

LYON COUNTY LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

Lebo Wolves are LCL Tournament Champions

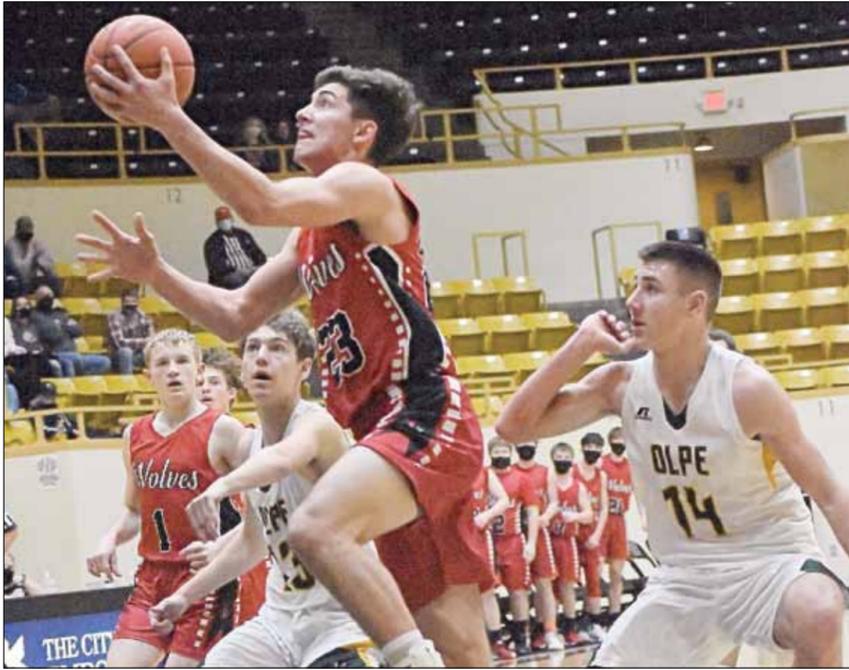
EMPORIA — High school boys' basketball teams from Hartford, Lebo, Southern Coffey County and Waverly high schools brought their runs in the Lyon County League Tournament to a close Saturday, Feb. 1, along with teams from Burlingame, Madison, Marais des Cygnes Valley and Olpe high schools. This year's tournament was the 100th and though there was little celebration held to commemorate the milestone as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the tournament was still held at its normal location, White Auditorium in Emporia, and featured exciting competition, including a 3-0 run by the Lebo Wolves that earned them the title of Lyon County League Tournament Champions. Only two games were held away from White Auditorium, as SCC hosted the seventh-place games at LeRoy.

The Wolves took on rival Olpe in the championship game. The Wolves used a strong first quarter to jump out to a 19-4 lead. That lead dwindled by two points in the second quarter, but Lebo was still on top 24-11 at halftime. Olpe continued to fight back in the second half, but Lebo, despite being edged by four points in the third quarter and one in the fourth, held on tight to the lead. The Wolves won, 47-39.

Devan McEwen tallied a game-high 28 points for Lebo. Andrew Bailey scored six points and Luke Davies and Jonas Konrade chipped in with four points each.

No area teams played in the third-place game. In that contest, Madison defeated Burlingame 39-29.

In the fifth-place game, Waverly took on SCC. The Bulldogs took a double-digit lead



Senior Devan McEwen jumps forward between two Olpe defenders for a two-point shot during the 100th annual Lyon County League Tournament's boys' championship game Saturday, Jan. 30. Lebo defeated Olpe, 47-39, to capture the tournament title.

early and were up 22-11 after one quarter. They outscored SCC 19-8 in the second quarter and were on the upper end of a 41-19 halftime score. Waverly maintained momentum going into the second half and again topped SCC in the third quarter, 18-6. The two teams scored evenly in the final quarter and Waverly got the win, 66-32.

"Our boys played a great team game, and I think the 19 assists for the day show that," Waverly coach Tyler Williams said.

Damian Foster scored a game-high 21 points for Wa-

verly. Brantley Petersen and Ben Meehan each contributed nine points and Zach Skillman and Lane Bartley each scored eight.

In other stats for Waverly, Foster pulled down seven rebounds, Skillman six and Meehan, Petersen and Koy Myers four each. Foster nearly recorded a double-double with nine assists, while Meehan had four and Bartley three. Foster and Bartley each made three steals and Skillman, Petersen and Meehan each made two.

For SCC, Wade Gleue scored 15 points. Brayton Lind and

Aiden Voorhees each scored six points and Nathan Born-treger and Mitchyl Walters each had two.

In the seventh-place game at LeRoy, Hartford defeated MdCV by three points in a low-scoring contest, 24-21. A full box score was not available at press time.

