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## Bearcats Suffer Second Loss of Season

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*by SMT Writer  
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**Sikeston-** In their first road game of the young season, the Dexter Bearcats traveled east to Sikeston Friday night and found themselves on the short end of a 55-23 score. With 3 starters out due to injuries, the Bearcats turned the ball over 9 times in just the first quarter, allowing Sikeston to establish an early lead from which they were never shaken. Dexter had some success with trying to control the tempo of the game and slow things down a little, but Bearcat Brad Potts sank the only basket for the visitors in the first quarter, which ended with the host team on top 21-2.

Dexter picked up the offense some in the 2nd, but had its hands full trying to hold the ball against their opponent's defense, and no one in attendance was surprised when the teams entered the locker room at the halfway point with Sikeston leading 36-14.

The third quarter found the Bearcats trying to improve their scoring opportunities by using long possessions to get shooters in the clear. But this tactic netted only 4 Bearcat points while the Bulldogs continued to find the basket with regularity and took a 53-18 lead into the final quarter.

Dexter Coach Rob Nichols felt his team might have been a little intimidated, especially at the start of the contest, by the challenge of playing one of the best class 4 teams in the state on their home court.

Life won't get any easier for the Dexter roundballers next week as the Bearcats return to Sikeston Monday for the opening round of the SEMO conference tournament. Fate has not smiled on the team as they have been scheduled to play the tournament's top seed, the Charleston Bluejays, in the final game of Monday night's opening session. The team will certainly benefit from all the support it can get from its devoted fan base in this demanding contest, so make the short drive over to Sikeston Monday night and let the guys know you've got their back!

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