

MARCH MADNESS

March 18, 2025THE MORNING SUN

NCAA Division II Women's Tournament

Atlantic Region At Edinboro, Pa.

(Seeds in Parentheses)

Friday's Games

(1) Edinboro 80, (8) Virginia St. 68
(4) Indiana, Pa. 75, (5) Fairmont St. 59
(2) Gannon 60, (7) Fayetteville St. 50
(3) Seton Hill 87, (6) Kutztown 75

Saturday's Games

Indiana, Pa. 67, Edinboro 52
Gannon 80, Seton Hill 70

Monday's Game

Indiana, Pa., 23-7, vs. Gannon, 27-6

Central Region At Pittsburg, Kan.

(Seeds in Parentheses)

Friday's Games

(1) Pittsburg St. 87, (8) Harding 75
(5) Minnesota St. 87, (4) Mo. Western 73
(7) Southwest Minnesota St. 77, (2) Concordia-St. Paul 64
(3) Fort Hays St. 81, (6) Southern Nazarene 72

Saturday's Games

Pittsburg St. 94, Minnesota St. 91
SW Minnesota St. 77, Fort Hays St. 63

Monday's Game

Pittsburg St., 31-3, vs. SW Minnesota St., 28-4

East Region At Bentley, Mass.

(Seeds in Parentheses)

Friday's Games

(1) Bentley 65, (8) New Haven 39
(4) St. Anselm 59, (5) Southern Connecticut St. 41
(2) Daemen 70, (7) Jefferson 48
(3) Holy Family 67, (6) Assumption 53

Saturday's Games

Bentley 60, St. Anselm 55
Holy Family 68, Daemen 55

Monday's Game

Bentley, 32-1, vs. Holy Family, 26-6

Midwest Regional At Allendale, Mich.

(Seeds in Parentheses)

Friday's Games

(1) Grand Valley St. 108, (8) Quincy 72
(4) Wayne St., Mich. 77, (5) Lewis 57
(2) Ashland 62, (7) Ferris St. 50
(3) N. Michigan 61, (6) Hillsdale 56

Saturday's Games

Grand Valley St. 87, Wayne St. 54
Ashland 68, N. Michigan 45

Monday's Game

Grand Valley St., 34-2, vs. Ashland, 32-3

South Region At Jackson, Tenn.

(Seeds in Parentheses)

Friday's Games

(1) Union 107, (8) Miles 69
(5) Lee 66, (4) Tampa 63

(2) Embry-Riddle, Fla. 70, (7) W. Florida 56

(3) Nova Southeastern 80, (6) Ala.-Huntsville 73

Saturday's Games

Union 75, Lee 53
Nova Southeastern 66, Embry-Riddle 63

Monday's Game

Union, 31-3, vs. Nova Southeastern, 27-6

Southeast Region At Dahlonega, Ga.

(Seeds in Parentheses)

Friday's Games

(1) North Georgia 78, (8) UNC-Pembroke 64
(5) Columbus St. 89, (4) Francis Marion 83
(2) Coker 58, (7) Belmont Abbey 50
(6) Carson-Newman 75, (3) Anderson, S.C. 71

Saturday's Games

North Georgia 64, Columbus St. 56
Coker 48, Carson-Newman 44

Monday's Game

North Georgia, 31-2, vs. Coker, 28-6

South Central Region At Denton, Texas

(Seeds in Parentheses)

Friday's Games

(1) Texas Woman's 75, (8) Adams St. 52
(5) Eastern New Mexico 56, (4) Colorado Mesa 52
(2) Lubbock Christian 68, (7) UC-Colorado Springs 65
(6) West Texas A&M 58, (3) UT Tyler 47

Saturday's Games

Texas Woman's 71, E. New Mexico 48
Lubbock Christian 73, West Texas A&M 60

Monday's Game

Texas Woman's, 33-1, vs. Lubbock Christian 31-4

West Region At Carson, Calif.

(Seeds in Parentheses)

Friday's Games

(1) Cal State-Dominguez Hills 77, (8) Azusa Pacific 58
(4) Alaska-Anchorage 69, (5) Montana State-Billings 66
(7) Chico St. 57, (2) Cal Poly Pomona 52
(6) Cent. Washington 74, (3) Point Loma 53

Saturday's Games

Cal State-Dominguez Hills 63, Alaska-Anchorage 61
Cent. Washington 79, Chico St. 73

Monday's Game

Cal State-Dominguez Hills, 33-1, vs. Cent. Washington, 23-7



Auburn guard Miles Kelly reacts to a play against Tennessee during the second half of their Southeastern Conference tournament semifinal game on Saturday in Nashville, Tenn. (AP PHOTO/GEORGE WALKER IV)



Houston guard Mylik Wilson (8) looks to shoot over Brigham Young center Keba Keita (13) and guard Trevin Knell during their Big 12 Conference tournament semifinal game Friday in Kansas City, Mo. (AP PHOTO/CHARLIE RIEDEL)

SEC champion Auburn lands overall top seed

By EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

Auburn is the top overall seed in the NCAA Tournament, with Duke, Houston and Florida joining the Tigers on the No. 1 line in the March Madness brackets released Sunday.

The NCAA selection committee favored the regular-season champs of the record-setting Southeastern Conference despite three losses in their last four games, along with a loss to Duke back in December.

The Tigers (28-5) and Gators were two of the 14 SEC teams to make the field, which are the most for a conference in the history of the tournament.

It's Florida, which captured the SEC tournament by winning three games with an average margin of 15 points, that opens as a slight favorite to win it all at the Final Four in San Antonio on April 5 and 7, according to BetMGM Sportsbook.

