

Four OT's Decide Sectional Battle Between Miller City and Kalida

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It might be a long time before Kalida basketball players and fans will have a restful night.

The Kalida Wildcats took the top-seeded Miller City Wildcats to four overtimes Friday in the boys' Sectional Finals before losing 66-64 in the longest game ever played at Ottawa-Glandorf's gymnasium.

There were chances to win for both teams in regulation and the first three OT's.

Miller City dropped in the last five points of regulation to force the first OT but had to play with its back to the wall.

In the first overtime, Kalida led 57-54 and had Todd Miller at the line with just 20 ticks left on the clock. But his shot missed and Miller City pulled it off the glass.

Not wanting to foul, Kalida did just that when a missed Miller City shot went to the floor and two opposing players grabbed for it. With just 14 seconds left, Lee Johnston of Miller City picked it up and was fouled while making a five-footer to cut the lead to one point, 57-56.

Johnston made the free throw to tie the game. Kalida took the ball out of bounds and raced up court, but Jon Laudick missed a 17-footer at the buzzer which sent the game into a second OT.

With the score tied 57-57, Miller City had the last shot of the second extra period but Dave Warnimont's attempt from 12-feet rolled in and

out, thus keeping the marathon going.

The real chance for Kalida came in the third extra period with the game deadlocked at 61-61 and 16 seconds to play.

Trying for a steal, Miller City's Bruce Kreinbrink was called for a grabbing foul which he debated with the official. That singled a technical and made it look all but over for the Putnam County League Champs.

With a chance at a five-point play, Kalida mustered just one.

Dale Siebeneck missed the front end of the one-plus-one. Al Stechschulte then hit one of the technical foul shots to give Kalida a 62-61 lead.

On the inbounds play, Ken Basinger was intentionally fouled, giving him a one-and-one. He missed the front end and Miller City rebounded the ball.

Tom Lehman drew a foul for Miller City with six seconds to play for a one-plus-one. He made the first shot, tying the game at 62-62, but missed the second.

Dave Warnimont got the rebound and was fouled. He missed the front end that likely would have won it for Miller City and the contest went into the fourth overtime.

In the fourth OT, Miller City hit the first four points for a 66-62 lead and hung on.

Kalida got two free throws from Jon Laudick and cut the lead to 66-64. Following a Miller City free throw miss, Kalida had a chance to tie it with seven seconds remaining, but Dale Siebeneck missed from 18-feet out off the left key to end the game.

The lead changed 15 times during regulation and twice in the overtimes.

Miller City, hitting well from the perimeter the first ten minutes of the game, cooled off and that nearly cost them a district shot against Delphos St. John's Wednesday night.

After making 10 of 15 first quarter attempts, the Wildcats made just 4 of 14 in the second round and 3 of 9 in the third. For the game, they netted 24 of 63 for 38% and 18 of 27 foul shots.

Kalida, 11-11, hit a solid 25 of 57 field goal attempts for 44% and 14 of 21 freebies.

Kalida 25 - 14 - 64

Vorst 5-6-16. Stechschulte 4-4-12. Basinger 5-0-10. Siebeneck 5-0-10. Laudick 1-4-6. Miller 1-0-2. Hovest 2-0-4. Gerding 2-0-4.

Miller City 24-18-66

Lehman 5-11-21. Johnston 7-3-17. Lammers 5-0-10. Warnimont 4-2-10. Schroeder 1-0-2. Kreinbrink 2-2-6. Ruhe 0-0-0.

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