Eagle boys barely lose vs Burlingame, fall to Axtell

BY TUCKER ASHBURN

Hosting the opening round of substate for their fourth straight home game, the Clifton-Clyde boys basketball team went 1-2 and dropped the opening round game to Burlingame, ending the season with a 12-12 record.

Versus Burlingame, the Eagles lost 47-41.

After an early battle for the lead, the Eagles took a 9-7 lead thanks to a Landon Begnoche layup. Burlingame would score five straight points to retake the lead, 12-9, to end the first quarter.

Clifton-Clyde would keep up with the Bearcats' interior attack with their outside attack, even taking the lead 21-20 on a Gage LeClair three with under four minutes to go in the quarter. After some back and forth, Burlingame hit a three at the buzzer to take a 27-26 lead entering halftime.

A Luke Nobert three-pointer would give the Eagles the lead back, 29-27, and a fight for the lead would recommence in the third quarter. Burlingame would hold a slim 37-35 lead with one quarter to go.

Burlingame would create some ground, leading 42-35 with under three minutes to go, before a Nobert three gave the Eagles their first points of the quarter. Burlingame would take a 46-38 lead, before an Ethan Sacco three made it 46-31 with 12 seconds to go, but the Bearcats iced the game with a free throw to go up six, and end the Eagles' season.

Versus number one-ranked Axtell, Cllifton-Clyde lost 61-31.

After Clifton-Clyde opened the game with a Landon Begnoche jumper to take the early lead, Axtell would take the lead before CC tied it up at 4. Axtell went on a 19-2 run to end the quarter with a 23-6 lead.

Cifton-Clyde's offense couldn't get much going in the second quarter. Outside of an Ethan Sacco three, they didn't get their second basket of the quarter until Gage LeClair made a three to make it a 30-12 game with 2:51 left in the half. Axtell would push their lead to 24 to end the half, leading 38-14.

PHOTO BY TUCKER ASHBURN | CONCORDIA BLADE-EMPIRE

Clifton-Clyde senior Luke Nobert goes for a layup against Burlingame on Monday, Feb. 23, in Clyde.

The third quarter would be slightly better for Clifton-Clyde. Axtell wasn't able to create more separation, but Clifton-Clyde couldn't chip away at the lead, as Axtell ended the third quarter with a 50-23 lead.

With a running clock in the fourth, Clifton-Clyde's hope for a comeback drained quickly, as they'd drop the senior day match 61-31.

Versus number 10-ranked Linn, the Eagles won 50-48.

Linn jumped out to the lead early, but the Eagles would keep the game in reach when they were able to create quality offensive possessions. A Gage LeClair half-court shot at the buzzer would make it a 16-12 Bulldog lead at the end of the first quarter.

Linn would shut down the Eagle offense, limiting them to only three points in the quarter as the second quarter would be a defensive slugfest. LeClair would score five points in the final minute of the half to make it a one-possession game, 23-20 Linn, entering the locker room.

The third quarter became an offensive battle, as Linn tried to hold onto the lead as the Eagles tried to take it. CC would take the lead 29-27 with 5:55 thanks to a Landon Begnoche and-one, but Linn would retaliate with a 10-3 run to retake the lead and end the quarter with a 37-32 lead.

Linn pushed their lead to eight, 44-36, to start the fourth quarter, but seven straight Eagle points would cut the lead down to one with under three minutes to go. Linn would make two baskets to make it 48-43 with 1:42 to go, a LeClair free throw and an Emitt Tiemeyer and-one, making it 48-47. The Eagles forced a turnover with 11 seconds to go. Luke Nobert made a wide-open layup to take the lead, with LeClair making a layup to make it a 50-48 game to upset the Bulldogs.

Luke Nobert and Gage Leclair each had 13 points, with LeClair having six assists and four rebounds.

Emitt Tiemeyer had nine points, nine rebounds, three assists and two blocks.

Farm Country CONCORDIA, KS Ford

Scan this QR Code to view our Inventory Or go online @ farmcountryford.com!

SIDELINE SUMMARY

This week in sports...

CONCORDIA

Boys Basketball

The Panthers moved to 16-4 on the season with a 71-50 win over Nemeha Central, and a win over Abilene 77-53.

Girls Basketball

The Concordia girls basketball team split a pair of games to move to 11-9 on the year.

Versus Nemaha Central, the Panthers lost 46-35. The Panthers beat Abilene 60-38.

Wrestling

The Panthers qualified a quad of wrestlers for the 4A State championships. Drake Blochlinger, Deekon Holbert, Tre Hamiel and Matt Metzler will join Gabi Lange, Isabelle Alexander and Ava Rowland for the 4A state meet hosted at Tony's Pizza Event Center in Salina on February 27-28.