In something of a surprise, both North Carolina and Texas slid in off the bubble, while Indiana, West Virginia and Boise State did not.

The 68-team bracket starts whittling down on Tuesday with preliminary games, and the main draw kicks off on Thursday and Friday, with 32 games at



Texas guard Julian Larry (1) moves against Tennessee forward Cade Phillips (12) during their game Friday in the Southeastern Conference tournament in Nashville, Tenn. (AP PHOTO/GEORGE WALKER IV)

eight sites around the country.

A TRIBUTE, THEN A BRACKET WITH PLENTY TO TALK ABOUT

The selection show began with a heartfelt tribute to the late Greg Gumbel, the CBS stalwart who oversaw the bracket unveiling for decades.

Then, just as Gumbel would have preferred, it was about the basketball — and this time there was plenty to talk about.

North Carolina looked all but out, a victim of a 1-12 record against so-called Quad 1 opponents and part of a conference (ACC) teetering on the verge of a historically bad

season. But the Tar Heels made it, thanks maybe to a strong nonconference slate, while Texas was also in — its seven wins against Quad 1 teams outweighing its overall 15 losses.

The SEC's 14 teams were followed by the Big Ten with eight and Big 12 with seven. The ACC, meanwhile, ended up with four teams, barely avoiding its worst showing since 2000, back when the conference was half the size it is now.

Even in a down cycle, the ACC has Duke, and Duke has arguably the best player in the country in freshman Cooper Flagg, a 19-point, 7.5-rebound-a-game freshman whose ankle injury, the school says, will not keep him out of March Madness.

BRACKET GIVES PITINO AND ST. JOHN'S A LONG AND INTERESTING ROAD

Elsewhere in the bracket, coach Rick Pitino leads his unprecedented sixth

program into the tournament, and what a road he would have to take to get to the Final Four.

First, he will travel to Providence, the same building where the coach led the Friars to a surprise Final Four trip back in 1987, to lead St. John's in a first-round game against Omaha. Pitino's second game could come against Arkansas and John Calipari in what would be a titanic matchup between two of the game's biggest coaching names.

Another coaching icon, Tom Izzo, leads Michigan State to its 27th straight tournament. The Spartans are seeded second and will face America East champion Bryant in its opener.

And Gonzaga is in for the 26th time, though extending its streak of making the second weekend to 10 years will be tough. The Bulldogs, after an "off" year in which they still won the West Coast Conference, are seeded eighth and could face Houston in the second round.

COBB REALTY INC.
shelly@cobbrealty.com
Fax: 620-231-8006
Cell: 620-249-0526
Office: 620-231-8025 ext #15

4019 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg KS

Coffee & ConversationSM

A Proactive Look at Your Family's Eldercare Needs

Sit down with us to explore the questions every family should consider, no strings attached.

Carrington Place & The Cottages
assisted & independent living by Americare

1909 East 4th Street in Pittsburg, KS • 620.235.1212

BIG OR SMALL WE TOW THEM ALL

THE SERVICES WE PROVIDE:

Towing • Machine Shop • CNC & Manual • Welding • Driveline Repair • Hydraulic Cylinder Repair • Truck Parts & Service

806 W MCKAY ST | FRONTENAC, KS | PAYNESINC.COM | (620) 231-3170

Bud's Jewelry

ENGAGEMENT RINGS

GOLD & SILVER DEALER

GIFTS

\$5 BATTERIES

Private Appointments and Financing Plans Available

CONTACT US TODAY FOR DETAILS!

701 N Broadway, Pittsburg KS | (620) 230-5367

Pittsburg teams fall in sub-state semifinals

By Brock Sisney
bsisney@morningsun.net

The Pittsburg girls finished their 2024-25 season 10-11 overall with a 63-9 sub-state loss March 4 against eventual Class 5A state champion St. Thomas Aquinas.

Pittsburg started the season with a 35-23 win Dec. 6 against Joplin (Mo.), but injuries and illness to multiple players caused the Dragons to struggle with a 4-7 record after 11 games.

Winning six out of their next seven games, the Dragons then climbed two games above .500 at 10-8 after their 48-38 win Feb. 17 over Chanute. They ended the regular season 10-10 after losses to 4A sub-state runner-up Fort Scott (35-25) and Labette County (49-29).

The Dragons were led by senior starters Gabrielle White, Alyssa Hotze and Ava Heardt.

"Gabbie White has been the emotional leader of our team for at least two years now," coach Dalton Gromer said on Senior Night. "I tell the girls all the time if you're confused and don't know what to do, just turn and look at Gabbie. She's going to do the right thing, and she'll let you know how to do it."

"Alyssa Hotze, she's everywhere all at once. She is a soccer player playing basketball. She plays like that, and I'm super proud of her for how much she's developed the last couple years. She used to be 100 mph all the time and now she's a point-guard figure who slows things down for us. That's not even mentioning what she does defensively. She creates havoc defensively."

"Ava Heardt, she brings a calming presence to our team. She's someone who's not going to turn it over, takes care of the basketball and shoots shots when they're open. A lot of times, you need someone in there just to be



Pittsburg senior Nate Mitchell finishes at the basket for two points Jan. 3 against Webb City, Mo., inside the Cardinal Dome. BROCK SISNEY / THE MORNING SUN

a part of it moving the basketball. I'm super proud of her. They've all come a long way from their freshman year."

Junior guard Sophia Hertrich took on an expanded role for the Dragons.

"Last year, she was coming in and we were just playing around her," Gromer said. "Now, this year, the biggest thing with her is that she has to be a threat with the basketball. That's been evident last couple games. She's been a threat with the basketball, she's come a long way, and I am very proud of her."

