

CLASS 3A STATE BOYS BASKETBALL

Wildcats drop tough quarterfinal game to Galena, 61-54

HUTCHINSON — After missing the state tournament in 2018 and 2019, the Wildcats made it back in 2020. They competed in the Class 3A State tournament quarterfinals at Hutchinson Sports Arena in Hutchinson.

In their quarterfinal game, the Wildcats played the Galena Bulldogs. After Galena put up the first four points, Burlington scored the next four. The Wildcats then edged Galena in a 5-4 run and, with two minutes 41 seconds left in the first quarter, Burlington took a 9-8 lead. It would be their only lead of the game. Galena responded with a three-pointer to retake the lead and finished the quarter on an 11-0 run.

The Wildcats gave their response in the second quarter, when they opened with a 6-0 run and held Galena scoreless for 4:17. Two three-pointers, one with 3:30 and the other with 3:01 left in the half, put Burlington right on the heels of the Bulldogs. The Wildcats closed with a 5-0 run, including a three-ball with 35.3 seconds left in the half and a two-pointer just 4.4 seconds ahead of the buzzer, and went into the locker room at halftime with the score tied, 26-26.

In the first half, the Wildcats bucketed nine of 23 (39.1 percent) of their field goals, four of seven (57.1 percent) of their treys and four of five (80 percent) of their free throws. They also grabbed 14 rebounds and made six assists, four steals and one block while committing nine fouls and seven turnovers.

The Bulldogs hit 10 of 24 (41.7 percent) of their field goals, one of four (25 percent) of their treys and five of eight (62.5 percent) of their free throws. They also caught 16 rebounds and made eight assists, four steals and one block while committing six fouls and eight turnovers.

Taking to the court for the second half, the Wildcats were again held to single-digit scoring in the third quarter. Galena scored the first four points of the half, before the Wildcats hit a three-pointer with 5:21 left in the quarter. Galena then went on a 6-4 run before closing the quarter with a pair of points scored off of free throws, giving them a 38-33 lead over Burlington.

The beginning of the fourth quarter saw Galena take off on a 14-6 run. It was capped with a pair of free throws and a two-point basket that gave the Bulldogs their biggest lead of the game, 51-39 with just over three minutes to play. The Wildcats battled back, and a trio of three-pointers and three two-pointers brought them within four points of the lead with just 22.3 seconds left to play. However, the three-pointer that brought the Wildcats' score to 54 would be their final points of the game. Galena pulled away again, hitting three of four free throws in the final seconds. The Wildcats took the loss, 61-54.

Burlington made 12 of 25 (48 percent) of their field goals, four of 10 (40 percent) of their treys and 0-3 (zero percent) of their free throws in the second half. Galena seven of 11 (63.63 percent) of their field goals, one of two (50 percent) of their three-pointers and 20 of 32 (62.5 percent) of their free throws.

For the game, Burlington's overall field goal shooting percentage was lower than Galena's, but their three-point percentage and their overall numbers for both categories were higher. The Wildcats made 21 of 48 (43.8 percent) of their field goals and eight of 17 (47.1 percent) of their three-pointers, while Galena hit 17 of 35 (48.6 percent) of their field goals and two of six (33.3 percent) of their treys. However, Galena outperformed Burlington at the free throw line. Where the Wildcats sank four of eight (50 percent) of their free throws, Galena bucketed 25 of 40 (62.5 percent) of their free throws.

Galena also topped Burlington on the boards. The Bulldogs caught 31 (57.4 percent) of 54 rebounds, including 23 of 29 (79.31 percent) of Burlington's and eight of 25 (32 percent) of their own. Burlington grabbed 23 (42.6



Mark Petterson/The Republican
Burlington senior Carter Hegwald, left, forces a jumpball during the Wildcats' Class 3A State quarterfinal game against Galena Wednesday, March 11, at Hutchinson. The Wildcats dropped the game, 61-54.



Mark Petterson/The Republican
Senior Wildcat Noah Smith shoots for two.



Mark Petterson/The Republican
A large crowd of Burlington High School students, dressed to a Hawaiian theme, cheer on the Wildcats during the state quarterfinals at Hutchinson.



Mark Petterson/The Republican
Many students used posters, like the one above, or red pom poms to show their support for the Wildcats.



