

Ottoville Stops Kalida 65 – 60

Ends Ottoville's 59 Consecutive Wins

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One could feel Kalida's winning streak of 59 games for more than two years might fall before the season was over.

After some very close calls to start the season, the Wildcats had to know there might be a night when their luck would run out. However, everyone kept changing the number of wins after each Kalida game. That was until Monday night.

Ottoville finally put an end to Kalida's 59 game winning streak as they halted a fourth quarter Wildcat rally to win 65-60 in the Putnam County League.

It was the first regular season loss for the two-time Division IV State Champs since Miller City beat them on February 2, 1987 in a Putnam County League contest.

This was 52 consecutive regular season games – tournament games were not included.

This was 59 consecutive games including tournament games.

Kalida is now 5-1 overall and 2-1 in the PCL.

Ottoville is 2-0 in the PCL and have a share of the lead with Miller City. Overall, they are 3-4.

When the game started, it appeared Kalida would have their way as they jumped out to an 8-1 lead. However, the Big Green were not about to fold as they came charging back and trimmed the lead to 10-5.

Nine straight points then, started by a Jodi Ricker three-point goal, gave Ottoville a 14-10 lead - one they would never lose. In this streak, Terry Hilvers, hit a basket, Melanie Miller made

two free throws and Cheryl Klima scored a basket. Ottoville led at the quarter break, 23-13.

The Ottoville lead was seven at the half, 36-29. During the second half, it climbed to 16 points as the Wildcats had trouble shooting and ran into foul trouble.

Leading 50-41 after three quarters, Ottoville pushed its lead to 61-48 with 3:37 left. This is when the Wildcats made one last charge at the Big Green.

Junior Lori Trenkamp scored four straight baskets to make it a 61-56 game with just over two minutes left. Leslie Stechschulte then found the range and Kalida was within three points.

However, two free throws each by Miller and Klima ended the Kalida run as the lead was back to seven. The Wildcats kept up the pressure, but couldn't get any shots to fall in the final few seconds.

Shooting statistics tell the big story as Ottoville was 18 of 32 for 56% from two-point range and 4 of 8 for 50% from three-point range. Kalida, meanwhile, was 23 of 64 for 36% and missed its only three-point attempt.

Kalida	13	16	12	19	-	60
Ottoville	23	13	14	15	-	65