Listed alongside her fellow freshmen and not on the varsity roster in the program, freshman McKenzie English stepped in beside her veteran teammates and sometimes played beyond her years.

Adessah Reed, 3-point specialist Brilee Mantooth, Callie Trezona, Kylie Serrano and freshmen Angie Miller and Laney Trisler all contributed to the Dragons' 7-5 Southeast Kansas League record.

BOYS WRAPUP

The Dragons returned senior starters

Nate Mitchell and T.J. Wesley from their Class 5A sub-state finalist in 2023-24.

Junior point guard Keyon'Dre (Key) Logan, sophomore guard Jamarcus Davis, junior forward Danny Durden and junior guard Kadin Navaratnam stepped into much expanded starting roles this season and helped the Dragons finish 9-12 overall and 7-5 in the Southeast Kansas League.

The Dragons' season ended with a 68-34 sub-state loss against De Soto, a common postseason opponent in recent seasons.

Pittsburg finished the regular season on a high note with a 54-51 win Feb. 25 against Labette County in Altamont. The Dragons erased a six-point deficit late.

"I feel like we had the same kind of conversation (all season)," Pittsburg coach Jordan Woods said. "When our backs are against the wall, we're the best version of ourselves."

Senior reserves Logan Mantooth and Nolan Turnbull provided a season highlight by scoring the game's first five points against Fort Scott on Senior Night.

Colgan sends both squads to state

By Brock Sisney
bsisney@morningsun.net

The St. Mary's Colgan girls finished the 2024-25 basketball season with a 22-4 record, and they placed fourth in Class 2A.

The Panthers were led by dynamic junior point guard Jakayla Davis and senior interior presence Mariah Harris, both of whom were the only returning starters from a 25-1 team and third-place finisher the previous season.

"It's very special, because I know where we started in November and I know all the things that we've had to overcome," Colgan coach Abby Farabi said. "We don't necessarily have basketball players. They just bought in and worked their tails off to be successful. They work for the person next to them. They were resilient."

Harris, Khyla Osborn, Lauren O'Brien, Molly Swezey and Caroline Imhof formed a senior corps for 14-year head coach Farabi; Harris, Osborn, O'Brien and Swezey started alongside Davis.

"They're a really special group," Farabi said of the seniors. "You have five seniors and five kids who have competed their butts off for four years. A lot of them just got playing time this year. Their roles improved drastically this year. They've really worked to help each other to have each other's back this year."

At state, second-seeded Colgan lost a 61-60 heartbreaker in double overtime in the semifinals against sixth-seeded Doniphan West and lost 60-57 to fifth-seeded Inman in the third-place game. The Panthers defeated seventh-seeded Valley Heights 41-37 in a quarterfinal contest.

Farabi credited the Panthers' increased strength of schedule this season for their postseason run, playing teams like Fort Scott, Bartlesville (Okla.) and Nevada (Mo.) in the Frontenac tournament along with their assortment of CNC League and nonconference opponents. They finished CNC play 11-1 and shared the league title



St. Mary's Colgan junior point guard Jakayla Davis looks for an opening in the Valley Heights defense during their Class 2A state quarterfinal contest March 14 at Bramlage Coliseum. BROCK SISNEY / THE MORNING SUN

with 3A state qualifier Girard.

Davis emerged in the spotlight during her junior season after playing a main supporting role the previous two seasons. Her scoring average neared 30 points after consecutive 40-point performances in February against Baxter Springs and Columbus. She also poured in 34 points in the sub-state championship game against Eureka.

Farabi said Harris played her two best games on the biggest stage of her career. She had a double-double with 16 points and 12 rebounds against Doniphan West. She had 12 points and three rebounds in the win over Valley Heights; her teammates chanted 'MVP' at her after the game and she did TV interviews alongside Davis.

O'Brien saved her best for last in her two final games. She finished with 16 points and four 3-point baskets against Inman and scored nine against Doniphan West.

BOYS WRAPUP

A day after their 58-25 loss in the Class 2A state quarterfinals against two-time defending state champion and eventual state runner-up Moundridge, Colgan boys head coach Clint Heffern reflected on the Panthers' 13-11

season.

"We didn't play a (Class) 2A team until sub-state," Heffern said. "I kept telling the boys that we played a tough schedule this year and that schedule's going to make us better. It's going to challenge us, but ultimately make us better. Going into sub-state, we saw that and we played a good Erie team right off the bat. It felt like we were experienced for those moments with it being a tight game; we'd been in a lot of those tight games. Then, same thing with Oswego and Pleasanton. Solid squads, and it just felt like our schedule really did prepare us for those moments and had us ready to go for postseason play when it got there."

The Panthers had one senior in Blake Wilkes and replaced their entire starting five from the previous season. State tournament starters Clayton Adamson, Carston Simmons, Joe Lomshek, Brady Bettega and Brock Radell mean possibly five returning starters next season.

Brady Crossland, Will Schremmer, Brady Badart, Colton Simmons, Gabe Brown and Caleb Garner also played in the state tournament for the first time. Schremmer led the Panthers with nine points against Moundridge.

Eagle Beverage is the only alcohol distributor that makes community giving a priority in SEK!

Pittsburg Moving Company

Full service moving company.
Local or long distance.
No job too big or too small.

205 N Locust St, Pittsburg | (620) 231-3260

BEARDED BULLY BARBERSHOP

BOLD. CONFIDENT. UNAPOLOGETICALLY SHARP.