Dr. Greg Hattan
501 Washington
785-243-7927

PRO TECHS PEST CONTROL
Reliable Protection for Your Home or Business
Call or Text
785-275-3020

Funk MEDICAL & MOBILITY
Your Local Home Medical Equipment Supplier
240 W. 6th Street
Concordia, KS
785-243-2345
funkmedical.com

CLIFTON-CLYDE

Boys Basketall

The Eagles ended their season 12-12. They lost to Burlingame 47-41, and were beat by #1-ranked Axtell 61-31. They beat #10-ranked Linn 50-48.

Girls Basketball

Clifton-Clyde girls basketball team moved to 16-8 on the year. They beat Axtell 6-45; and defeated #4-ranked Linn 57-46.

CLOUD COUNTY

Men's Basketball

The T-Bird men's basketball team defeated Pratt and Fort Hays Tech Northwest 69-67 and 81-60.

Women's Basketball

The T-bird women's basketball team defeated Pratt and Fort Hays Tech Northwest 70-55 and 69-52.

Baseball

With a three-game win streak, the Thunderbird baseball team jumped to a #7 national ranking in NJCAA Division 1.

Softball

T-Bird softball sweeps Central CC, splits with Southeast CC.

Lady Eagles win against Axtell, take win vs ranked Linn

BY TUCKER ASHBURN

Closing out the regular season with three straight home wins, the Clifton-Clyde girls basketball team moved to 16-8 on the year before entering the postseason, in which they are the sub-state hosts.

Versus Axtell, Cifton-Clyde (CC) won 56-45.

Axtell snagged the early momentum, going on a 5-0 opening and keeping CC off the board for three minutes, until a Paige Joy three got them on the board. Both teams would go back and forth on the offensive end, but a late Axtell jumper gave them an 11-9 lead after one quarter.

Clifton-Clyde took the lead 12-11 to start the second quarter. The quarter eventually became a defensive battle, as neither team could get a good shot up, but a 5-0 spurt by Axtell gave them the lead 20-16 entering halftime.

Whereas the second quarter was a defensive battle, the third quarter opened with an offensive battle with eight points scored in the first 90 seconds of the third quarter, with the game tied at 22. A Wurtz three would give CC the lead back, while the defense kept Axtell off the board to take a 29-22 lead. CC would close the quarter 9-8, as a late Axtell three made it a 38-33 CC lead entering the fourth quarter.

Clifton-Clyde was able to push their lead to nine to open the fourth quarter, and a Wurtz jumper with 2:39 left in the quarter gave the Eagles a 50-39 lead. Able to utilize the lead, CC was able to coast their way down the stretch and take the 56-45 victory.

Sevy Wurtz led in scoring with 31 points, 11 rebounds and three assists.

Paige Joy had 13 points and four rebounds.

Eden Close had four points, four rebounds and two assists.

Calyn Baker had three points, five rebounds, five assists and a steal.

Versus number four-ranked Linn, the Eagles won 57-46.

The Eagles got out to a nice start, taking a 5-0 lead on a pair of Sevy Wurtz free throws and a three, but Linn recovered to take a 6-5 lead. Both teams would exchange baskets. With the game tied at 11, a pair of Paige Joy free throws gave the Eagles a 13-11 lead after one quarter.

After a pair of Linn free throws to open the second quarter, Clifton-Clyde went on a 16-0 run for over five minutes of game time, before Linn scored again to make it 29-15. A Linn free throw and a Jayla Robbins layup later, the Eagles led 31-16 entering the locker rooms.

The Bulldogs would start to pick back up on the offensive end, but the Eagles' offense never slowed down, leading 40-21 halfway through the third quarter. A Linn layup with three seconds left made it a 4-4 stretch for the final four minutes, as Clifton-Clyde led 44-25 entering the fourth quarter.

A 10-2 fourth-quarter opening by Linn put the pressure on the Eagles, but a layup by Ellie Wurtz would break the run and make it a 48-35 game. Another 10-2 run made it a 50-45 game with two minutes to go. Forced to foul the Eagles, who'd ice the game at the free throw line, the Eagles won 57-46.

Sevy Wurtz led in scoring with 28 points, six rebounds, four steals and three assists.

Paige Joy had 15 points, nine rebounds and two blocks.

Ellie Wurtz had four points, six rebounds and two steals.

The Blade's ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

TRE HAMIEL

CHS junior Tre Hamiel won first place at the 4A regional hosted at Beloit. Hamiel went 3-0 with all three matches ending a different way, by fall in match one (3:34), by major decision in match two (14-4), and by decision (4-1) over the number-four 4A wrestler, to qualify for the state meet in Salina.

F&A FOOD SALES, INC.
15TH & LINCOLN
GROCERIES AT WHOLESALE PRICES
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
WE ACCEPT FOOD STAMPS
WAREHOUSE: 2221 LINCOLN ST
785-243-2301 • fafoodsales.com