

Rock Hills Boys fall short against St. John's-Tipton

By Edward Naughton

On Jan. 10 in Beloit, the Rock Hills Grizzlies, played a tough game and had a good run at a comeback towards the end of the game against St. John's-Tipton Catholic boys, but fell to the Blujays by a score of 78 to 67 in the end.

The Blujays started things off quickly with No. 23 Gabriel Roderick scoring for St. John's-Tipton.

The boys from Rock Hills found themselves down by 6 points rather quickly, but the Grizzlies Cooper McDill, made a play and scored a bucket to make it a 6 to 2 game in favor of the Blujays early in the first quarter.

The Rock Hills boys unfortunately could not 'buy' a sunk free throw, as they missed many shots at the free throw line, being often fouled by Blujays defenders on several plays throughout the game.

Coach Stuart Vance encouraged his boys to stick to their guns despite the adversity. A few playmakers led the charge on the comeback trail right to the end, but the deficit had reached 20 points at least at one point, thus, it was really difficult to come back, even though the Grizzlies did make it to within 6 points of the Blujays at one point in the fourth quarter.

The game in the third quarter took on a kind of see-saw battle quality as the Blujays still held on to the lead throughout the game, and, as it happens, St. John's-Tipton had a 53 to 42 lead with 1 minute and 27 seconds remaining in the third quarter.

The punishment came in unfortunately for the Grizzlies when players for the St. John's Catholic boys team, like Gabriel Roderick and Nicolas Niewald, started throwing in several 3-point scores that made the numbers higher favoring a better outcome for the Blujays.

The fans from Jewell County were relatively numerous for such a small

seating arrangement in place at the auditorium in Beloit, and although not numbered per se, and they really believed and shouted things like 'go boys you got this' as they rightfully and strongly supported and encouraged the boys, Rock Hills Grizzlies, to stage a strong comeback against a formidable team.

Among the Rock Hills fans present, Abe Mohler and his wife, Karyn Mohler, both rural residents of Jewell County, who were there in Beloit, cheering on the teams, but also cheering on their daughter, Nakita Mohler, who is herself a cheerleader for the Rock Hills Grizzlies.

Among the players from Rock Hills who came to play hard and score against the Blujays, especially toward the end of the game, were Cam Ward, Eli Vance and Cooper McDill, as they came close upon the heels of the Blujays if nothing else, because the Blujays were clinging to a 71 to 65 lead with 1 minute and 17 seconds left in the game.

The final score for the boys' game was St. John's-Tipton 78, Rock Hills Grizzlies 67.

Coach Vance said, "They came back from a 20-point deficit. They played hard. We got it down to a 6-point deficit. I'm proud of this team."

Rock Hills Lady Grizzlies shock St. John's-Tipton

By Edward Naughton

Lead by No. 1 Bethany Simmelink, for the Rock Hills Lady Grizzlies, the Lady Grizzlies showed consistent and disciplined playing style, and a ton of heart, in an unbelievable finish for the 60 to 58 win against St. John's-Tipton, a traditionally top-3 rated team in the league, which was a close and highly competitive game from start to finish.

St. John's-Tipton in Beloit lost by two points in the last second of regulation against the Lady Grizzlies, as the Grizzlies dropped in two free throws because of the 'moving screen' foul called by refs against the Blujays.

The Lady Grizzlies sealed the win



Members of the Mohler family were among those who attended the Rock Hills vs St. John's-Tipton basketball game Friday in Beloit. Pictured are (from left) Abe Mohler, Nakita Mohler and Karyn Mohler.

with the two free throws at the end by a score of 60 to 58, as with only 0.2 seconds remaining in the game, there was virtually no chance of a last second comeback by St. John's-Tipton when they got the ball back after the free throws were made by the Grizzlies.

The referee called an unusual penalty against the Blujays at practically the end of the game, which foul accuses the defending Blujays of employing in the waning seconds an illegal defense which unfairly impedes opposing players movement; so, while it appears to be a stationary screening maneuver initially by all appearances, the violation called is because of what it becomes as play progresses which is known as a 'moving screen' according to Coach Nick Mizner.

A 'moving screen' which is technically an illegal type of moving defensive posture most of the time involving a push.

St. John's-Tipton girls basketball team lost this game to Rock Hills in a close match-up on Friday, which was the first time in the last 16 years the Blujays bowed in loss to the girls from Jewell County.

The win was big for the team and especially triumphant for Coach Nick Mizner, who, from the sidelines in his role as a coach, kept the momentum going in the right direction for the team against a worthy top-3 league opponent in St. John's-Tipton.

Coach Mizner said before the game: "They are ready and I'm ready. We can take care of the ball and play good defense. St. John's-Tipton has been a perennial top 3 team in the league, so it would be a great win for our program."

The Rock Hills girls won 60 to 58, as they hit two free throws in the last second of the game, shocking the Blujays, as they had no chance to come back with only 0.2 seconds remaining on the regulation game clock after the two free throws hit their mark, breaking the tie in favor of the Grizzlies.

Coach Mizner said, "A moving screen is what they called, a push, whatever, I saw it, been happening all night. I am proud of our team. Let's go play some basketball."

Coach Mizner fielded the following players in his starting line-up: No. 22 Alex Fogo; No. 1 Bethany Simmelink; No. 5 Meili Ost; No. 13 Halle Mizner; No. 21 Alivia Lindberg.

Halle Mizner was the first Rock Hills player to score with a clean top-of-the-key 3 point bucket to start things off in the first quarter.



