

**Boys**

From page 8

field Gisinger was not happy with the defense.

"I will have to watch the film, but I thought we were getting beat to spots tonight," said Gisinger. "I thought we were getting beat on the dribble. I thought they were beating us off of cuts. They just could not convert some easier shots that they had."

Arcola shot 45 percent from the field.

"We have to do a better job of beating guys to the spot," said Gisinger. We have to have a little more pride in guarding the dribble. I know they scored 22 points, but I don't think we were very good defensively tonight to our standards as a program. We just got by with it tonight. I don't think we played that well tonight. We were not really engaged. We came into the locker room before the game and guys were not really focused"

Gisinger also said he was a little bit worried about being a trap game.

"We were coming off a third place win at Dieterich in an exciting game against Grayville, who is pretty good. Then we had a big game against No. 3 LSA. So, this was a trap game and we kind of played like that (29 point win). We have to be mentally tougher than that and respect our opponents and play the game the way we are supposed to play it every night."

**Junior varsity**

Arcola won both of its games coming away with a convincing 52-15 win over Blue Ridge and then nipping LSA 47-39 in overtime.

Against the Lions Arcola led 29-25 heading into the fourth and the game went to overtime tied at 39. The Purple Riders held LSA scoreless with Bryan Mendoza scoring six points.

D.J. Stevens had 14 as did Canton Wesch, who scored

eight in the opening quarter.

Against Blue Ridge D. J. Stevens led the way with 19, while Aiden Smith was also in double figures with 13 points.

Arcola led the Knights 28-7 at the half.

**Freshmen/sophomore**

The freshman-sophomore team traveled to Decatur St. Teresa Saturday and lost 42-29 as they were outscored 28-11 in the second and fourth quarters.

Aiden Smith led the Purple Riders with 12 points.

**Varsity**  
 Arcola 4 17 13 22-56  
 Decatur LSA 17 10 19 18-64

ARCOLA: Aldo Garcia 3-5-13, Garardo Alanis 2-2-7, Tyson Lewis 0-1-1, Braden Phillips 4-1-9, Jackson Miller 9-5-24, Ryan Lindstrom 1-0-2, Bryan Mendoza 0-0-0, Totals 17-14-56

3-point goals: Arcola 8 (Garcia 2, Alanis 1, Miller 5), Decatur LSA 1 (Sebastian Hill). Free throws: Arcola 14-18 (.778), Decatur LSA 9-16 (.563)

**Blue Ridge** 1 4 8 9-22  
 Arcola 9 19 16 10-51

ARCOLA: Garcia 0-0-0, Alanis 4-1-10  
 Tyson Lewis 0-2-2, Phillips 10-3-23, Miller 6-0-3, Lindstrom 0-0-0, Stevens 1-0-3, Max

Rardin 0-0-0, Mendoza 0-0-0, Wayne Humphrey 0-0-0, Totals 21-6-51

3-point goals: Blue Ridge 1-8 .125 (Austin Wike 1-1, Zach Lewis 0-3, Isaac Price 0-2, Gabe Strough 0-1, Colin Michaels 0-1). Arcola 3-16 .188 (Miller 2-10, Lindstrom 0-2, Garcia 0-1, Alanis 1-2, Humphrey 0-1) Free throws: Blue Ridge 9-14 .643, Arcola 6-7 .857. Rebounds: Blue Ridge 25 (Strough, Price 4), Arcola 22 (Alanis 7). Bench points: BlueRidge 5, Arcola 3. Turnovers: Blue Ridge 21, Arcola 8. Field goals: Blue Ridge 6-26 .231, Arcola 21-44 .447

**Junior varsity**  
 Arcola 11 8 10 10 8-47  
 Decatur LSA 9 8 8 14 0-39

ARCOLA: Stevens 5-1-14, Canton Wesch 5-0-14, Aiden Smith 4-0-9, Rardin 0-0-0, Haris Mayhal 0-0-0, Mendoza 3-4-10, Aiden Myers 0-0-0, Totals 12-5-47

3-point goals: Arcola 8 (Stevens 3, Wesch 4, Smith 1)  
**Blue Ridge** 5 2 8 0-15  
 Arcola 20 8 18 6-52