1802 W 32ND ST. SUITE B
JOPLIN, MO 64804
(417) 622-0586

211 N. BROADWAY SUITE B
PITTSBURG, KS 66762
(620) 404-4017

alan@cobbrealty.com
Fax: 620-231-8006
Cell: 620-249-1544
Office: 620-231-8025

4019 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg KS

alex.delgado@cobbrealty.com
Fax: 620-231-8006
Cell: 620-308-0307
Office: 620-231-8025

4019 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg KS

bill@cobbrealty.com
Fax: 620-231-8006
Cell: 620-469-6645
Office: 620-231-8025

4019 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg KS

2025 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship



First Round March 20-21	Second Round March 22-23	Sweet 16 March 27-28 March 29-30	Elite 8 March 29-30	National Semifinals April 5 11 San Diego St. (21-9) 11 North Carolina (22-1)	National Championship April 7 First Four® March 18-19 in Dayton	National Semifinals April 5 16 American (22-12) 16 Mount St. Mary's (22-12)	Elite 8 March 28-30	Sweet 16 March 27-28 March 29-30	First Round March 20-21
Albion (28-9) 20-Mar		16 Saint Francis (16-17) 18-Mar						Duke (31-3) 1	
Alabama St./Saint Francis Louisville (27-7) 20-Mar	22-Mar						21-Mar American/Mount St. Mary' 16	21-Mar Mississippi St. (21-12) 8	21-Mar Baylor (19-14) 9
Creighton (24-10) Michigan (25-9) 20-Mar	28-Mar						21-Mar Oregon (24-9) 5	21-Mar Liberty (28-6) 12	21-Mar Arizona (22-12) 4
UC San Diego (30-4) Texas A&M (22-10) 20-Mar	22-Mar						21-Mar Akron (28-6) 13	21-Mar BYU (24-9) 6	20-Mar VCU (28-6) 11
Yale (22-7) Ole Miss (22-11) 21-Mar							20-Mar Wisconsin (26-9) 3	20-Mar Montana (25-9) 14	21-Mar Saint Mary's (CA) (28-6) 7
Iowa St. (24-9) Lipscomb (25-9) Marquette (23-10) 21-Mar	23-Mar						21-Mar Yanderbilt (20-12) 10	21-Mar Alabama (25-8) 2	21-Mar Robert Morris (26-8) 15
New Mexico (26-7) Michigan St. (27-6) 21-Mar	23-Mar								
Florida (30-4) Norfolk St. (24-10) UCorn (23-10) 21-Mar	23-Mar								
Okahoma (20-13) Memphis (29-5) 21-Mar	27-Mar								
Colorado St. (25-9) Maryland (25-8) 21-Mar	23-Mar								
Grand Canyon (26-7) Missouri (22-11) 20-Mar									
Drake (30-3) Texas Tech (25-8) 20-Mar	22-Mar								
UNCW (27-7) Kansas (21-12) 20-Mar	27-Mar								
Arkansas (20-13) St. Johns (NY) (30-4) 20-Mar	22-Mar								
Omaha (22-12)									

ALAN ROGERS AKRON COBB! REALTY™	ALAN ROGERS AKRON COBB! REALTY™	JOHN TOWNER ALABAMA STATE COBB! REALTY™	BILL DOBRAUC AMERICAN COBB! REALTY™	BILL DOBRAUC ARIZONA COBB! REALTY™	WATCO ARKANSAS WATCO	WATCO AUBURN WATCO	BUD'S JEWELRY BATLOR BUD'S JEWELRY	ALEX DELGADO BRYANT COBB! REALTY™
JOHN TOWNER BYU COBB! REALTY™	ALEX DELGADO CLEMSON COBB! REALTY™	PAINE'S INC. INC. COLORADO STATE PAYNE'S INC. INC.	ROBERT & KARRI COBB CREIGHTON COBB! REALTY™	EAGLE BEVERAGE DRAKE EAGLE BEVERAGE	WATCO DUKE WATCO	PAINE'S INC. INC. FLORIDA PAYNE'S INC. INC.	WATCO GEORGIA WATCO	WATCO GONZAGA WATCO
CHUCK PARSONS HIGH POINT COBB! REALTY™	Pittsburg Moving Co. HOUSTON	CHUCK PARSONS ILLINOIS COBB! REALTY™	EAGLE BEVERAGE IOWA STATE EAGLE BEVERAGE	WATCO KANSAS WATCO	SHOOTERS KENTUCKY SHOOTERS	EAGLE BEVERAGE LIBERTY EAGLE BEVERAGE	WATCO LIPSCOMB WATCO	
WATCO MARQUETTE WATCO	SHOOTERS MARYLAND SHOOTERS	SHOOTERS MCNEESE SHOOTERS	MARY GIER MEMPHIS COBB! REALTY™	CARRINGTON PLACE MICHIGAN CARRINGTON PLACE	BEARDED BULLY BARBERSHOP MICHIGAN STATE BEARDED BULLY BARBERSHOP	MILLER'S MISSISSIPPI MISSISSIPPI STATE MILLER'S	MARY GIER MISSISSIPPI STATE COBB! REALTY™	
CHARLEY BUTLER MISSOURI COBB! REALTY™	CARRINGTON PLACE MONTANA CARRINGTON PLACE	BEARDED BULLY BARBERSHOP MOUNT ST. MARY'S BEARDED BULLY BARBERSHOP	MILLER'S NEW MEXICO MILLER'S	CHARLEY BUTLER NORFOLK STATE COBB! REALTY™	RYAN INSURANCE NORTH CAROLINA RYAN INSURANCE	PARROT HEAD V.I. QUORZ OKLAHOMA PARROT HEAD V.I. QUORZ	JOHN RANDALL OREGON COBB! REALTY™	
RYAN INSURANCE PURDUE RYAN INSURANCE	JOHN RANDALL ROBERT MORRIS COBB! REALTY™	RYAN INSURANCE SAINT FRANCIS RYAN INSURANCE	PARROT HEAD V.I. QUORZ SAINT MARY'S (CAL.) PARROT HEAD V.I. QUORZ	PARROT HEAD V.I. QUORZ SAN DIEGO STATE PARROT HEAD V.I. QUORZ	COBB! REALTY SHELLEY HILDEBRANDT COBB! REALTY	ST. JOHN'S ST. JOHN'S MPix	RYAN INSURANCE TENNESSEE RYAN INSURANCE	RYAN INSURANCE TEXAS RYAN INSURANCE
PARROT HEAD V.I. QUORZ TEXAS A&M PARROT HEAD V.I. QUORZ	PARROT HEAD V.I. QUORZ TEXAS TECH PARROT HEAD V.I. QUORZ	PARROT HEAD V.I. QUORZ TROY PARROT HEAD V.I. QUORZ	ROBERT & KARRI COBB UC SAN DIEGO COBB! REALTY™	BUD'S JEWELRY UCONN BUD'S JEWELRY	RYAN INSURANCE UCLA RYAN INSURANCE	MPix UTAH STATE MPix	RYAN INSURANCE VANDERBILT RYAN INSURANCE	
EAGLE BEVERAGE VCU EAGLE BEVERAGE	SHELLEY HILDEBRANDT WISCONSIN COBB! REALTY™	WATCO WOFFORD WATCO	SHOOTERS VALE SHOOTERS	Pittsburg Moving Co. XAVIER Pittsburg Moving Co.				

