

No.10 Lions roar with 16 3-pointers

Written by Mike Condon

Friday, 09 January 2015 22:58 -



On a night where Linn-Mar set a school record for 3-point field goals, it was the defense that impressed Coach Chris Robertson.

The No. 10 Lions netted an all-time single-game best 16 treys (in 28 attempts) and the defense had visiting Cedar Falls out of sync most of the night.

The result was an impressive 81-45 Mississippi Valley Conference boys basketball win Friday night at the Linn-Mar gym.

Linn-Mar's record-setting effort from beyond the arc came in just three quarters as the Lions went deep into the bench for a continuous-clock fourth quarter. The old mark was 15 set in the 2005-06 season.

"We shot it well tonight, but I was more impressed with our defense," said Robertson. "We knew (Cedar Falls) was a good team that had been scoring about 65 a game.

"I thought our guys really locked in defensively and focused," he added. "I thought we rebounded much better tonight than we did (in Tuesday's

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win at Kennedy)."

The Tigers came in with a 6-1 record and were coming off an impressive win over Class 3A top-10 Dubuque Wahlert on Tuesday.

"We knew how good they had to be to beat Wahlert," said junior guard Jordan Bohannon, who finished with a game-high 23 points. "We take a lot of pride in our defense and to hold (Cedar Falls) to that amount of points was a great team accomplishment."

Bohannon was the leader of the 3-point barrage, hitting six, including five in the third quarter when the Lions outscored the Tigers, 32-12.

Bohannon moved into fifth place on the all-time career 3-point list in the Metro with 120. He is just 17 behind former Marion standout Kasey Semler for fourth place.

Jason Bohannon, Jordan's older brother, holds the career Metro mark for 3-pointers with 230.

"I don't know if I can catch him," Jordan said of possibly overtaking his brother before the end of his career. "As long as we keep playing well and winning, it doesn't really make any difference to me. The team is the most important thing."

As was the case in Tuesday's win over Kennedy, the scoring was passed around. Nic Uhlir and Lane Halupnik had 13 apiece. Jordan Brandt and Trevor Noble had nine apiece.

The record-setting trey came from reserve Riley Murphy, who hit just ahead of the third-period buzzer to give the Lions a commanding 72-34 lead entering the final eight minutes.

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"It's great to see these other guys getting involved offensively," Robertson said. "Obviously teams are going to focus on Nic and Jordan, but these other guys are taking advantage of that."

A huge three-game week sits ahead for the Lions (7-1, 5-0 MVC Valley). They travel to Dubuque on Tuesday for a game against Senior before hosting No. 1 and defending state champion Iowa City West on Friday. Linn-Mar caps the week with a non-conference matchup next Saturday at Ankeny Centennial.



"We've got a big week ahead," Robertson said. "This is kind of the week we've had circled so this is a big opportunity for us. Tonight helped. We really needed to get this one and we will keep plugging away."

Keeon Johnson led the Tigers (6-2, 3-2) with 13 points.

CEDAR FALLS (45): Tra'Von Fagan 3 3-4 9, Denison Harrington 2 1-2 7, AJ Green 2 0-0 4, Michael Abbes 0 0-0 0, Drew Marchesani 0 0-0 0, Durrell Jackson 0 2-2 2, Keeon Johnson 5 3-6 13, Trey LaBeaux 1 2-2 4, Benjamin Fienup 1 0-0 2, Jacob Leisinger 0 0-0 0, Samuel Pierce 1 0-0 2, Isaiah Barney 0 2-2 2, Mitchell Bower 0 0-0 0, Logan Mozena 0 0-0 0, Tyler Forero 0 0-0 0. Totals 15 13-18 45.

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LINN-MAR (81): Nic Uhler 5 0-0 13, Trevor Noble 4 1-2 9, Jordan Bohannon 8 1-1 23, Lane Halupnik 5 1-1 13, Ryan Schmidt 1 0-0 2, Riley Murphy 2 0-0 6, Beau Klostermann 0 0-0 0, Jason Tichy 0 2-2 2, Jordan Brandt 3 0-0 9, Garrett Evans 0 0-0 0, Luke Willenborg 0 0-0 0, Andrew Kraus 0 0-0 0, Grant Sylvester 1 0-0 2, Rashad Dixon 0 2-2 2, Daniel Bundy 0 0-0 0. Totals: 28 7-8 81.

Halftime - Linn-Mar 40, Cedar Falls 22. 3-point goals - Cedar Falls 2 (Harrington 2), Linn-Mar 16 (Uhler 3, Bohannon 6, Murphy 2, Brandt 3, Halupnik 2). Total fouls: Cedar Falls 12, Linn-Mar 16. Fouled out - none. Technical fouls: none.