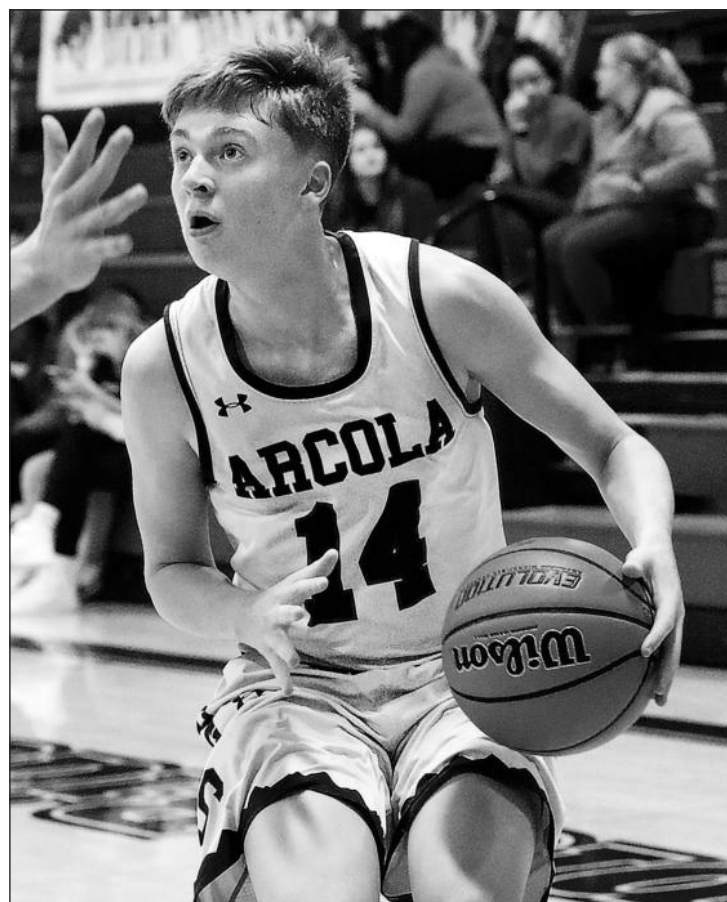
ARCOLA: Stevens 7-1-19, Wesch 2-0-6, Rardin 2-0-5, Humphrey 0-0-0, Mendoza 2-0-4, Aiden Smith 5-0-11, Mayhal 1-0-2, Myers 2-0-5, Totals 21-1-52

3-point goals: Arcola 9 (Stevens 4, Wesch 2, Smith 1, Rardin 1, Myers)

**Freshmen/sophomore**  
 Arcola 9 3 9 8-29  
 Decatur St. Teresa 10 12 4 16-42

ARCOLA: Stevens 2-1-6, Wesch 1-0-2, Smith 5-2-12, Rardin 0-0-0, Mendoza 1-1-3, Mayhal 2-0-6, Anthony Lira 0-0-0, Myers 0-0-0, Totals 11-4-29

3-point goals: Arcola 3 (Mayhal 2, Stevens 1)



**ARCOLA HIGH SCHOOL junior Jackson Miller (14) looks for a shot in a varsity game with Blue Ridge played Tues., Jan. 3 in Arcola. Arcola's varsity won 51-22. Photo by Nancy Rairden.**



**ARCOLA HIGH SCHOOL sophomore Kacie Sisk (23) goes in for a basket while being closely guarded by a player from Hoopeston Area in a game played Sat., Jan. 7 in Arcola. Sisk was high scorer for Arcola with 21 points. Arcola's varsity won 49-33. Photo by Nancy Rairden.**

**Girls**

From page 8

We are getting better. A lot of more inside -out stuff that we were not doing in the year. A lot more easier shots for guards."

**Arcola 49, Hoopeston 33**

Hoopeston trailed, but never by more than nine in the first half and took its first and only lead on a 3-pointer for a 26-25 lead. The game was deadlocked for the fourth and final time at 27 when Arcola scored the final six points, including four by Thomas and two by Reyli Vega. The lead grew to eight, 35-27 after a basket by Sisk.

However, the Cornjerkers, 9-8, made one final run and got to within four, 38-34.

Arcola scored the final 11 points of the game; two free throws by Moore; four points by Thomas on assists from Sisk and Moore; a free throw by Sisk; a free throw and a 3-pointer by Kessler happened during the run against the 2-3 zone.

"We wanted to get the ball inside on our four one offense and getting her (Kessler, who had seven of her nine points in the pivotal fourth quarter)

baskets. Sisk, who had 21 points, knocked down a lot of 8-10 footers," said Roberts. "We didn't do anything semantically different than the first half, but we were just executing and finishing shots."

Thomas scored five of the first nine points as Arcola started out the non-conference game leading 9-0.

Hoopeston cut the deficit to 13-11, hitting a 3-pointer for the final points of the opening eight minutes.

The Cornjerkers tied the game with the first basket of the second quarter, but Arcola remained in front after a bucket by Sisk and one by Vega for a 17-13 advantage. The Lady Riders held a 21-16 lead after a putback by Sisk for the final points of the half.

