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NMCC Beats Bearcats in SEMO Conference Play-In Game

DECEMBER 10TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Sikeston, Missouri - The 2019 SEMO Conference Boys Basketball Tournament is well underway at Sikeston. The New Madrid County Central Eagles defeated the Dexter Bearcats in the opener play-in game on Monday, December 9th by a score of 66-61.

Dexter kept the pace for most of three quarters against the 8th seeded NMCC.

"The main thing is we didn't execute down the stretch and they did," commented Dexter coach Chad Allen. "I know there was like 4 or 5 minute period there where we didn't score at all. They executed really well offensively. To me, we were really hesitant, not staying aggressive. When we do that, we are going to struggle to score."

And struggle they did in the fourth quarter tallying only 9 points making a difference in a win or loss.

The 'Cats held their lead almost all of the first half and led by as many as nine points in the third quarter.

Ansel Underwood hit a 3-pointer at the start of the fourth quarter to give the Eagles the lead 57-52. That was the momentum that NMCC needed.

Underwood and Ke'von Williams each finished with a team-high 15 points.

"For the first three quarters, I thought we had spurts there that we looked pretty good," continued Allen. "We were aggressive and executed what we needed to execute."

The Bearcats made 13 treys including five by Jackson Allen, a 6'6" junior. He finished with 15 points. Ryder Boles, Andrew Ellinghouse and Logan Wyman each added two 3-pointers. Carter Dorton and Dylan Sitze each had 1 trey.

"We just didn't finish around the rim very well," Allen said, "We missed a lot of shots inside. Even when we drove, we didn't finish our shots. We have got to have someone step up and be able to do that."

The 'Cats made only 7 baskets inside the perimeter and went 8 for 18 (44%) from the charity stripe.

Andrew Ellinghouse, a 6'3" junior, tallied a game-high 17 points for Dexter.

Final Score NMCC 66, Dexter 61

NMCC 13 11 28 14 - 66

DEX 13 17 22 9 - 61

NMCC (66) - Shamar Williamson 6, Austin Davis 2, Christenn Phillips 7, Bryshaw Williams 5, Ansel Underwood 15, Ke'von Williams 15. FG 23, FT 15/30, F 18 (3-pointers: Underwood 4. Fouled Out: None)

Dexter (61) - Ryder Boles 8, Andrew Ellinghouse 17, Carter Dorton 4, Logan Wyman 6, Dylan Sitze 3, Peyton Driskill 6, Jackson Allen 15, Garrett Henson 2. FG 20, FT 8/18, F 24 (3-pointers Boles 2, Ellinghouse 2, Dorton 1, Wyman 2, Sitze 1 Allen 5. Fouled Out: Dorton)

Dexter will play Notre Dame on Tuesday, December 10th at 8:30 p.m. Kennett upset Notre Dame on Monday 70-66.

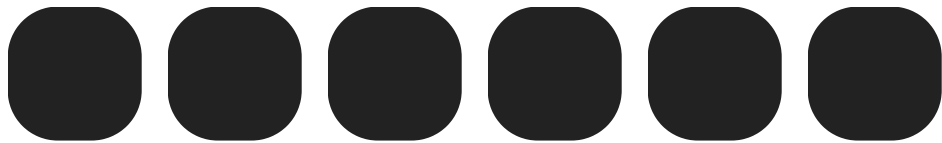
Cape Central defeated Poplar Bluff 58 - 47.

Photos of the game can be found on ShowMe Times Facebook page.

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