

Southwestern grasps 60-36 victory against Carrollton

by Madelaine Gerard, Staff Writer
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JERSEYVILLE - In the second to last game of the **Jersey Community High School Holiday Tournament**, the **Southwestern High School Piasa Birds** and the **Carrollton High School Lady Hawks** basketball teams battled it out on **Tuesday**.

After winning their two games on Monday against **Freeburg High School (66-22)** and **Collinsville High School (50-28)**, Southwestern went into this game fairly strong with confidence necessary to back up their raw talent.

“It was a great hard played game,” Southwestern coach **Steve Wooley** said. “We did much better pushing the ball tonight and they definitely knew that we would want to come down. They would then be patient offensively, even though we wanted to be faster.”

Ultimately, the Piasa Birds defeated the Lady Hawks in a victory at **60-36** at the final buzzer.

Senior **Maddy Greeling** led the her team to victory with 14 points scored by three baskets, two three-pointers and two free-throws. Closely behind her with 12 points earned were seniors **Malea Bailey** and **Kelsey Rhoades**. Senior **Mackenzie Woolf** contributed eight points to her team’s score. Junior Jenna Moore brought in six points. Senior **Erin Laubscher**, junior **Samantha Burns** and senior **Karlie Green**, and junior **Mallory Novak** brought in three, two and one point respectively.



Southwestern will battle head-to-head with **Calhoun High School** in the championship game at **7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 30.**

Carrollton coach **Brian Madison** had larger hopes for his team over the span of the tournament but he is still genuinely proud of his girls.

“I do think we played Southwestern tough,” he said. “I’m proud of the way we played. Our juniors really stepped up over the summer in leadership roles and with some experience, the chemistry between these girls will start paying off once we get some more experience under our belt.

Junior **Emily Struble** really stepped into a leadership position, scoring 14 points overall for her team. Freshman **Hannah Krumwiede** showed athleticism beyond her age, bringing in 10 points by a successful basket, one three-pointer and a whomping five free-throws. Juniors **Carley Pyatt** and **Hannah Robinson** both brought in five points each. Sophomore **Claire Williams** could only bring in two points for the Hawks from free-throws.

Carrollton had lost their two prior games in the tourney before Southwestern; the Lady Hawks lost their first match to Freeburg **59-35** in the Midgets’ favor and day two’s kick-off match against **Collinsville High School** was lost by just nine points with a score of **58-47.**

Carrollton will face **Granite City High School** at **3 p.m. on Wednesday** to conclude participation in the tournament.