Rock Hills players huddle around Coach Vance during the game with St. John's-Tipton on Friday. Photo By Edward Naughton.

From start till finish, there was competitive back-and-forth play, with a great degree of athletic movement and ball-handling skill seen from both teams.

At the end of the first quarter, a buzzer beater that Simmelink launched successfully from about mid-court and into the bucket for 3 points, energized Rock Hills fans who were there all night long cheering both girls and boys teams enthusiastically.

To start out the third quarter of play, Simmelink passed the ball to Mizner for an easy basket.

The Lady Grizzlies seemed to maintain their cool when under relentless pressure from Blujays defenders, as nice passing by the Rock Hills girls resulted in another score by Mizner, gaining a 37 to 35 lead with 4 minutes, 37 seconds remaining in the third quarter.

Simmelink had her way from 3-point land against the Blujays, scoring nicely from the perimeter, thus again increasing the lead, making the score 40 to 35 in favor of Rock Hills, with only 4 minutes remaining in the third quarter.

The third quarter ended with the Rock Hills Lady Grizzlies holding a 47 to 40 advantage on the scoreboard.

From all appearances, Simmelink 'owned' the pesky Blujays, especially from the second quarter on, as she scored yet another 3-pointer with 7 minutes, 10 seconds left in the fourth quarter, earning a 50 to 40 lead at that

point. Alarmed by Simmelink's scoring rampage which ended up being 28 points for the night, the Blujays desperately fouled Simmelink when she came down court again, to which Simmelink replied by nicely dropping in two free throws, for a 52 to 42 lead with 6 minutes and 20 seconds left in the game.

The St. John's-Tipton girls decided to not go down easy as the end of the fourth quarter drew near, but again, to the dismay of the coach of St. John's-Tipton, Leah Bergmann, there was Simmelink again wreaking havoc on the Blujays, as she scored to consecutive baskets, temporarily at least stunning the Blujays before they regained their composure and mounted an effective comeback by all appearances.

St. John's-Tipton girls were exceptionally skilled at scoring 3-point baskets, so once again, the game became a battle royal with senior Carrie Brummer of the Blujays scoring a 3-point basket, bringing the Blujays to within two points (56 to 54) with only 2 minutes and 35 seconds remaining in regulation.

In an important play, Brummer went to the free throw line after being fouled, but she hit only hit 1 of 2 shots from the line, which was important because that is one reason why the game was still tied with only about one second left before the 'moving screen' foul was called at the last second against the Blujays.

As seconds waned to single digits on the game clock, with the score locked up at 58 apiece, that interesting kind of foul was called by refs, which is a 'moving screen' which was called against the Blujays.

The rest is history, as they say.

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Invitation for Bids

The Board of Education of U.S.D. 107 is accepting bids for a one-year lease on the following described farm real estate for haying purposes only; Approximately 21.17 acres of grass lying east of the Rock Hills Jr/Sr High School football field in Mankato, Kansas

To be considered, bids must be in writing and submitted to the U.S.D. 107 Board Office at 109 E. Main Street, Mankato, Kansas 66956. Bids must be a total dollar amount. Rent will be payable May 1, 2025. Tenant will be required to control noxious weeds in accordance with applicable Kansas law.

Bids must be received by Friday, February 7, 2025, at Noon at the U.S.D. 107 Office, to be considered. Bids will be presented at the February 10, 2025, Board of Education meeting. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

03.23

Invitation for Bids

The Board of Education of U.S.D. 107 is accepting bids for a one-year lease on the following described farm real estate for farming purposes only; Approximately 6.04 acres of farm ground lying west of the Rock Hills Jr/Sr High School parking lot and baseball fields in Mankato, Kansas

To be considered, bids must be in writing and submitted to the U.S.D. 107 Board Office at 109 E. Main Street, Mankato, Kansas 66956. Bids must be a total dollar amount. Rent will be payable May 1, 2025. Tenant will be required to control noxious weeds in accordance with applicable Kansas law.

Bids must be received by Friday, February 7, 2025, at Noon at the U.S.D. 107 Office, to be considered. Bids will be presented at the February 10, 2025, Board of Education meeting. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

03.25

Market Report – Friday, January 10

10 Blk Heifers	564	310.00	10 Mix Steers	732	287.50
21 Mix Heifers	621	290.00	10 Blk Steers	737	287.00
57 Mix Heifers	738	276.50	120 Mix Steers	840	285.00
17 Chax Heifers	675	273.00	50 Mix Steers	852	280.00
12 Blk Heifers	728	273.00	14 Mix Steers	878	279.00
10 Mix Heifers	663	273.00	76 Blk Steers	841	275.50
11 Mix Heifers	696	269.00	29 Mix Steers	785	275.00
46 Mix Heifers	742	260.00	13 Red Steers	639	275.00
16 Mix Heifers	693	256.00	29 Char Steers	710	274.00
20 Mix Heifers	819	251.50	10 Blk Steers	811	272.50
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37 Mix Steers	563	349.00	50 Mix Steers	836	269.00
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55 Mix Steers	617	337.50	27 Mix Steers	890	259.75
33 Mix Steers	666	312.00	10 Mix Steers	787	254.00
42 Mix Steers	662	304.00	16 Mix Steers	919	253.00
29 Mix Steers	665	294.50	11 Red Steers	990	249.00
33 Steers	633	291.00	10 Mix Steers	1,073	236.00
58 Mix Steers	716	290.50	11 Cows	1,324	2,250.00
37 Mix Steers	732	287.50	14 Mix Cows	1,402	131.00

Consignments for Friday 1-17-2025

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3.25

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3.19

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