

# Leipsic Downs Miller City 42 – 30 To Keep Tournament Crown

Vikings Are First Repeaters in Eight Years  
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Leipsic High School's Vikings became the first team in eight years to successfully defend its tournament championship Saturday night when they whipped Miller City 42-30 in the finals of the county basketball tourney.

Before a packed house of some 1,900 excited fans, the Vikings took an early lead and then elected to wait the clock out as Miller City put up a stiff defense and the title game turned into a slow and deliberate tilt.

The previous night, Glandorf came up with some brilliant stars to trounce Pandora-Gilboa 84-47 in the consolation game before the slimmest gathering of the meet which was estimated by tournament manager Robert Streight at 1,100.

THE CONSOLATION VICTORY gave Glandorf its first district tournament entry in history.

Coach Willis Hartman's squad was the first team to win two tournament championships in a row since Ottoville turned the trick in 1946 and 1947.

Although the final game was a slow-moving, low scoring affair, it was a fairly well played game. Miller City had the jitters in the first half and Leipsic ran up its winning margin in that time.

In the second half, Miller City put up a stiff defense and the Viking elected to hold the ball out in front to protect their lead.

MILLER CITY hit only 15 per cent of their shots in the first half, getting three out of 20 field goal attempts. They rang up only five points in the first quarter and were limited to just two in the second.

Meanwhile, the Vikings playing all the way like champions, employed a fast break and broke the Miller City defense wide open in the first half, not giving the Wildcat defenders a chance to get set.

Leipsic broke into the first lead and led all the way. Off to a 4-0 advantage, they held Miller City scoreless for almost four minutes before the charges of Coach Victor Mentley sank a free throw. The Wildcats cut the lead to 4-3 with 3:12 showing on the clock in the first quarter but then Leipsic netted three straight buckets to take a 10-3 margin and ended the first period out in front 13-5.

THE TEMPO SLOWED down in the second quarter with both teams attempting to play a deliberate game but neither hitting on their shots. Leipsic connected on three out of 10 shots in that time and Miller City only one of 11. In the first half, however, Leipsic hit 43 percent.

Leipsic held a 20-7 halftime advantage.

The Wildcat defense took hold and their shooting eye sharpened in the second half. They stopped the Leipsic fast break and during the last two periods, outscored the champs by one point.

Leipsic was unable to work the ball in for a good shot so they elected to hold it out in front to protect their 13-point lead.

However, Miller City's scrappy defenders stole the ball numerous times and cut the lead to five points at one time. Leipsic battled back and by the end of the third quarter, they had regained their 13-point lead at 30-17.

NORM LIEBRECHT hit four out of six shots in the last quarter to keep Miller City in the game, but with Leipsic stalling the Wildcats were forced to press and consequently fouled. In that time, Leipsic hit six of eight free throws while being limited to three field goals.

It was a low-fouling game with only 14 personals being called, six on Leipsic and eight on Miller City.

In the second half, Leipsic hit 47 percent of their shots and totaled 45 percent for the game. Miller City hit 46 percent in the second half in contrast to their 15 percent in the first and wound up with an overall average of 31 percent.

### Leipsic

Zeller – 2/1/5. Johnson – 6/5/17. Chamberlain – 5/0/10.  
Kuhlman – 2/1/5. Hazelton – 2/1/5.  
Total - 17/8/42

### Miller City

Hermiller – 0/1/1. Lammers – 3/0/6. Liebrecht – 5/0/10.  
Morman – 2/1/5. Vennekotter – 3/0/6. Kuhlman – 1/0/2.  
Kreinbrink – 0/0/0. Schroeder – 0/0/0. Palte – 0/0/0.  
Totals – 14/2/30

Leipsic	13	7	10	12	42
Miller City	5	2	10	13	30