

Bulldogs Win Finale Over Wildcats 75 – 72

Finish Game with only Three Players on Court

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Let's just say Columbus Grove was cutting things just a little thin Saturday night in the team's regular season finale against Miller City.

Up a seemingly safe 12 points late in the game against the visiting Wildcats, Columbus Grove saw its starting five dwindle to a starting four with less than a minute to play. And while Miller City was making a valiant comeback, Grove had its fifth player foul out leaving the Bulldogs with a mere three plyers on the floor with less than ten seconds left.

In the battle of 4-15 teams, CG was able to hang on and take the Putnam County League battle 75-72 in one of the wackier games played this season.

There was a total of eight cagers that fouled out of the whistle-happy contest, four from each team. And though CG had some reserve players on the bench that fans thought could come into the game, each had already used up the season allotment of 80 total quarters of play, thus making them ineligible for entry.

A total of 81 foul shots were taken and it was CG's ability to use the charity stripe that made the difference. Coach Bruce Brown's club, that finished a respectable 3-4 in the PCL and 5-15 overall after Friday's Northwest Conference loss to Perry, made 35 of 45 free throws (78%).

Todd Hermiller, who finished with a game high 33 points, made 13 free throws and teammate Marc Smith 12.

MC, with a final line-up that contained four players 5-8 or smaller and another 5-10, slowly trimmed the deficit to single digits and were within striking distance when Grove was left with four players and 30 seconds left. It was trimmed to three points with just ticks remaining when another Grove player fouled out leaving the Bulldogs with only three players on the court.

However, time was on the hosts' side and the clock ran out before MC could take advantage of the player depletion.

Miller City 24 - 4 - 72

Kuhlman 0-1-1. Lammers 6-1-13.
 Nuveman 2-2-6. Okuley 4-4-12. Ruck 3-2-8. Ruhe 5-4-14. Roy Wenzinger 2-3-7.
 Russ Wenzinger 2-7-11.

Columbus Grove 20 - 35 - 75

Edminton 2-3-7. Smith 1-12-14.
 Witteborg 1-0-2. Hermiller 10-13-33.
 Warnecke 3-2-8. Krontz 2-2-6.
 Stechschulte 1-0-2. Barkimer 0-3-3.

Miller City	16 14 14 28 - 72
C. Grove	15 17 20 23 - 75