

## BOYS HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

## M-G protects lead vs. Panthers

**BY RICK TEVERBAUGH**  
FOR THE HERALD BULLETIN

FAIRMOUNT — It was the classic inside-outside punch that finally enabled Madison-Grant to put away Elwood in a boys basketball game Friday night.

Argylls senior Isaac Cooper softened up the Panthers inside in the opening quarter and then the sharpshooters did the rest in a 75-63 verdict.

"It was our focus tonight," said Madison-Grant coach Brian Trout. "I told our bigs that we could dominate on the offensive and defensive end. We did that on the offensive end."

Cooper hit all five of his shots in the opening quarter on his way to a team-high 18 points for the

night.

"We played over the top too much and then didn't get backside help," said Elwood coach Matthew Corn.

So the home team (2-3) led 14-9 after one quarter.

"Eventually they have to start trying to take that away," said Trout about the defensive reaction he expected from the Panthers. "Then our shooters were able to get some good looks."

One stretch proved particularly telling in the second period.

"In the second quarter, No. 30 (sophomore Kaden Howell) hit three 3s and that really hurt," said Korn. "On two of those our hands never got above the waist."

Howell had a 12-point second quarter to help lift the Argylls to a 38-25 lead. That lead never got any smaller in the second half and might have looked quite large to Madison-Grant fans as the Argylls have lost their three games by a combined total of six points.

"All of our games have gone right down to the buzzer," said Trout. "Overall I was pleased with our performance until the final five minutes or so. We hadn't played with a lead like that in a

Madison-Grant

**75**

Elwood

**63**



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**Madison-Grant's Isaac Cooper** goes up with a finger roll as Elwood's Cole Courtney defends.

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