**FM boys get balance in win**

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
**PCC EDITOR**

FORT MADISON - It’s a season of feast or famine for FMHS’ varsity boys’ basketball team. The Hounds are 10-6 on the season with five games left before districts and wins are coming with an average margin of victory of almost 17 points, but two 30 point losses to Mt. Pleasant have pushed the margin of defeat to about the same gap.

On Friday FMHS easily dispatched of Central Lee 67-40 in a non-conference matchup, putting four players in double figures, a factor that Head Coach Ryan Wilson says is a must for the Bloodhounds to rack up more wins. “How many times have we had four players in double figures and won those games,” Wilson said. “We don’t have that one player that dominates the game, putting up 30 points per game. It has to be offensively and defensively a team effort for us to win.”

Which is exactly what he got in an uptempo game that featured plenty of scoring and kept Central Lee on its heels most of the night. Wilson started in a man-to-man defense with full court pressure and kept the tempo throughout the first half. “I think when we go man-to-man it gets us in the flow quicker,” Wilson, who could been seen clapping on many occasions from the sidelines Saturday, “I think with our guards we’re good enough to guard the full court most of the time. We like to push the speed and the tempo.”

See **WIN**, page 2

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**Beside the Point – It’s all fake news**

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Take Jameson for example. It’s a great tasting, less costly scotch, but two 30 point losses to Mt. Pleasant have pushed the margin of victory of almost 17 points, an average margin of victory of almost 17 points, an average margin of victory of almost 17 points, an average margin of victory of almost 17 points. Two 30 point losses to Mt. Pleasant have pushed the margin of victory of almost 17 points.

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**CL puts down Hounds**

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
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FORT MADISON - Central Lee got 23 points from sophomore shooting specialist MacKenzie Northup, including a 3-pointer at the buzzer in the 3rd quarter, to put FMHS away 52-39 on Saturday at the Hound Dome.

The Hounds, who had the lead for the better part of the first quarter before Central Lee went on an 8-2 run to end the quarter, seemed poised to take the game back from the Lady Hawks, but Northup’s buzzer beater seemed to quash the momentum.

The second quarter the Hounds got within eight points two minutes into the quarter and then both teams went cold, and scoreless, for five full minutes before the Hounds scored to make it an 18-24 game. Each team would add a bucket for a 20-26 Central Lee lead going into the lockerroom.

Fort Madison applied pressure and came away with a win.

See **HOUNDS**, page 2
News is built for sale, so buy what you want

NEWS - Continued from Page 1

an article, or pick up a newspaper, you're choosing to read it. Whether it be Bresnahan or Mashable or Politico or USA Today...whatever...it's all slanted one way or another based on the ownership's leanings. Most of you have your favorites, the ones that prepare the dialogue to be specifically consumed by you. The number one priority is not informing you...it's selling to you. They sell it, obviously, by creating an audience and selling advertising to the companies that need their message in front of you. You choose to read it because it conforms to your political and socio-economic preferences.

So let's start there. We all know that news isn't produced to inform, but to sell. Kind of hypocritical coming from me considering my company provides news, sports, opinion and advertising space for smaller local companies to reach people in the local market. What I try to do is that different is not to spin. I just fill in the gaps between quotes from the people that are supposed to be in the know and then let you, the reader, at your choosing, consume it. They will, without a doubt, do the spinning. The reader is charged with consuming that information from that assumption - that we aren't talking against your grain, it's our sources that may be. We're just giving them the space to do so.

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That's generational and spans the history of American media. But that's Beside the Point.

NEWS - Continued from Page 1

Hounds bounce back Friday loss

WIN - Continued from Page 1

In close

FMHS' Kaleb Cresswell usually does his work from behind the 3-point arc, but Saturday he worked inside drawing fouls and going 12-for-12 from the free throw line as the Hounds dropped Central Lee 67-40.

Junior Kaleb Cresswell, who had just one 3-point-er and a bucket but converted 12-of-12 from the free throw line, led all Hounds with 17 points. The Hounds jumped out to 10-4 start midway through the first period before Central Lee seemed to want to make a game of it and pushed back to end the period at 15-12. However Wilson and his team continued to cause the Hawks trouble in transition and only gave up three 2nd quarter points to the visitors while going on a 25-3 run, spearheaded by Trevor Kokjohn's 14 first half points. He didn't score in the 2nd half.

Landon Bentley drives for one of his 15 points on the night Saturday vs. Central Lee.

Northup's 3 does in Lady Hounds

HOUNDS - Continued from Page 1

timely shooting from senior guard Mercedes Trimbille to outscore the Hawks 7 to 3 until the final minute of the period, where the Hawks got a quick bucket with less than 20 seconds left and then forced a turnover giving the ball back to the Hawks. Northup forced the ball up the court and navigated to the third-point arc where she calmly pulled up and let fly with no time on the clock.

"The Northup girl's a tremendous shooter and very quick with the ball," said FMHS Head Coach Charlie Knipe after the game. "But we knew she was that good, we just couldn't contain her.”

The shot seemed to give the Lady Hawks that momentum they needed to put the game away as they out-scored FM 18-12 the rest of the way, despite 11 points from Mercedes Trimbille in the second half.

Trimble, who's been very hot from the field of late, still is having trouble getting open looks, even with the Lady Hounds imposing front three of Amber Dilsaver, Emily Mitchell and Brittiney Harris.

"We've been working with Mercedes to try and take more shots," said Knipe. "In the last six games she's shooting 82% from the three point line (including a 4 of 4 night against Danville on the 24th). She's learning that we need her to shoot.’”

The loss takes the Lady Hounds to 4-14 on the season with three games left in the regular season starting with a road trip to Washington on Friday. Trimble led all FMHS scorers with 19 points. Mariah Trimble had 6, Harris added 5, Emily Mitchell had 4 points, Anna Kester had 3 and Taylor Shannon added 2.

In Friday's game vs. Mount Pleasant, Mercedes Trimbille and Dilsaver led the Lady Hounds with 13 and 12 points respectively as Fort Madison fell 55-42 after giving up a first quarter lead. Kester had 5 points that game followed by Mariah Trimble, Harris and Shannon all with four points.