Good Luck

KHSHAA State Tournaments

Class 6A
At Wichita
(Seeds in Parentheses)
GIRLS
First Round
(1) Derby 55, (8) Wichita East 30
(5) Olathe North 63, (4) Olathe South 52
(2) Wichita Heights 60, (7) Olathe West 57, OT
(3) Blue Valley North 45, (6) Washburn Rural 39
Semifinals
Derby 68, Olathe North 55
Blue Valley North 65, Wichita Heights 42
Finals
Blue Valley North 65, Derby 39, 1st
Wichita Heights 50, Olathe North 47, 3rd

BOYS
First Round
(8) Maize 49, (1) Shawnee Mission South 48
(4) Shawnee Mission Northwest 76, (5) Mill Valley 52
(7) Olathe North 69, (2) Derby 50
(3) Wichita Heights 64, (6) Washburn Rural 44
Semifinals
Shawnee Mission Northwest 63, Maize 55
Olathe North 65, Wichita Heights 58
Finals
Shawnee Mission Northwest 63, Olathe North 56, 1st
Maize 57, Wichita Heights 52, 3rd

CLASS 5A
At Emporia
(Seeds in Parentheses)
GIRLS
First Round
(8) St. Thomas Aquinas 51, (1) Hays 48
(4) Spring Hill 61, (5) Maize South 56
(2) Topeka Seaman 66, K.C. Piper 54
(3) Andover 49, (6) St. James Academy 44
Semifinals
St. Thomas Aquinas 68, Spring Hill 54
Topeka Seaman 55, Andover 49
Finals
St. Thomas Aquinas 68, Topeka Seaman 61, 1st
Andover 74, Spring Hill 55, 3rd

BOYS
First Round
(1) Topeka Highland Park 65, (8) Andover Central 56
(5) Kansas City Piper 70, (4) Shawnee Heights 52
(2) Kapaun Mt. Carmel 64, (7) Topeka West 50
(3) Andover 76, (6) Bonner Springs 60
Semifinals
Highland Park 60, KC Piper 55
Kapaun Mt. Carmel 55, Andover 43
Finals
Kapaun Mt. Carmel 58, Highland Park 55, OT, 1st
KC Piper 69, Andover 57, 3rd

Class 4A
At Salina
(Seeds in Parentheses)

GIRLS
First Round
(1) Wellington 52, (8) Andale 40
(5) Buhler 56, (4) Labette County 51
(2) Topeka Hayden 56, (7) Clay Center 55
(6) Bishop Miege 68, (3) Eudora 35
Semifinals
Wellington 46, Buhler 30
Bishop Miege 59, Topeka Hayden 42
Finals
Wellington 53, Bishop Miege 48, 1st
Topeka Hayden 57, Buhler 23, 3rd

BOYS
First Round
(1) Ottawa 63, (8) Atchison 46
(4) McPherson 60, (5) Baldwin 59, OT
(2) St. George-Rock Creek 56, (7) Abilene 33
(3) Andale 45, (6) Pratt 43
Semifinals
McPherson 52, Ottawa 50, 2OT
St. George-Rock Creek 63, Andale 48
Finals
McPherson 53, St. George-Rock Creek 44, 1st
Ottawa 61, Andale 36, 3rd

Class 3A
At Hutchinson
(Seeds in Parentheses)
GIRLS
First Round
(1) Hesston 52, (8) Holcomb 37
(4) Silver Lake 56, (5) Girard 45
(2) Halstead 50, (7) Neodesha 33
(6) Colby 57, (3) Osage City 31
Semifinals
Silver Lake 65, Hesston 58
Halstead 46, Colby 33
Finals
Halstead 48, Silver Lake 45, 1st
Hesston 56, Colby 50, 3rd

BOYS
First Round
(1) Galena 55, (8) KC Bishop Ward 48
(4) Hesston 45, (5) Burlington 42
(7) Silver Lake 48, (2) Lakin 46
(6) Goodland 68, (3) Cheney 52
Semifinals
Hesston 60, Galena 42
Goodland 66, Silver Lake 60
Finals
Hesston 51, Goodland 46, 1st
Silver Lake 63, Galena 50

