

Warriors whipped by Bettendorf

Written by Jim Ecker

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Cedar Rapids Washington coach Justin Decker did not like the way his team prepared for Friday night's basketball game against the Bettendorf Bulldogs at the Washington gym.

The results showed on the court.

Bettendorf killed the Warriors with put-backs and dumped the home team, 58-43, in a non-conference game.

Bettendorf scored 16 points following offensive rebounds and won the game by 15. Decker did not have to look much further to see the difference in the game.

"I figured if we were out-toughed and out-disciplined we were going to lose the game, and that's exactly what happened from the start," he said.

"Our guys played hard, but I didn't think they were prepared and ready to go.

"They exposed us, obviously, on the glass. We turned it over too much. We left a lot of possessions out there. I figured if we did that we were going to lose."

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Bettendorf opened a 16-point lead in the second half, but Washington rallied and pulled within eight points at 41-33 when Hunter Strait scored on a baseline drive to begin the fourth quarter. But the game slipped away from the Warriors from there as the Bulldogs built a 17-point margin at 54-37 with 3:41 left and coasted to the victory.

"I didn't like our practice yesterday and I didn't like our shoot-around and stuff today," said Decker, in his first year at Washington. "If you fail to prepare, you're preparing to fail, and I think that's what we did tonight.

"Credit to Bettendorf," he said. "They exposed us. Hats off to them."



Keion Wills led Washington with 18 points and seven rebounds. Laveechie Williams, playing with a mask to protect a broken nose, scored nine points and snared 14 rebounds. Ian Thomas gave the Warriors a spark off the bench with nine points.

Washington (1-1) finished with more offensive rebounds than Bettendorf, 18 to 17, but the Bulldogs put many of their offensive rebounds back in the basket while the Warriors misfired on theirs.

Zack Emard led Bettendorf (1-0) with 15 points and 13 rebounds. Joe Martens provided 11 points and 10 boards.

"It was a good test for us," Decker said. "You don't want a loss, but you can learn something

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from it. We can take a lot from this one."

BETENDORF (58): Baer 0 0-0 0, Wellman 1 2-2 4, Young 1 1-2 3, Clearman 1 0-0 3, Hutter 0 1-2 1, Jackson 4 0-1 9, Emard 6 2-3 15, Martens 4 2-3 11, Lindaman 1 1-2 3, Fall 1 0-0 2, Grothusen 3 1-2 7, Hill 0 0-0 0. Totals 22 10-18 58.

WASHINGTON (43): Wills 5 6-9 18, Strait 2 0-0 4, Dawson 0 0-0 0, C.Beard 0 0-0 0, Bennett 0 0-0 0, Hobbs 0 0-0 0, Thomas 4 0-0 9, D.Beard 0 0-0 0, Jackson 1 1-2 3, Williams 4 1-6 9, Jonasson 0 0-0 0, Potter 0 0-0 0. Totals 16 8-17 43.

Halftime - Bettendorf 29, Washington 19. 3-point goals - Bettendorf 4 (Clearman 1, Jackson 1, Emard 1, Martens 1), Washington 3 (Wills 2, Thomas 1).