

Mercer's "Senior Standouts" lead doubleheader sweep at Princeton

Sports

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The Princeton Tigers played with energy and intensity, but could not find a way to slow down North Mercer's group of senior basketball standouts, with the visiting Cardinals winning at Princeton on Thursday night, in girl's and boy's varsity basketball games heard live on KTTN FM 92.3 and www.kttn.com.

Mercer senior Sierra Michaelis, a future Missouri Tiger, scored 51 points in the opener, with fellow senior Courtney Owens adding 14, as the Lady Cardinals outscored Princeton in every quarter and cruised to a 77-44 victory, improving to 3-0 on the season. Princeton, now 2-4 on the campaign, was led by Paige Phillips and Nancy Berwanger, both with 13 points.

The Princeton boys challenged Mercer with its size and strength, but in the end it was the Cardinals speed, slashing, and outside shooting that was the difference, in a 57-41 win that improves the Cardinals to 2-1, and drops the Tigers to 1-4. Seniors Colton Hartley and Caleb Wyatt combined for 49 points (Hartley with 30) for Mercer, while Justin Hamilton led Princeton with 17 points.

The Mercer girls and boys will next be in action on MONDAY night, playing in the HDC Conference Tournament quarterfinals at North Mercer High School, with the girls playing at 7:30, and the boys at 9:00.

Elsewhere on Thursday night, the Green City girls and boys won a pair of games at Grundy County High School in Galt, with the Lady Gophers winning 53-29 and the Gopher boys winning 50-41. The Green City girls had 16 points from Cheyenne Heaton with the Grundy girls led by Elizabeth Novak's 12 points. The Green City boys were paced by 12 points from Hadley Williams. Brody Hatcher and Destin Gann both had 10 points for the Panther boys.

The Gallatin girls and boys swept a doubleheader against Winston, with the Lady Bulldogs winning 79-49, and the Bulldog boys winning 65-24. Gallatin's boys had 13 points each from Chris Cameron and Derrick Lin, and Dexter Daniel with 11, improving to 6-0 on the season.