

## **BY ROB VANSTONE**

Mission Accomplished for Mishynn Miller and the Lethbridge Collegiate Institute Clippers.

LCI maintained its undefeated record this season by defeating the Winnipeg Dakota Lancers 81-67 in Saturday's senior girls final at the 71<sup>st</sup> Luther Invitational Tournament.

"This is unlike anything I've ever seen before," Miller, the tournament's female MVP, said of LIT while holding a championship trophy.

"There's the student involvement and the effort — even the paintings and banners around the gym. It's just absolutely unreal."

The same can said of the Clippers' depth.

Eleven players hit the produced points for Lethbridge in Saturday night's first of two finals at Luther College High School's Semple Gymnasium.

Madison Kutsch and Tylee Walburger each had 13 points to pace Lethbridge. Miller added 12.

"I love these girls," Miller said. "For a lot of us, this is our last year together.

"Being in Grade 12 and being able to come to Luther for the first time and keep our undefeated streak going is absolutely awesome."

Dakota's top scorers were Taylor Schepp (26 points), Quinn Kelly (17) and Emilie McLean (12).

In the senior boys final, the Saskatoon Walter Murray Marauders got 40 points from Zach Hawley — the tournament's male MVP — en route to registering an 88-73 victory over the Martin Monarchs.

Walter Murray led 42-39 before Hawley scored 19 of the Marauders' 23 third-quarter points to put his team ahead 68-49.

Nickolay Khivrich and Faisal Mahadhi each added 11 points for Walter Murray.

Corban Andres (18 points), Aiden Newton (15), Butoyi Niyomungere (10) and Thomas Olson (10) were Martin's top scorers.

The LeBoldus Golden Suns won the girls third-place game, defeating the Miller Marauders 81-66 in an all-Regina matchup.

The Cardston Cougars claimed third spot in the boys division by defeating Calgary's Ernest Manning Griffins 96-86.

Cardston's Dane Hardy made the male all-star team, along with Mahadhi, Olson, Nathan Matebekwane (Luther) and Grady Wilson (Riffel).

The female all-stars were Kutsch, McLean, Jordyn Neumann (Miller), Nicola Meban (LeBoldus) and Jenelle Deato (Winnipeg Garden City Gophers).

Dakota (female) and the Winnipeg Miles Macdonell Buckeyes (male) were named the most sportsmanlike teams.

Miles Macdonell won the John Chomay Award. Dakota received the Ann Johnson Trophy.

Hustle Awards were presented to Newton (male) and Schepp (female).

Those awards are named in honour of Angela Tillier (female award) and the late Ed Robinson (male). Robinson was the long-time voice of LIT. Tillier, a former Luther teacher and coach, played an instrumental role in the addition of a girls competition at LIT.

The tournament was solely for senior boys teams from 1953 to 2012. A smaller-scale female component, the Challenge Cup, was added in 2013. LIT has showcased eight boys and eight girls teams since 2016.

