

No. 2 Maize South pulls away to easily handle Andover

By LIONEL TIPTON

Maize South's boys team is the second-ranked team in Class 5A, with only Kapaun Mount Carmel's unbeaten juggernaut ahead of the Mavericks.

Maize South (15-3) offered convincing proof of its strength Tuesday night against an Andover team that came in having graduated much of its scoring and with a first-year coach.

Trey O'Neil, in his first season with the Trojans, has a 4A title from his time at Hugoton and has already guided Andover to 10 victories, but the veteran Maize South squad just proved too tough, racing to a 57-33 victory over the visiting Trojans.

Andover (10-7) struggled against the Maize South defense, not even getting on the scoreboard until two minutes had elapsed.

"I thought we got good looks and just didn't make any," O'Neil said. "Obviously, if you're not making shots, your defense is going to break down at some point."

"I thought we guarded for the most part pretty well, but if you don't make shots, you can't continue to guard."

The Trojans had just 13 points at halftime — one point less than the Mavericks had in the first quarter.

It really came down to a case of Maize South's diversified arsenal being able to hit shots, and Andover struggling.

After three quarters, the Mavericks lead was 39-22. The Trojans kept battling, but Maize South, led by juniors Jalen Batiste (13 points) and Stratton Ebers (11 points). The duo hit six of the Mavericks' eight three-pointers in the game, and that largely was enough to keep Maize South cruising.

"They've got a good team," O'Neil said afterward. "With the point guard (Paxton Scott) and Jalen (Batiste) — he's a really good ballplayer — and obviously everybody knows the big boy down low (6-foot-7 post Cy Stucky), he's a Washburn commit, and he's really physical, really skilled."

"I thought their role players were a lot better than I thought they were, watching them on film."

"So, I was pretty impressed with what I saw from Maize South."

It was Andover's second-worst loss of the season. Only a loss to Class 6A Shawnee Mission South had a larger margin.

O'Neil said this game wasn't indicative of what this team is capable of doing.

"It would be nice if we had the Eli Shetlars and B.J. Redics out there," he said. "I love this group that we have. They're great kids. They're a lot better ball team than what they showed the last couple of nights out."

"Once it clicks, it's going to be good for us."

With a new coach, there's going to be some adjustments to be made, but O'Neil said he likes how things have gone.

"It's gone well," he said of the adjustment. "We've got a group of seniors that are just the highest caliber-type of kid that you could ask for. Then, we've got a good junior class coming up, and our sophomores and freshmen are doing really well."

"It's just not translating right now. And we've got to do something to make it translate for these kids."

The Trojans found themselves behind the 8-ball early, and 10 first-half

points from Batiste helped stake the Mavericks to their halftime lead.

Things really didn't get any better in the second half. Five different Mavericks scored in a 16-point third quarter, led by six from junior guard Scott.

In the fourth quarter, Ebers scored all 11 of his points, including three three-pointers. Sophomore reserve Greyson Strelow also had a three-pointer in the period as Mavericks coach Joe Johnson sent in his backups.

Seniors Griffin Hand and Walker McClellan did their best to score for Andover, finishing with 14 and 10 points, respectively.

"Griffin is going to keep firing on all cylinders, and that's what we need," O'Neil said. "We need him to shoot the basketball well for us. Walker McClellan has got a lot on his plate, and we're just trying to get him some help surrounding him, and (6-7 junior post) Drew (Hutchinson) is battling some sickness, just like every other team in the state right now (has) got that sickness bug."

"We just need some other players to step up and knock them on film."

down some shots — our main guys we need to step up and knock down some shots."

But Maize South placed nine players in the scoring column, and Stucky was a formidable force in the middle and was active whenever the Trojans tried to go into the lane.

An 11-0 Mavericks run to open the third quarter essentially decided the game, increasing the 23-13 halftime lead to 34-13 in a span of 3:01. Stucky hit a hook shot, set up a Scott layup, then a Batiste three-pointer was followed by back-to-back Scott layups.

In the fourth quarter, the final 2:24 was mostly three-pointers, two by Ebers and one by Strelow for Maize South, and a three-pointer and two free throws by Hand for Andover.

Next up for the Trojans is a road game at archrival Andover Central, a team Andover has already beaten at home, 63-52, on Jan. 13.

