

## **MJ girls win 9AAA tournament**

Saturday, February 16, 2013

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GALLATIN -- Top-seeded Mt. Juliet overpowered Beech 43-28 in Monday's District 9AAA tournament finals, earning a Friday home game vs. West Creek in the opening game of the Region 5AAA tournament.

Down 5-0 to the Lady Buccaneers early, Mt. Juliet's defense stiffened and allowed Beech just eight more field goals the rest of the way.

Tournament MVP Ronjanae DeGray had a game-high 16 points, scoring nearly all of them from the same spot on the floor in the low post. Sally McCabe added 13 points and Savannah Sanders had 11, including three 3-pointers, for Mt. Juliet.

McCabe and Sanders joined DeGray on the all-tournament team.

Mt. Juliet (22-8) was also able to turn 12 Beech turnovers into 15 points.

### **(girls) Lebanon 65, Station Camp 64 OT**

GALLATIN -- Lebanon's Abby Wright flipped in a pair of free throws with 7.5 seconds left in overtime as the Devilettes claimed third place in the District 9AAA Tournament Monday with a 65-64 win over host Station Camp.

Lebanon (16-13) travels to Kenwood in Friday night's Region 5AAA opener. Kenwood lost to Dickson County 62-44 in the District 10AAA finals.

Lebanon led 35-27 at intermission, and 48-41 after three, only to see Station Camp catch-up and tie the score at 57-all at the end of regulation.

Wright scored seven of Lebanon's eight overtime points. Julia Fox added 13, including three 3-pointers, while Madison Sloan had 11 and Faith Rushing nine. Wright, Sloan and Fox were

named to the all-tournament team.

Savannah Keele was brilliant in the loss for Station Camp, scoring 30 points.

LHS lost to Beech 64-61 in overtime in Saturday's semifinal contest.

### **(boys) Wilson Central 60, Mt. Juliet 55**

GALLATIN -- Much like Mt. Juliet's quarterfinal win against Beech, it was not until the fourth quarter that the points started rolling in. Whereas it was too late for Beech on Friday night, it was too late for the No. 2-seed on Saturday night in a 60-55 semifinal loss to rival Wilson Central at Station Camp.

Wilson Central turned a 36-34 lead entering the final quarter into the five-point win thanks to outscoring Mt. Juliet 24-21 in the final eight minutes.

The teams combined for 12 3-pointers — nine of them coming from the Bears. Thomas Sharpe had six of them on the way to a game-high 20 points. Hunter Gilbert added 11 in the loss.

Jacob Williams paced Wilson Central with 17 points, while Blake Huffman had 15 and Ben Palmer 10.

### **(girls) Mt. Juliet 56, Station Camp 52**

GALLATIN -- Despite a 22-15 fourth quarter by Station Camp, Mt. Juliet held on for a 56-52 semifinal win and moves into Monday's 8 p.m. title game against Beech. Station Camp will play Lebanon at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday in the consolation final.

Station Camp shot 27.5 percent from the field for the game, connecting on 19-of-69 shots, including 8-of-28 from 3-point range. The Lady Bison only got to the free throw line eight times, converting six.

Meanwhile, Mt. Juliet was a much more efficient 22-of-35 from the field and got to the line 19 times. However, the Bearettes converted just nine of those free throws.

Kia Perry led all scorers with 26 points for Station Camp on 10-of-25 shooting from the field, including 4-of-10 from 3-point range. Savannah Keele added 13 on 4-of-16 shooting, including 3-of-7 from beyond the arc.

Ronjanae DeGray's 24 points on 10-of-12 shooting and Sally McCabe's 14 paced Mt. Juliet.

### **(girls) Beech 64, Lebanon 61, OT**

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GALLATIN -- For the third straight meeting, Beech and Lebanon saw their game go into overtime. And for the second straight time, it was the Lady Buccaneers coming out victorious.

This time it was a 64-61 outcome on Saturday night in a District 9AAA Tournament semifinal game at Station Camp.

Behind a game-high 23 points from Shelby Brown, Beech moved on to Tuesday's title game.

With Beech in foul trouble and forced to play a 2-3 zone, Lebanon was able to tie the game in the closing seconds on a Julia Fox drove the lane and hit a shot to send the game into overtime tied at 55. But the Lady Bucs followed with a 9-6 edge in the extra period to move into the finals.

