

Newell-Fonda just keeps coming at you with its harassing defensive pressure and that's why the Mustangs are the Class 1A state champions.

Megan Morenz led three players in double figures with 19 points and Newell-Fonda completed a dominating run through the 100th state tournament with a 76-52 victory over West Hancock for its second state title.

All-tournament captain Olivia Larsen added 17 points for the Mustangs, who finish 27-0, and Macy Sievers scored 13 to go with six assists and three steals. Newell-Fonda ended up winning its three games at state by an average of 26 points.

But as well as the Mustangs played offensively this week, it's their full-court pressure and quick hands that take them over the top.

West Hancock handled the pressure well for a half and committed a modest seven turnovers through the first two quarters. But Newell-Fonda had 10 steals and forced 14 turnovers alone in the third quarter, ending any hope the Eagles had of coming back.

The Mustangs had 14 steals in the game to finish the tournament with 81. Sievers racked up 17 steals by in the three games to set a 1A tournament record.

Rachel Leerar led West Hancock with 22 points, while Amanda Chizek had 14 points and 14 rebounds. Chizek finished the tournament with 44 rebounds to set a 1A record in that category.

Newell-Fonda won its other state championship in 2015. The Mustangs were second a year ago, the sixth time they finished as the state runners-up.

West Hancock finishes 25-2 after its first championship game appearance. Leerar is a sophomore and the four other starters are junior, so the Eagles are likely to contend for a repeat trip to Wells Fargo Arena next season.

And don't count out Newell-Fonda, either. The Mustangs made it to state for the ninth time in 12 years and they'll have some good returning players in Morenz, Sievers, Ella Larsen and Bailey Sievers.

Joining Olivia Larsen on the all-tournament team were Macy Sievers, Leerar, Chizek, Tori Michel of Marquette Catholic and Shateah Wetering of Montezuma.