

## Wayne's Trice says Warriors 'haven't played well this entire year'

By Kyle Nagel | Monday, January 18, 2010, 10:20 PM

Wayne basketball coach Travis Trice took awhile talking to his team following the Warriors' 53-43 loss against Montverde (Fla.) Academy in the Flyin' to the Hoop boys basketball event on Monday, Jan. 18, at Trent Arena.

When he came out, he wasn't much nicer.

One might think the coach of a 9-2 team with losses only to respected Gahanna Lincoln and Montverde, ranked No. 25 nationally by USA Today, would be somewhat pleased.

First quote: "We haven't played well this entire year."

Later, he talked about "trying to tell the guys about working hard every game."

And that Montverde, despite the ranking, was "a team, I'm sorry, that was primed and ready for us to beat them."

"Mentally," Trice said, "we were very weak tonight."

One of Wayne's biggest problems Monday was the lack of offensive production by Travis Trice Jr. The Greater Western Ohio Conference's leading scorer, at 23.3 points per game, finished with six points on 2-of-14 shooting, including 1-of-8 on 3-point attempts.

Trice was playing against taller guards — including 6-5 James Bell, a Villanova recruit who finished with 22 points, and 6-5 Jamail Jones, a Marquette recruit. But Trice Sr. said his son's decision-making should have been better.

"If guys are taller, you don't try shooting over them," Trice Sr. said of some of Trice Jr.'s shots that were high arcs to avoid the long opponent arms. "I know some people don't think so, but he's been one of the best players in Dayton over the past couple years, and when things aren't working, he has to be able to turn it into something else."

But, wait a minute. Isn't Wayne 9-2 and No. 1 in the DDN area Division I ratings?

"We're 9-2, but we've probably only played a game and a half of good basketball all season," Trice Sr. said.

Well, if the gap between how Wayne is currently playing and how the Warriors should be playing is so vast — "very, very big" was how Trice Sr. put it — we'd certainly like to see Wayne at full-potential.

That just wasn't how the Warriors played Monday night.