Class 2A
At Manhattan
(Seeds in Parentheses)
GIRLS
First Round
(1) Moundridge 62, (8) Thomas More Prep Marian 50
(5) Inman 54, (4) Phillipsburg 35
(2) St. Mary's Colgan 41, (7) Valley Heights 37
(6) Doniphan West 60, (3) Chase County 44
Semifinals
Moundridge 46, Inman 26
Doniphan West 61, St. Mary's Colgan 60, 2OT
Finals
Moundridge 62, Doniphan West 51, 1st
Inman 60, St. Mary's Colgan

57, 3rd
BOYS
First Round
(1) Moundridge 58, (8) St. Mary's Colgan 25
(4) Valley Falls 58, (5) Syracuse 54
(2) Sterling 97, (7) Chase County 48
(3) Ell-Saline 82, (6) Rossville 78
Semifinals
Moundridge 74, Valley Falls 46
Sterling 76, Ell-Saline 59
Finals
Sterling 56, Moundridge 45, 1st
Ell-Saline 109, Valley Falls 74, 3rd

Class 1A Division 1
At Dodge City
(Seeds in Parentheses)
GIRLS
First Round
(1) Little River 76, (8) Crest 27
(5) Quinter 65, (4) South Gray 54
(2) Centralia 50, (7) St. John-Hudson 27
(3) Troy 33, (6) Central Plains 25
Semifinals
Little River 68, Quinter 52
Centralia 58, Troy 40
Finals
Centralia 50, Little River 43, 1st
Troy 50, Quinter 36, 3rd

BOYS
First Round
(1) Olpe 57, (8) Little River 53
(4) Central Plains 54, (5) Frankfort 44, OT
(2) South Central 52, (7) Clifton-Clyde 38
(3) South Gray 66, (6) Quinter 47
Semifinals
Olpe 44, Central Plains 34
South Central 64, South Gray 49
Finals
Olpe 47, South Central 34, 1st
South Gray 66, Central Plains 56, OT, 3rd

Class 1A Division 2
At Colby
(Seeds in Parentheses)
GIRLS
First Round
(8) Linn 51, (1) South Haven 39
(5) Attica 47, (4) Bucklin 40
(2) Lebo 44, (7) Jetmore 24
(3) Hanover 64, (6) Wallace County 49
Semifinals
Linn 54, Attica 39
Hanover 37, Lebo 34
Finals
Hanover 46, Linn 35, 1st
Lebo 61, Attica 47, 3rd

BOYS
First Round
(1) Cunningham 63, (8) Bucklin 50
(4) Elyria Christian 62, (5) Hanover 57
(2) Axtell 66, (7) Hutchinson Central Christian 46
(3) Dighton 60, (6) Lebo 40
Semifinals
Cunningham 79, Elyria Christian 69
Axtell 57, Dighton 51
Finals
Axtell 57, Cunningham 39, 1st
Elyria Christian 59, Dighton 57, 3rd

Trojan girls return to state tournament

By Kalon Fullerton
kfullerton@morningsun.net

Defense and balanced scoring helped the Girard Trojan girls to another phenomenal season under head coach Brad Herlocker. The Trojans finished with a 21-3 record and a share of the CNC League title at 11-1 – their 10th conference championship. Girard advanced to the Class 3A sub-state tournament for the second consecutive time, falling in the quarterfinal game against Silver Lake 56-45.

“We’re real sad it didn’t go our way in the end,” Herlocker said, “but really happy that it happened. Couldn’t have asked for a better group of kids and I have the two best assistant coaches I could ask for.”

The trip to state was Girard’s eighth in program history and the second since capturing the state title in 2017. They did not lose a game to a team that did not make the state tourney, losing twice to Silver Lake and once to Class 2A St. Mary’s Colgan.

Girard’s defense was stifling. The Trojans held 11 teams under 30 points and held seven of their last 10 teams to 26.

Offensively, there were six different players who were the leading scorer in a game. Maddie Coester led the team with 12.4 points per game while Erika Boatman averaged 10.8 along with 8.3 rebounds.

“I’ve had all kinds of different teams,” Herlocker said. “And I can tell you, your most frustrating years are when you have a special player but they have to do all the scoring for you. When teams have tried to shut down one player against us, it makes us a better team. We have so many people capable



Girard's Ben Cullen battles for the rebound in the sub-state semifinal game at Fredonia. COURTESY KAYLEE DILLOW / PSU COMMUNICATIONS

of getting to the basket or finishing.”

Girard loses just one senior, Jeriah Adolph. The Trojans will return four starters next year.

“Jeriah is a high character kid,” Herlocker said. “She’s done nothing but work hard. She picks everybody up, tremendous amount of kindness. We’ll miss her a lot.

“I have nothing but optimism,” Herlocker said. “These last two years have been a dream come true. The kids were unbelievably coachable. Jeriah was our leader, but there were a couple of juniors and even sophomores who had leadership roles. They played their hearts out.”

BOYS WRAPUP
After a rough regular season, the Girard boys nearly completed a memorable postseason Cinderella run.

The Trojans finished the regular season 5-15 and came into the postseason with four consecutive losses.

Then, the Trojans earned wins over Humboldt 50-49 and Fredonia 102-92 in three overtimes and came close to

knocking off undefeated Galena 57-54 in the sub-state championship after leading 24-19 at halftime.

“We struggled throughout the year,” coach Rod Wescott said. “It was a struggle to come together as a team; it was a struggle to be consistent. Kids really came together the last three or four games of the year. We came a long way. It was nice to see the guys step up at the end and play consistent basketball.”

Girard was led by seniors Ranson Born and Scott Moore. Born scored 28 points against Galena and reached double figure scoring in 17 games. Moore led the team in rebounds and reached double digits 19 times.