In the championship semifinals on Friday, Olpe defeated Burlingame, 62-36, and Lebo defeated Madison, 44-37. Against Madison, Lebo led early and was on the upper end of a 19-9 halftime score. They lost the lead after a 17-4 third-quarter run by

Madison but answered with a 21-11 fourth quarter run of their own to get the win. McEwen and Bailey each had 15 points. Jerome Ferguson and Landon Grimmert each scored five points and Kyle Reese chipped in with four.

On Thursday, the consolation semifinals saw Waverly top MdCV, 64-40, and SCC best Hartford, 52-40. In the Waverly vs. MdCV game, the Bulldogs had a narrow lead early but expanded it in the second quarter, after which they led 35-20. They went on to outscore MdCV 29-20 in the second half to secure the win.

"We started the game with sloppy play. But, we had a big second quarter, and we were able to cruise from there," Williams said. "Underclassmen stepped up big, with Brantley Petersen and Brady Wallace getting career highs in points and Ben Meehan having his top assist game."

Bartley scored a game-high 18 points for Waverly, while Petersen finished with 17 and Wallace with 14. Meehan led on the boards with seven rebounds, followed by Wallace with six and Foster with four. Meehan also led in assists with 10, while Foster had five and Bartley, Petersen and Myers each had three. Wallace made four steals, Meehan three and Foster and Bartley two each. Meehan had three blocks and Foster had two.

The SCC vs. Hartford game was closer. Hartford led early but was outscored in the second quarter. SCC took a two-point, 21-19 lead by halftime. The Titans topped Hartford 31-21 in the second half to secure the win. Born-treger led SCC's attack with 19 points, while Gleue finished with 14 and Lind with 11.

For Hartford, Ali Smith led all scorers with 20 points.

Aiden Goodman and Tanner Highley each added five points and Trade Torrens had four.

In the quarterfinal round Tuesday, Olpe beat MdCV, 64-28, and Burlingame defeated Waverly, 50-29. For the Bulldogs, it was a tough outing.

"It was our first game after a 10-day quarantine, and we were definitely off the whole game," Williams said.

Foster led all scorers with 20 points for Waverly. Bartley and Petersen each scored four points and Skillman had one. Bartley pulled down eight rebounds, Meehan, Foster and Skillman each caught three and Wallace and Petersen each took one. Meehan had two steals and Wallace had one. Foster, Meehan and Petersen each made two steals.

Monday quarterfinals saw Lebo best Hartford 55-29 and Madison top SCC 70-20. In the Lebo versus Hartford game, McEwen was the top scorer, with 22 points for Lebo. Ferguson chipped in with 10 points and Grimmert had five.

For Hartford, Smith finished with 16 points. Andy Andrews added four and Andrew McDiffett scored three.

In the Madison vs. SCC game, Born-treger led the Titans' effort with nine points. Lind scored four and Gleue score three.

In their first games following the tournament, Hartford hosted Wichita Classical, Lebo hosted Marmaton Valley, SCC hosted Chase County and Waverly hosted West Franklin, all on Tuesday, Feb. 2. Waverly will host Burlingame 4:45 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 4, for a game that was rescheduled from earlier in January. All four area

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Lady Wolves repeat as runners-up

EMPORIA — The 100th annual Lyon County League Tournament, filled with competitive teams and exciting basketball games, drew to a close Saturday, Jan. 30, for teams from Hartford, Lebo, Southern Coffey County and Waverly high schools, as well as Burlingame, Madison, Marais des Cygnes Valley and Olpe high schools. While little celebration was held to commemorate the milestone of reaching the 100th edition due to COVID-19, the tournament was still held at its normal location, White Auditorium in Emporia. Only two games were played elsewhere, as SCC hosted the seventh-place games.

For a second year in a row, the Lebo Lady Wolves finished as the tournament runners-up. In a rematch of the 2020 LCL Tournament championship game, the Lady Wolves took on rival Olpe for the championship. Similarly to the 2020 game, they struggled to keep up with the Lady Eagles and trailed by 14 points after the first quarter. The deficit grew in the second quarter, and Lebo was down 32-13 at halftime. They allowed Olpe to score in double figures for each of the remaining two quarters, while Olpe held them shy of double digits. Lebo took the loss, 58-31.

Audrey Peek led Lebo's effort with 10 points. Alli Moore finished with six points and Demi Schrader chipped in with five.

No area teams played in the third-place game. In that contest, Burlingame defeated Madison, 55-39.