O'Neil said Friday's game should be a good matchup.

"We're both kind of struggling, but we're both two pretty good ball teams," he said. "We're excited to get

**Maize South 57,
Andover boys 33**

Andover 6 7 9 11 — 33
Maize South 14 9 16
18 — 57
ANDOVER — Henry 1
0-0 2, Hand 4 (2) 4-4
14, McClellan 5 0-0
10, Eiler 2 (1) 2-2 7.
Totals 12 (3) 6-6 33.
MAIZE SOUTH —
Scott 4 (1) 0-0 9,
Pauly 2 (1) 0-0 5,
Ebers 4 (3) 0-1 11,
Batiste 5 (3) 0-0 13,
Stucky 2 1-2 5, Clinton
3 0-0 6, Haynes 2 0-0
4, Marcotte 0 1-2 1,
Strelow 1 (1) 0-0 3.
Totals 23 (9) 2-5 57.

to their place. They came to ours ... and (we'll) hopefully get this back rolling on the 'win' side."

That would be a good time for the Trojans' shots to start falling, O'Neil said.

"I hope those floodgates open up," he said.

The Trojans have just one home game left in the final six games, on Feb. 20 against Goddard Eisenhower.

Andover won the first game against the Tigers, 54-29, on Dec. 16 at Eisenhower.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Published in the Butler County Times-Gazette
Feb 14, 2026
IN THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT, BUTLER COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DOROTHY E. WEDMAN Deceased.
Case Number: BU-2026-PR-000014
PURSUANT TO K.S.A.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHAPTER 59

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED

You are notified that on February 4, 2026, a Petition for Issuance of Letters Co-Administration under the Kansas Simplified Estates Act was filed in this Court by Thomas D. Wedman, an heir of Dorothy E. Wedman, deceased.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Published in the Butler County Times-Gazette
Feb 14, 21, 28, 2026
JAMES L. HARGROVE #08889

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IN THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT, BUTLER COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of JUDITH A. LILLEY a/k/a JUDITH ANN LILLEY, Deceased

CASE NO. BU-2026-PR-000015 (Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on February 6, 2026, a Petition for Probate of Will and Appointing Executor under the Kansas Simplified Estates Act was filed in this Court by Ralph L. Lilley, Jr., heir, devisee and legatee, and alternate executor named in the Last Will and Testament of Judith A. Lilley a/k/a Judith Ann Lilley, deceased.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within four months from the date of the first publication of this notice as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Ralph L. Lilley, Petitioner

JAMES L. HARGROVE

Attorney at Law

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PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF BUTLER COUNTY, KANSAS CIVIL COURT DEPARTMENT

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION

Plaintiff, vs.

JOSEPH C CRANE, ET AL.

Defendants.

Case No.: BU-2026-

CV-000030

Division No.

Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter

60

Title to Real Estate Involved

NOTICE OF SUIT

THE STATE OF KANSAS, to the above-named defendants and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successor trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown

executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, successors and assigns of any defendants that are or were partners or in partnership; the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or are under any legal disability; and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any person alleged to be deceased and all other persons who are or may be concerned.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the District Court of Butler County, Kansas, praying to foreclose a real estate mortgage on the following described real estate:

Lot 7, Block "D", Bicentennial First Addition, a subdivision in the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 20, Township 27 South, Range 3 East of the 6th P.M., in Butler County, Kansas.

COMMONLY KNOWN AS:

248 S PATRICK HENRY ROAD, ANDOVER, KS 67002 ("Property")

and all those defendants who have not otherwise been served are required to plead to the Petition on or before March 27, 2026, in the District Court of Butler County, Kansas. If you fail to plead, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

NOTICE

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information will be used for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
MARINOSCI LAW GROUP,
P.C.

/s/ David V. Noyce David V. Noyce, #20870 11111 Nall Avenue, Suite 104 Leawood, KS 66211 Phone: (913) 800-2021 Fax: (913) 257-5223 dnoyce@mlg-defaultlaw.com ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

MARINOSCI LAW GROUP, P.C. AS ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFF IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

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Classified shoppers aren't desperate... just smart consumers that like to save money.

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/s/ TIMOTHY ELDREDGE, Mayor