

Crusaders, Hornets crush Cougs

By SCOTT JORGENSEN
IVN Staff Writer

The Illinois Valley High School girls varsity basketball team suffered a pair of losses last week against extremely tough teams.

On Tuesday, Jan. 5, the Cougars hosted St. Mary's School and lost 74-21.

"They're a lot taller than us," said coach Steve Marsen. "We always have problems with tall teams."

IVHS produced most of its offense during the third quarter on a series of fast breaks. Junior Kayla Johnson was the Cougars' top scorer, with 8 points. Senior Becca Kaberline scored 6.

On Friday, Jan. 8, the squad traveled to Henley High School and suffered a 71-23 loss.

Junior Laurissa Tausaga scored 11 points, 9 of which came from 3-point shots. Johnson scored 5.

Marsden said that he expected a challenge from Henley, which is one of the top 10 teams in the 4-A conference.

"We had to play a lot of



Cougar Kayla Johnson, swarmed by St. Mary's defenders.
(Photo by Michelle Binker, *Illinois Valley News*)

defense," he said. "They have a couple of girls who are great players. They're definitely the best team we've played all year so far."

The Cougars will host North Valley High School on

Friday, Jan. 15. Marsden said that his team needs to focus on limiting turnovers against the press and improving ball control on offense.

"Those are always the keys for us," he said.

Cave Junction city council ...

(Continued from page 3)
too small to add a dance floor or other similar attractions.

According to her research, Thomas said, hosting Texas Hold 'Em tournaments would draw people to Nacho Mamas.

If Nacho Mamas had people in it on Friday nights, it might actually serve as a deterrent to the recent rash of business break-ins, Thomas said. Her establishment was broken into late last year, along with the Radio Shack immediately adjacent.

Having businesses open at night could stop the criminal element from carrying out misdeeds, she said.

"They own the street after 10 p.m. because the businesses are closed," she said.

Thomas added that social gaming also could be an alter-

native to the bar scene, and could be a fund-raising opportunity for community organizations. The city could realize revenue from licensing fees, she said, before presenting the council a petition signed by 300 area residents supporting her proposal.

Councilor Margaret Miller said that her primary concerns about the proposed social gaming ordinance regarded the city's lack of enforcement capability and police protection. However, Miller acknowledged that due to sheriff's office Deputy George Gasperson, the city contract officer, law enforcement presence is "better than it's ever been." She added that she needed to hear from the sheriff that allowing social gaming would not create problems.

Miller stated that she

would be willing to let citizens vote on the issue. Her fellow councilors agreed, and voted 4-0 to put the proposal on the May 18 ballot. Mayor Don Moore abstained.

Subway Issue Discussed

In another matter Moore addressed the city's recent actions directed to the Subway restaurant on Redwood Hwy. The business lacks a grease trap, which the city said is in violation of a city ordinance.

The ordinance does not take into consideration the way Subway operates, Moore said. He added that he spent one hour at the restaurant on Sunday, Jan. 10. Moore said that upon his inspection, he could not find enough to justify installing a grease trap.

"I don't think it's needed," he said.

The council also held a public hearing on an ordinance to amend the city's existing ordinance regarding Local Improvement Districts and Advance Financing Districts. Under the changes, developers would not be able to use those financial mechanisms, but the city still would be able to.

No public testimony was offered, and a second reading of the ordinance will be scheduled for the council's Feb. 8 meeting.

Moore gave his State of the City Address. He cited many accomplishments for 2009, including the contract with JCISO to have Gasperson patrol for 40 hours per week; fixing the skateboard ramps and tennis courts at Jubilee Park; enacting a public drinking ordinance; and the start of construction on the Kerby Water District project.

For 2010, Moore said that he would like to see the city build a sprinkler park at the swimming pool property on E. River Street.

He added that the city will begin employee union negotiations in the spring. The city also will begin looking for someone to replace Polk, who plans to retire in August.

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Injuries, forfeitures hamper IVHS

By SCOTT JORGENSEN
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There were mixed results last week for the Illinois Valley High School varsity wrestling squad, which has been hampered by injuries and a lack of participation in some weight divisions.

On Wednesday, Jan. 6, the team headed to North Valley High School in Merlin to take on the Knights and won 48-18.

"That went really well for us," said coach Jay Miller.

The Cougars scored pins in most of the light-weight and middle-weight divisions, and had only two losses.

"We were pretty solid through there," Miller said. "We matched up really well against them."

However, that success was not duplicated two days later, when the squad participated in the invitational Oregon Wrestling Classic tournament in Redmond.

Approximately 87 teams participated, but IVHS had to forfeit several matches due to its lack of heavyweights.

"We couldn't make up that difference," Miller said. "It was more than we could overcome."

The Oregon Wrestling Classic is set up as a dual tournament, as opposed to the individual format used for most competitions.

Noted Miller, "The kids we had wrestled really well. But the way the system is set up, you need to have a full team. This last year, we just don't have the kids to compete because of the format."

Miller pointed out that many of the squad's members finished the tournament undefeated.

IVHS is slated to host Phoenix High School on Wednesday, Jan. 13. Miller said he fully expects his grapplers to be challenged by the Pirates.

"They're one of the tougher teams," Miller said. "We're going to do our best."

Prior to the meet, there will be several matches featuring wrestlers in the Cougars youth program. Participants will include grapplers at the middle school level.

"What keeps all of our sports programs going is our youth programs," Miller said. "It will be interesting for people to come watch."

After the meet with Phoenix, the IVHS team will participate in the Eureka Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 16 in Northern California.

That tournament features some of Oregon's top teams and squads from as far as San Jose.

Whether the 6.5 magnitude earthquake that hit the Eureka area on Sunday, Jan. 10, will affect the tourney

schedule was unknown at press time.

Miller said that although some of his wrestlers have been battling injuries, he expects some of them to come back within the next few weeks.

"I'm hoping that those injuries heal up before we get into the district and state tournaments," he said. "But the safety of the kids is more important than winning a dual."

Overall, Miller said he remains optimistic about his squad's prospects for the remainder of the season.

"We've had a good run.

For close to 20 years, we've finished in the top 10," Miller said. "I don't think we'll break that string this year, either. It's a little bit of a down year for us, but we have a good youth program, so we'll be back."

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