Mark Petterson/The Republican
Four members of the trumpet section carry their part in a tune played by the BHS Wildcat pep band.

threat of the novel coronavirus. No semifinal or placement games were played. Galena finished its season with a 19-5 record.

Galena 61, Burlington 54	
Galena	19 7 12 23 - 61
Burlington	9 17 7 21 - 54

Galena - Little 8 8-12 24, B. Sarwinski 3 (2) 7-13 15, Henderson 4 3-3 11, Henson 0 5-8 5, Mcglothlin 1 1-2 3, N. Sarwinski 1 1-2 3, Totals 17 (2) 25-40 61.
Burlington - Bahr 8 (2) 2-4 20, Haselhuhn 4 (1) 0-1 9, Payer 3 (3) 0-0 9, Meats 3 (1) 0-0 7, Brown 1 (1) 2-2 5, Sloyer 1 0-0 2, N. Smith 1 0-0 2, Hegwald 0 0-1 0, Totals 21 (8) 4-8 54.

percent) of 54 rebounds, including 17 of 25 (68 percent) of Galena's and six of 29 (20.69 percent) of their own.

In other stats for the game, Burlington made 11 assists, seven steals and two blocks, while committing 28 fouls and 12 turnovers. Galena made 11 assists, seven steals and three blocks, while committing 13 fouls and 14 turnovers.

Individually, Trevr Bahr led Burlington's offense with 20 points. He was the only Wildcat to score in double digits and finished third on the list of scoring leaders for the Class 3A State boys' quarterfinal round. Behind him, Andrew Haselhuhn and Brian Payer each put up nine points and Parker Meats scored seven.

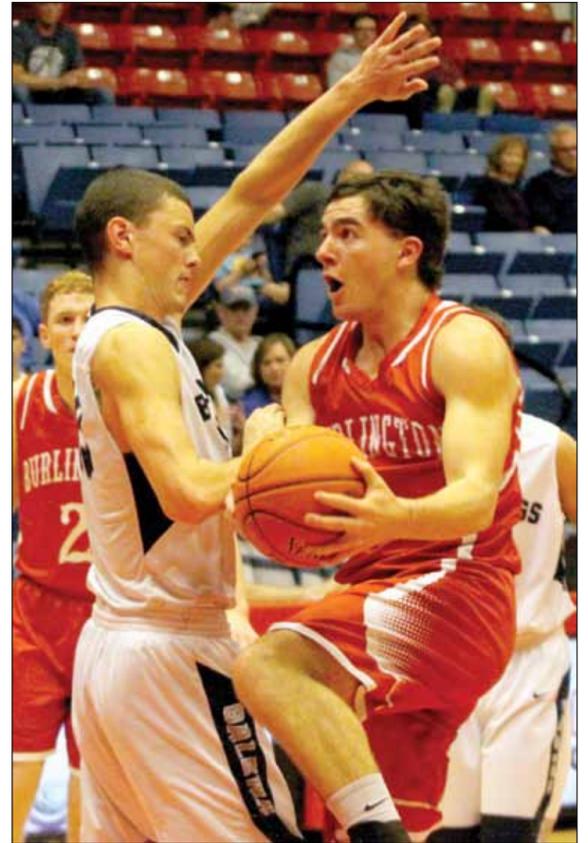
For Galena, Tyler Little led all scorers with 24 points and also topped the list of scoring leaders for the Class 3A State boys' quarterfinal round. Brett Sarwinski score 15 points and Logan Henderson scored 11.

In other stats for Burlington, Haselhuhn hauled in nine rebounds, while Meats collected four and Bahr took three. Haselhuhn had five assists, Bahr had four and Noah Smith had two. Smith and Braden Sloyer each made two steals, and Haselhuhn, Brennan Brown and Carter Hegwald each made one. Bahr and Haselhuhn each had a block.

With the loss, the Wildcats ended their season with an 18-6 record. Following the conclusion of the quarterfinal rounds, the remainder of both the boys' and girls' state tournament for all classifications was canceled due to the



Mark Petterson/The Republican
Burlington High School basketball cheerleaders perform a pair of stunts during a break in the game between Burlington and Galena.



Mark Petterson/The Republican
Burlington senior Andrew Haselhuhn with a contested layup.



Mark Petterson/The Republican
Wildcat Braden Sloyer closely guards a Galena ball handler.



Mark Petterson/The Republican
The Burlington Wildcat basketball team takes the court for introductions prior to their state quarterfinal game against Galena.