

WR falls short

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Standard Journal

By Chris Nagy

DANVILLE—The deck was stacked against the Warrior Run Defenders Wednesday night.

Playing without freshman point guard Emily Webb, who was injured during the quarterfinals, the Defenders came out on the short end of a 35-31 decision to Central Columbia in the District 4 Class AA girls basketball semifinal.

"We had two days to get ready to play without Webb and they played excellent," said Warrior Run head coach. "To give the effort they did tonight playing without their starting point guard was outstanding.

"I couldn't be more proud of them."

Central (15-9) will play Mount Carmel Saturday at Shikellamy for the district title. Warrior Run will take on Montoursville at 3pm Saturday at Milton in the third-place game with the winner advancing to the state tournament.

Early on, it looked like the Defenders would be fine without Webb at the point.

Using a stingy defense, Warrior Run (20-6) blanked Central 9-0 in the first quarter and was up 13-0 with six minutes to play in the second.

Then it all changed.

Central was able to get the ball inside to Lindsey Carl and that ignited the offense.

"In the first quarter we did a great job on their guards and they weren't able to get the ball into Carl," said Weaver. "In the second quarter, our guards backed away a little and that was enough for them to get the ball inside and it worked."

Carl had 10 points in the final six minutes as Central went on a 17-2 run to go into the locker room up 17-15.

"That run was the key to the game," said Weaver. "That was the difference."

Central tried to pull away in the third quarter but Warrior Run held tough even though seniors Chloe Eisenhuth and Steph Shamburg each picked up their fourth foul.

The Blue Jays held a 26-19 lead with 90 seconds left but the Defenders closed on a 5-0 run to make it 26-24 going into the fourth.

With 4:27 left, Laura Bastian tied it with a layup and it stayed that way until the 2:45 mark.

Central brought the ball up and Taylor Knorr fell to the floor and rolled, which is usually called as a travel. The officials did not call it and Knorr got the ball to Madeline Murtin who drained a trey from the corner to make it 31-28 and Warrior Run never recovered.

Warrior Run 31 Central Columbia 35



Warrior Run's Abby Fisher, center, pulls up for a jump shot against Central Columbia's Kim Hollister (10) Wednesday night.

District 4 Class AA

Semifinal

at Danville High School

Central Columbia 35, Warrior Run 31

Central (15-9) 0 17 9 9—35

Warrior Run (20-6) 9 6 9 7—31

Central Columbia (35)

Kim Hollister 1 1-2 3, Madeline Murtin 3 2-2 10, Lindsey Carl 6 3-4 15, Allison McCracken 1 0-2 2, Taylor Knorr 0 3-4 3, Karissa Flick 1 0-0 2. Totals: 12 9-14 35.

3-point goals: Murtin 2.

Fouled out: McCracken

Did not score: Molly Moroney.

Warrior Run (31)

Chloe Eisenhuth 0 2-2 2, Abby Fisher 3 4-6 11, Steph Shamburg 1 0-0 2, Madi Welliver 5 2-6 12, Laura Bastian 1 0-1 2, Mackenzie Hays 0 2-2 2. Totals: 10 10-17 31.

3-point goals: Fisher.

Fouled out: Shamburg.

Did not score: Olivia George, Madie Beyer, Rachel Grow.