South Callaway. Then on Thursday, December 8, they will play at New Haven. On both nights, the JV game will be played first, starting at 6:00. The Varsity game should start around 7:30.

"Congratulations" to the Lady Wildcats and Coaches Basinger and Finke on your successful start to the 2016-17 season. "Best Wishes" this week in the R-2 Tournament, and then in the two games you play next week. Go Lady Wildcats!