

Jackson-Milton dominates Mathews, on to district final

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MINERAL RIDGE — The Jackson Milton defense was feisty on Wednesday night as the top-seeded Blue Jays used 19 steals to help them dominate the Mathews Mustangs, 51-30, in the second game of the Division IV Mineral Ridge district semifinal doubleheader.

The Blue Jays' defense blanketed Mathews' players all night, allowing just 11 points in the first half to take a 16-point lead in to the locker

room.

Jackson-Milton coach Pat Keney was pleased with how his team played defensively, something he's come to expect from his young team.

"We came to play defensively tonight," Keney said. "We rely on our defense to force turnovers and allow our offense to get out in the open floor and score in transition."

Nineteen steals is hard for any team to give up and expect to win.

See **Jackson-Milton**, 2C



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Mathews' Katarina Schubert, left, steals the ball from Jackson-Milton's Kaitlyn Totani Wednesday in a Division IV district semifinal at Mineral Ridge High School.

Jackson-Milton

From Page 1C

Mathews coach Joe Bornemiss knew his team gave the ball away too much to be competitive.

"I told them before the game that you have to be strong with the ball against this team because they are a strong team," Bornemiss said. "If you don't turn the ball over as much as we did against these guys, you have a chance, but we

started throwing the ball around and it got away from us."

Jackson-Milton spread their scoring around with four players finishing in double figures.

Junior guard Ashley Totani posted a good all-around performance, scoring 13 points and swiping seven steals for Jackson-Milton.

Sophomore Michaelina Terranova was not far behind with 12 points and six steals in the

win. Senior Olivia Wolfe led all scorers in the game with 14 points for the Blue Jays.

"We have been stressing the importance of spreading it around more, especially this time of year," Keney said. "With scouting reports out there, teams are trying to take away our first option, and now we are able to score from all different places."

The win improved the Blue Jays to 22-2 and books

a date with McDonald in the district final on Saturday, the third time Jackson-Milton will be playing McDonald this season. The Blue Jays won the first two contests.

"We know McDonald well, obviously," Keney said. "We have tremendous respect for them, and we know that we will have to come and take care of business here on Saturday. We are really excited for it."

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