

VHS Winter Sports Report

Boys Basketball – The Loggers have reached the difficult part of their Northwest League schedule and are facing top ten ranked teams every week.

After a huge 74-43 win over highly ranked Life Christian on January 23, the Loggers fell for the second time to Knappa this season, losing 53-33 on January 26.

Between those losses to Knappa, Vernonia had wins over Nestucca, City Christian and Faith Bible, along with the big win over Life Christian. Following their second loss to Knappa, the Loggers bounced back with an 88-44 win over Neah-Kah-Nie on January 28 before suffering a tough 61-59 away loss to second place Columbia Christian on January 31.

The Northwest League is highly competitive with four teams ranked in the top ten in the state and it looks like the District Tournament will be a real fight

for qualification and seeding in the State Tournament.

The Loggers are currently in fourth place with an 8-3 league record and a 13-4 record overall and are ranked #10 in the state.

The Loggers will hit the road with three straight away games at Delphian, Gaston and Life Christian, before returning home for three straight games to close out their season: Delphian on February 9, Gaston on February 11, and Columbia Christian on February 13.

Girls Basketball – The Lady Loggers fell to Faith Bible for the second time this season, losing 50-35 on January 24, but those two losses remain the only blemish on their league record this year.

The Lady Loggers are 10-2 in Northwest League play and have a 14-3 over all record, after defeating Columbia Christian 52-20 on January 31. The Lady Loggers also defeated City Christian 48-38 on January 20, Knappa 36-29 on January 26, and Neah-Kah-Nie 43-16 on January 28.

The Lady Loggers are currently ranked #11 in the state. They will travel to face Gaston on February 6 and Delphian on February 9, before returning home to finish their season with games against Gaston on February 11 and Columbia Christian on February 13.

Wrestling – The Vernonia girl wrestlers took part in the Girls Hood River Invitational Tournament on January 28 where they competed against numerous schools including 5A Hillsboro, and 6A Westview, Century, and Liberty. The Vernonia girls surprised those bigger schools by taking third place out of 28 teams.

Lene Jacobsen was the standout wrestler for Vernonia, taking first place at 130 pounds (the tournament used different weight classes than regular tournaments), winning all her matches by fall. The Loggers had several other very good performances, with Amanda Rose Sicard wrestling extremely well on her way to taking third at 117, while Charity Coleman took fourth at 117. Katie Goodman also took fourth at 110 and Tessa Bomke took fifth.

Head coach Chris Barnes says the rest of the team has also been performing well in several dual meets, including a demolition of Neah-Kah-Nie on January 28 at home. The team is preparing for their League Tournament on February 1 and then the District Tournament on February 17-18. Barnes noted the performances of Storm Henson, Josh Rice, Justin Fletcher

and Hepner Forster, who Barnes said is using creativity in his wrestling and is always looking for ways to get the pin. “He’s always looking for the angles and is pretty exciting to watch,” says Barnes about Forster.

Barnes is feeling confident the team will show well at the District Tournament this year, as he has a very deep roster with at least two wrestlers in every weight class up to 160.



Lene Jacobsen (above) took first place at the Girls Hood River Tournament, Amanda Rose Sicard (below) took third. Photos courtesy of Vernonia Wrestling.



Barnes listed his roster as the team heads to their end-of-season tournaments: Jacob Pasko, Katie Goodman, and Kialia Jackson at 106, Amanda Rose Sicard, Zach Larke and Elijah Bozied at 113, Charity Coleman and Josh Sholes at 120, Mekhi Williams and Isaiah Bozied at 126, Jake Patton and Lene Jacobsen at 132, Justin Fletcher and Corbin Nelson at 138, Hepner Forster and Brendyn Mullikin at 145, Storm Henson, Josh Rice and Nick Bennett at 152 and Chris Lloyd at 160. Barnes says one of the wrestlers at 152 will likely move up to 160 at the District Tournament.

“I think all eighteen of our wrestlers can potentially place at District so I’m pretty excited this year,” says Barnes.

The Logger wrestlers will host Warrenton and Riddle at home on February 7. The State Tournament will be held on February 24-25.

A Year of Holidays

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