

Edgewood, EMCA split local battle

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Edgewood's Kailey Rodie (23) attempts to thwart the effort of EMCA's Molly Edwards (4) in the first quarter of last week's game.

Photo: Art Parker

By ART PARKER

The Edgewood girls defeated EMCA 46-17 last week in a game that was never in doubt from the beginning. "We were aggressive and we simply outran them all night long. That was the plan and it worked," said Lady Wildcats coach Kevin Smith.

Edgewood expanded on its 20-8 halftime lead in the second half and consistently stole the ball from EMCA, which was mostly the effort of Hannahlee Harris, who also led the Lady Widlcats with 22 points. Mady Weldon scored 7 points for Edgewood.

EMCA was led by Molly Edwards with 5 points. EMCA now stands at 4-19 on the season. Edgewood is enjoying its first winning season in quite some time with an 8-5 record.

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Edgewood's Jordan Edgeworth (3) and EMCA's Claude Gilder battle for possession of the ball late in the game.

Photo: Art Parker

The Edgewood boys did not match the winning performance of the girls and lost to EMCA 67-51. Edgewood was down the entire first half. Things turned around briefly for the Wildcats in the third quarter when they took the lead at 6:33 and then got the lead back again with the score at 30-29. But after that Edgewood was fighting a losing battle. EMCA went on a 17-3 run and was in control the rest of the way.

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Edgewood was effective at keeping EMCA from the inside with a 2-3 zone, but EMCA was deadly from downtown and drained 10 three-point shots in the game, with all but a pair of those coming before the fourth quarter.

"Once we got in a rhythm we played good basketball. The outside shooting was good and that obviously was a difference," EMCA coach Brad Porter said. EMCA was led by Claud Gilder with 24 points and half those came in the fourth quarter. Chandler Warren had 20 points. EMCA is 12-9 on the season.

"We tried different zone defenses and man defense but nothing went our way. They shot so well from all over the place it didn't make much difference," Edgewood coach Clint Welch said. Josh Crawford had 20 points for the Wildcats and Hunter Glenn had 10 points. The Wildcats are 6-6 in 2013.