**Arcola 61, Heritage 14**

Arcola wasted no time in taking control of the game with the first 28 points, all in the opening quarter as the Lady Riders led 30-2 after the first eight minutes.

Hopkins started off the scoring with a 3-pointer, Sisk sank two free throws and Jacey Kessler netted a 3-pointer. Moore's three-point play made it 11-9. Sisk, Kessler and

a layup by Crystal Ramirez scored on a feed from Thomas for a 17-0 lead. Ramirez scored two and Thomas scored on an assist from Kessler. Emma Vazquez, a 5-10 senior, scored, Thomas made a free throw and Vazquez scored again, this time on a putback for a 28-0 lead. Heritage, 0-13, scored with 18 seconds remaining in the quarter.

Arcola led 46-6 at the half. Heritage was 4-of-20 (.200) from the field.

Ramirez led the way with 13 points for AHS

**Junior Varsity**

The junior varsity didn't play an entire game in the two games it had, but did beat Hoopeston Area 10-2 as Ramirez and Hayden Gauna had four points each.

Ava Simpson had five points to lead the Lady Riders past Blue Ridge 14-5 in a game that one half was played.

**Varsity**  
 Okaw Valley 6 14 5 11-35  
 Arcola 12 9 22 12-55

ARCOLA: Eva Hopkins 3-3-9, Jacey Kessler 2-2-7, Kelsey Moore 3-3-10, Mackenzie Thomas 4-0-8, Kacie Sisk 6-2-14, Reyli Vega 1-3-5, Crystal Ramirez 1-0-2, Vanessa Condarco 0-0-0, Emma Vazquez 0-0-0, Ava Simpson 0-0-0, Totals 20-13-55

3-point goals: Arcola 2-8 .250 (Kessler 1-4, Moore 1-2, Hopkins 0-1, Sisk 0-1), Okaw Valley 5-16 .313 (Bailey Bennett 1-2, Lexie

Bartimus 2-2, Madison Whitney 1-5, Rissa Montgomery 1-1, Reagan Reedy 0-2, Julia Schrock 0-1, Megan Roley 0-1). Rebounds: Arcola 30 (Thomas 8), Okaw Valley 21 (Sydney Reynolds 5). Free throws: Arcola 13-19 (.684), Okaw Valley 8-9 .889. Bench points: Arcola 7, Okaw Valley 11. Turnovers: Arcola 14, Okaw Valley 21

**Hoopeston Area** 11 5 10 7-33  
 Arcola 13 8 12 16-49

ARCOLA: Hopkins 0-0-0, Kessler 3-1-9, Moore 1-2-3, Thomas 5-0-10, Sisk 10-1-21, Vega 2-0-4, Ramirez 0-0-0, Condarco 0-0-0, Emma Vazquez 0-0-0, Totals 21-5-49

3-point goals: Arcola 2 (Kessler 2), Hoopeston Area 5 (Carie Breymer 5). Free throws: Arcola 5-16 .313, Hoopeston Area 6-12 .500. Bench points: Arcola 4, Hoopeston Area 0.

**Heritage** 2 4 6 2-14  
 Arcola 30 16 6 9-61

ARCOLA: Vega 0-0-0, Hopkins 2-1-6, Kessler 3-0-7, Moore 3-1-7, Sisk 3-2-8, Alissa Menoud 0-0-0, Ramirez 6-0-13, Eva Simpson 1-0-2, Thomas 3-1-7, Emma Vazquez 3-1-7, Vanessa Condarco 0-0-0, Shelby Roberts-McGeehon 0-0-0, Kiera Leal 1-0-3, Ava Simpson 0-0-0, Totals 25-6-61

3-point goals: Arcola 4 (Hopkins 1, Kessler 1, Ramirez 1, Leal 1). Heritage 1 (Paige George 1). Free throws: Arcola 6-16 .375, Heritage 1-2 .500. Bench points: Arcola 25, Heritage 5.

**Junior varsity**  
 Hoopeston Area 2-2  
 Arcola 10-10

ARCOLA: Ramirez 2-0-4, Ema Simpson 0-0-0, Roberts-McGeehon 0-0-0, Hayden Gauna 2-0-4, Kiera Leal 0-0-0, Alissa Menoud 0-0-0, Kaydence Nichols 1-0-2, Totals 5-0-10

3-point goals: Arcola 0,  
**Heritage** 5 0-5  
**Arcola** 6 8-14

ARCOLA: Alessia Menoud 0-2-2, Ema Simpson 0-1-1, Shelby Roberts-McGeehon 1-0-2, Kiera Leal 0-0-0, Ava Simpson 2-1-5, Addisyn Ploski 2-0-4, Nichols 0-0-0, Totals 5-4-14  
 3-point goals: Arcola 0, Heritage 1



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