“Both of them are good team players,” Wescott said. “Ranson runs the show for us at point guard. Both of them were double figure scorers; Ranson led us in 3-point percentage. They will be hard to replace. We have a lot of good pieces next year. We have to get bigger, faster and stronger. We’re excited about next year.”

We Appreciate Our Readers

& We Need Your Support!

To make a donation to the Support Local Journalism Project please go to <http://morningsun.net/donate/>



RyanInsurance

People you can trust.

FINAL PRESENTATION

COMMERCIAL POLICY QUOTE

PROPOSAL



2308 SOUTH BROADWAY
PITTSBURG, KS
66762
620.231.3500

insurewithryan.com to shop your Insurance!





JTowner@cobbrealty.com

Fax: 620-231-8006

Cell: 620-249-6636

Office: 620-231-8025

4019 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg KS





mary@cobbrealty.com

Fax: 620-231-8006

Cell: 620-249-0835

Office: 620-231-8025

4019 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg KS





robert@cobbrealty.com

karri@cobbrealty.com

Fax: 620-231-8006

Robert's Cell: 620-249-1000

Karri's Cell: 620-249-2451

Office: 620-231-8025

4019 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg KS

Lancer boys improve in Leach's second year

By Kalon Fullerton
kfullerton@morningsun.net

The Southeast Lancer boys improved their win total by seven games in Year 2 under head coach Wes Leach, finishing 16-6 and falling just short of a trip to the state tournament.

After starting last year 0-4, the Lancers won their first three games of the season against Erie, Columbus and Jasper. Southeast fell against New Heights Christian Academy in the championship of the Mo-Kan Classic and lost a game to eventual league champion Crest before bouncing back with three consecutive wins against Northeast, Pleasanton and Baxter Springs.

“We dropped a game to Crest that decided the league,” Leach said. “We had an honest conversation. The right kids came up to me and said ‘I need to get better.’ It was a big moment because the most successful programs are player led. We went on to beat a couple of really good teams and that gave our kids a lot of confidence.”

The Lancers ended the regular season on a high note, winning eight of their final nine games. In sub-state, Southeast won in the quarterfinal 48-34 over Lyndon and beat West Elk 63-62 in overtime on senior Andrew Phillips’ buzzer-beater. Southeast fell 49-42 to Chase County in the sub-state championship, the Lancers’ first sub-state final appearance in five years.

Three players averaged double-figure scoring. Phillips led the way with 13.9 along with



Senior Eliz White led Southeast's offense at 10.9 points per game. BROCK SISNEY / MORNING SUN STAFF

sophomore Tyler Warner (11.2) and senior Colton Jameson (10.0).

GIRLS REVIEW

The Lancer girls won the Three Rivers League title and finished the season with a 15-6 record under head coach Derek Sanders.

After starting the year 1-3, the Lancers went 14-3 the rest of the way, including nine wins in a row over league opponents.

“We got off to a rough start,” Sanders said. “We got into league play and started winning games. We went 2-1 in the Lancer Classic and short of winning it, that’s the best you can hope for. We were undefeated league champs and that’s one of our goals. The girls bought in and worked hard. Overall, I’d say this was one of our better

seasons.”

The Lancers fell in the sub-state semifinal game to Eureka 52-35.

The Lancers were led by a large senior class. Eliz White led the team in scoring with 10.9 points per game. Teagan Warner scored 10.5 points per game and led the team in field goal percentage (44 percent), rebounds (9.0) and blocks (0.6).

“They showed up every day,” Sanders said. “Going back to the summer, checking the attendance in the weight room, Eliz and Teagan were at the top. Teagan is well respected by her teammates. We had four seniors, as many as we’ve had in the last three years combined, and we’re going to miss them all.”

Frontenac finishes regular season strong

By Jim Henry
jhenry@morningsun.net

Both Frontenac teams played their best basketball late in the season.

Despite having to go on the road, the Raiders knocked off three higher-seeded teams – one for the boys, two for the girls – in the sub-state tournament before falling to the favorite.

“We see good teams all year long,” girls coach Scott Fields said. “When we get to the sub-state, it’s nothing we haven’t seen before.”

BOYS REVIEW

The ninth-seeded Raiders decked eighth-seeded Neodesha 71-48 to open sub-state play before losing at undefeated Galena 63-56.

The close game against the Bulldogs came as no surprise as Galena nipped Frontenac in CNC League play by two points on the road and by one point at home on a buzzer-beater.

In fact, half of Frontenac’s 10 losses were by three points or less – one of them to Anderson County on a three-quarters court shot at the buzzer.

The Raiders finished 12-10 and were second in the CNC at 8-4.

“The way they focused on getting better every day and the progress they made from Game 1 through the



Frontenac senior guard Vinny Collier registered two 29-point games this season. BROCK SISNEY / MORNING SUN STAFF

end of February was off the charts,” coach Ryan Varsolona said. “In this day and age, everyone is focused on instant gratification so they can put out how great we’re doing instead of the process of slowly getting better day by day by day.”

Guard Vinny Collier led the Raiders at 15 points per game. Center Jake Wegner averaged around 11 points, and Kaden O’Bray and Brogan Smith were at 9.5.

Jayden Houghton, Julius Courtney, Collier and O’Bray were the Raiders’ four seniors.

“They were a good group ... good leaders, worked hard every day, low maintenance guys,”

Varsolona said. “I tell them I’m looking for corn seeds, not house plants. I’m looking for guys who I can throw just a little bit of water on, walk away and they’re good. Not the guys that you have to worry about every day taking care of. They were all good in the hallways, good to the younger kids, good with their grades, show up with good attitudes every day.”

