

**By LaDonna Swedberg**

*Sports Writer*



The Wallace boys basketball team got their season started off in a positive way when they defeated the Maywood Tigers 68-37.

It appeared that first game jitters were a factor because with nearly five minutes ticking off the clock, there were only five total points on the score board. Once everyone settled down, however, the game picked up and everyone contributed for the win.

The first five minutes of the game both teams were working to establish their offense. The only points scored during that time came from a Josh Grauerholz basket and a free throw by Landon Swedberg. Tyler Bollish had the only basket for Maywood.

With 3:09 left in the quarter, Swedberg got the lid off the Wildcat basket when he put down two free throws and shortly after he and Grauerholz each got a bucket by put backs off of rebounds.

Free throws were big for the Wildcats in the first quarter as they went 10 for 12 from the line. Levi White hit two big three-pointers for Maywood in the opening quarter to help their cause but the quarter ended with the Wildcats leading 16-10.

Wallace continued to roll in the second quarter with a number of players putting points on the board. John Marquardt and Lane Scott both got buckets off of rebounds early in the quarter. Taylor Doell then found the touch and after hitting a jumper, he came back and drained one from beyond the arch.

Late in the quarter, Shane Anders and Jose Arvizo contributed to the Wildcat lead. With so many players scoring, Wallace was able to put 22 additional points on the board holding Maywood to only 12 and the halftime score was 38 -22.

The Wildcats did not lose any momentum during the halftime break, they came out in the third quarter and continued their control of the game. Swedberg earned his points in the paint, Grauerholz and Doell scored on short jump-shots and Anders had a put back off a rebound.

Wallace only seemed to get stronger as the game progressed.

The defense held the Tigers to just six fourth quarter points while the Wildcats had seven different players score before the final buzzer.

Kody Funk, Hayden Woodcox and Dustin Fosbinder all came off the bench to add to the Wildcat lead.

Coach Hesse was pleased with the way the season started for his young team. He would like to see improvement in taking care of the ball but all in all, it was a good game for a season opener.

Leading scorers for the Wildcat offense were Swedberg with 18, Doell with 13 and Grauerholz with 11.

### **Next Action**

Wallace will host the Maxwell Wildcats on Friday, Dec. 9 and then they will travel to Wauneta

on Saturday to make up the postponed game from last Saturday.