Brown, Bailey Taylor and Ciara Davis all scored in the OT session for Beech. Beech outscored Lebanon in four of the five quarters, including 46-42 in the first three quarters. However, it was the Devilettees countering with a 13-9 effort in the final eight minutes that forced the extra time. Taylor had 13 points for the Lady Bucs.

Fox paced Lebanon with 15 points while Abby Wright added 11 and ScottyIn Elie 10.

Lebanon won the first meeting 49-43 in a Jan. 11 overtime game, while Beech clinched the No. 2 seed in the district with a 50-47 overtime victory in Lebanon on Feb. 5.

All district semifinal teams advance to next week's Region 5-AAA Tournament, the finalists playing host to a first-round game before the tourney moves to Beech for the semifinals and finals.

**By Corby A. Yarbrough, *Main Street Media***

### **District 9AAA Tournament Girls Semifinals**

Saturday, Feb. 16 at Station Camp  
Mt. Juliet 56, Station Camp 52  
Beech 64, Lebanon 61, OT

### **Monday, Feb. 18 at Station Camp**

Station Camp vs. Lebanon, 6:30 p.m. consolation  
Mt. Juliet vs. Beech 8 p.m. finals

### **Boys Semifinals**

#### **Saturday, Feb. 16 at Station Camp**

Station Camp 51, Hendersonville 50  
Wilson Central 60, Mt. Juliet 55

**Tuesday, Feb. 19 at Station Camp**

Hendersonville vs. Mt. Juliet, 6:30 p.m. consolation

Wilson Central vs. Station Camp, 8 p.m. finals

**FRIDAY / (boys) Wilson Central 62, Gallatin 46 --**

GLADEVILLE — Third-seeded Wilson Central built an early 7-0 advantage and it was a lead the Wildcats never surrendered on their way to advancing to the 9AAA semifinals with a 62-46 win over Gallatin Friday.

Wilson Central (20-8) will take on Wilson County rival Mt. Juliet in a Saturday's 8:30 p.m. semifinal.

Junior Jacob Williams scored a game-high 19 points, including eight in the fourth quarter to help the Wildcats pull away. Williams became Wilson Central's all-time leading scorer with 1,071 career points. Ben Palmer added 17 and Matthew Hall 11 in the victory.

**FRIDAY / (boys) Mt. Juliet 65, Beech 60 --**

MT. JULIET — No. 2-seed Mt. Juliet held off a determined Beech club 65-60 in Friday night's opening round of the District 9AAA tournament.

Both teams exploded in the fourth quarter as a 38-34 Mt. Juliet lead after three quarters turned into a game where the teams combined for 125 points.

The Bears' fended off the Buccaneers' 26 points with 27 of their own to move on to an 8:30 p.m. Saturday semifinal against Wilson Central at Station Camp.

Beech knocked down seven 3-pointers in the defeat as Philip Baites, Parker Henry and Sam Landrith each had two. Corey White had one. Henry led the Bucs with 25 points, while Landrith tacked on 10.

MJ post man Reagan Johnson led all scorers with 29 points. Thomas Sharpe added 16 and Nolan Chowbay 10, both dropping in one 3-pointer.

Friday night winners not only secure a spot in the district semifinals but also advance to next week's Region 5AAA Tournament.

**FRIDAY / (boys) Station Camp 52, Lebanon 42 --**

GALLATIN -- Fourth-seeded Station Camp pulled away in the final three minutes and came

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away with a 52-42 victory over No. 5-seed Lebanon in Friday's first round game of the District 9AAA basketball tournament.

The Bison turned a 33-31 deficit into the winning margin -- outscoring LHS 21-9 in the fourth quarter.. The win sends the Bison to a 5:30 p.m. Saturday semifinal game against Hendersonville.

Station Camp's Trae Hatcher scored seven of his 15 in the fourth quarter, while Kyle Anderton six of his 15 in the final eight minutes.

Junior guard DaShawn McMurry paced Lebanon with a season-high 23 points, including two 3-pointers. Eight of his points came in the final quarter. He was the only Blue Devil to score in all four quarters, and the only one in double digits.

Zimmer Hunn finished with eight points and and Yalen Reed had six for the Blue Devils.