GIRLS REVIEW

The Raiders (9-13, 6-6 CNC) were the No. 11 seed in sub-state but knocked off No. 6 Jayhawk-Linn 47-29 and No. 3 Cherryvale 49-40

SEE FRONTENAC, 6C



For Pictures Worth Printing

25%
OFF
YOUR FIRST ORDER

Pittsburg, KS

www.mpix.com

Shooters
Neighborhood Grill & Bar

311 E. MCKAY ST.
FRONTENAC, KS
(620) 308-5983

LENT FRIDAY FISH SPECIAL

FRIED OR GRILLED

BAKED POTATO

COLESLAW & HUSHPUPPIES

\$13.99

DINE-IN OR TAKE OUT

NIGHTLY DINNER SPECIALS 4PM-CLOSE



Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok!



Beer • Wine • Liquor • Tobacco

1812 N Broadway Pittsburg, KS | (620) 231-2309

Young Vikings gain experience

By Jim Henry
jhenry@morningsun.net

Underclassmen played the majority of the minutes for Northeast this past season.

The Vikings hope the experience gained will pay dividends in the seasons to come.

“It looks good,” Northeast boys coach Zach Vance said. “From a statistical standpoint, Spencer Wade was our leading scorer at nine points, but our other two seniors didn’t score a whole lot. We do lose a lot with his leadership and the calmness he gave to our team.

“I’m excited for next year. All those young guys, hopefully we have a good summer. We have a lot of stuff planned ahead, and hopefully we’ll be able to close out a lot more of those games next season.”

“I thought by the end of the year our communication and learning to talk on the defensive end were much, much better,” girls coach Brandon Sigmon said. “Hopefully going into next year and not graduating a lot of players, we can build on those things and understand how important some of those little things are



Northeast junior guard Destiny Hagen averaged a team-high 11 points per game this season. BROCK

SISNEY / MORNING SUN STAFF

in the big concept of things. We always tell our girls the little things make a big difference.” “I think our basketball IQs increased as the year went along. We went back and watched film and pointed out some things. You could see them trying over the course of the year to implement some of that stuff in games. We just need more court time.”

GIRLS REVIEW
Jasmine Sigmon was the lone senior for the Vikings (5-15, 2-9 Three Rivers League).

“Obviously getting to spend the last year of my daughter’s high school career with her is special,” Coach Sigmon said.

Junior Destiny Hagen led the Vikings at 11 points per game. Jaycee Maples, also a junior,

was next at six points. “We had to have a lot of kids step up this year into different roles because we lost a couple of girls who we thought were going to be able to help us quite a bit this year,” Sigmon said. “We all had to stick together and figure things out together throughout the season.

“We had quite a few juniors play. My bench was basically freshmen. Obviously, these girls got a lot of court time this year. That will help us next year, and we have a couple of freshmen who I’m excited about. Obviously asking a freshman to be on a varsity floor is not something you want to do, but I think we have a good group coming.”

BOYS REVIEW
Northeast went 3-16 this season and placed fifth in its division of the Three Rivers League.

“The thing I will remember about this team was that it was a young and very inexperienced team,” Vance said. “But we competed very well with the teams we did play. And we did play some really good teams and some good nonconfer-

ence teams like Galena (Class 3A state tournament qualifier).”

An example of the Vikings’ competitiveness came in their final game when they lost at top-seeded Oswego 58-51 in the 2A sub-state tournament.

“It was a tough environment,” Vance said, “but we had game-planned all week plus we had played them the previous week, so that helped us get ready for that game. We competed hard and we cut it to five and we just weren’t able to hang onto it and take the lead back.”

Devin Smith and Jaden Whetzell joined Wade as the Vikings’ three seniors. Wade and Jaxson Payne averaged nine and eight points, respectively. Payne is one of four freshmen who saw action.

“It was a night and day difference from Day 1 in the jamboree to the very last sub-state game,” Vance said. “The record doesn’t show it, but from a coaching point, my assistant and I were very pleased with how far we came as a group. We just weren’t able to close out games.”

FRONTENAC

CONTINUED FROM 5C

before falling to Neodesha 38-29.

“We had a chance in every game we played,” Fields said. “We played good defense in all three games, and offensively we came up short in that last game.

“All year long we were pretty consistent on the defensive end. We had a lot of different things we could do. By the end of the year, our spacing and our movement and our attacking on offense got better.

“Getting to the sub-state final, out of 64 teams you’re going to be one of the final 16, I don’t know if people would have thought that (earlier in the season).”

The Raiders had eight seniors – Taylor Kyser, Kayci McGowen, Tenley Sullivan, Ella Sullivan, Addison Myers, Alana Sullivan, Skylar Hutchinson and Avery Johnson, who missed basically the entire season with a knee injury.

Marli Stout led the Raiders at 11 points per game, and Kyser was next at nine points.

“We had seven freshmen, five of them who suited up with the varsity all year,” Fields said. “They all got a good taste of varsity competition. We’re excited for the next few years.”




Here’s to a

SLAM-DUNK

Season

We’ll be cheering you on!

From your #1 fans at



Recognized by Forbes and Newsweek
for our Outstanding Culture



Charley Butler




charley@cobbrealty.com

Fax: 620-231-8006


Cell: 620-404-8838

Office: 620-231-8025

4019 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg KS



Chuck Parsons



parsons.chuck@gmail.com

Fax: 620-231-8006

Cell: 620-249-1500

Office: 620-231-8025

4019 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg KS



John Randall



john@cobbrealty.com

Fax: 620-231-8006

Cell: 620-704-5989

Office: 620-231-8025

4019 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg KS