The Waverly and Hartford girls met up in the fifth-place game. The Lady Bulldogs bounded out to an early lead, going up 14-5 by the end of the first quarter. A 22-3 second quarter run saw them lengthen that lead to double digits, and Waverly was on the upper end of a 36-8 lead at halftime. The Lady Bulldogs topped Hartford by five points in the third quarter. The Lady Jaguars fought back in the final quarter, besting Waverly 11-2, but couldn't overcome the deficit. Waverly won, 49-25.

Kaylynn Vogts led all scorers with 19 points for Waver-

ly. Sara McWilliams added 10 points and Macy Fairchild and Bonnie Romig each had eight.

For Hartford, Brooke Finnerty finished with 10 points. Regan Darbyshire chipped in with eight and Brianna Sapp had five.

SCC and MdCV played for seventh place at SCC's gym in LeRoy. The Lady Titans allowed MdCV only four points for each of the first three quarters and led by seven points after the first quarter. They expanded their lead to double digits in the second quarter and took a 27-8 lead into halftime. Scoring was closer in the second half, but SCC edged MdCV by one point in the third quarter and three in the fourth. The Lady Titans won, 44-21.

Kyra Ohl led the Lady Titan offense with 10 points. Emersyn Hall finished just shy of double digits with nine points and Ross Snovelle had eight.

In other stats for the Lady Titans, Ohl recorded a double double, taking 13 rebounds. Jalea True pulled down 10 rebounds and Taryn Lather grabbed six. Hall and Josie Weers each had three assists. Ohl had two and Snovelle and Rylee Mattheis each had one. Ohl made six steals, Hall five and Snovelle and Weers two each.

The championship semifinals were played Friday evening, with Olpe topping Madison, 67-21, and Lebo defeating Burlingame, 34-32. In the Lebo vs. Burlingame game, Lebo trailed early, falling behind by four points after the first quarter, but found momentum in the second quarter, when they bested Burlingame by five points. The Lady Wolves led by one point, 19-18, at the half. Burlingame tied the game in the third quarter and it was knotted at 27-27 with one quarter remaining. Lebo edged Burlingame in the final quarter to get the win.

Brooklyn Jones scored 10 points for Lebo. Abby Peek had nine and Moore had seven.

In the consolation semifinals, Waverly met MdCV and Hartford faced SCC. Against MdCV, Waverly led early

and was up 50-11 at halftime. The Lady Bulldogs outscored MdCV 22-17 in the second half to win the game by 44 points, 72-28.

McWilliams put up a game-high 21 points for Waverly. Vogts contributed 16 and Fairchild added 13.

Hartford's game against SCC was closer. The Lady Jaguars led early and were on the upper end of a 15-12 halftime score. They were edged 17-16 in the second half but held on for the win, 31-29.

Darbyshire was the game's leading scorer with 12 points for Hartford. Kiernan Breshears chipped in with nine points and Finnerty had four.

For SCC, Ohl had 10 points, Hall and Weers six each and Snovelle five. Ohl recorded a double-double, taking 10 rebounds. True caught five and Hall two. Snovelle, Weers and Ohl each had two assists and Lather had one. Snovelle made three steals, Weers, Hall and Ohl two and True one.

In the quarterfinals Tuesday, Olpe bested MdCV 96-8 and Madison topped Waverly, 47-38. In Waverly's game, Vogts scored 11 points, Fairchild nine and McWilliams seven.

Monday quarterfinal action saw Lebo defeat Hartford, 51-35, and Burlingame win over SCC 58-22. In the Lebo vs. Hartford game, Jones was the game's top scorer with 14 points for Lebo, while Audrey Peek scored 11 and Schrader and Abby Peek eight each. For Hartford, Sapp had 11 points, Breshears, Finnerty and Tara Baker six each and Darbyshire four.

In the Burlingame vs. SCC game, True and Weers each put up eight points for SCC and Hall and Ohl each had three. Hall and True each came away with six rebounds, Weers took five and Ohl grabbed four. Ohl had two assists and Hall and Weers each had one. Hall had three steals, Ohl two and Snovelle one.

On Tuesday, Feb. 2, Hartford hosted Wichita Classical, Lebo hosted Marmaton Valley, SCC hosted Chase County and Waverly hosted West

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The Lebo Lady Wolves made a 2-1 run in the 100th annual Lyon County League Tournament and finished as the tournament runners-up. Above, members of the team are, from left, front row - manager Siara Crouch, Keiara Ferguson, Abby Peek, Chalie Crouch, Katie Ott, Hannah Carpenter; back row - assistant coach Jamie Moore, Audrey Peek, Abbie Shields, Brooklyn Jones, Demi Schrader, Sydney Tollefson, Alli Moore, manager Abi Jones, manager Saige Hadley, head coach Patrick Gardner. Below, Brooklyn Jones (10) shoots for two against defense from Olpe's Maya Bishop during the championship game Saturday, Jan. 30.

