

Sports



(Photo courtesy of Kelly Augustadt for The Illinois Valley News)

#40 Senior Kimberly Crow goes in for a lay-up during an early season against North Valley.

IVHS basketball squads trying to make up for lost time

By Jenna Larkin

IVN Contributing Writer

With school back in session following the strong storm the Valley endured, high-school sports were in full swing prior to the Christmas holiday.

The IVHS girls' and boys' basketball teams were playing catch-up all week in an attempt to gain the games that were lost during the week off from school academics and activities.

With only a couple of practices under their belts, both teams played a total of four games during the week of Monday, Dec. 16, to Friday, Dec. 20. During the holiday break both teams also participated in the Christmas Classic Tournament at Cascade Christian.

The girls were 2-4 with a late game scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 28, during the tournament at Cascade Christian High School. The girls played against Cascade Christian on

Thursday, Dec. 26, losing by a final of 33-55.

"Cascade Christian is the top 3-A school in the league, they are a very solid team," said head coach Loren King of his team's loss on December 26.

On Friday, Dec. 27, the girls played North Valley, losing 37-24. The Lady Cougars were in the lead during the first half but fell behind in the second half due to North Valley picking up their game and taking the lead for the duration of the game. In the fourth quarter, both teams were able to score seven points, but IVHS was unable to pull ahead.

With the lack of practices, King said it is hard to get into the flow of the game and to be able to get a feeling for the game. King also said that his offense is not really quite sure what to do. Even though the girls are struggling, they are trying really hard and not giving up, King added.

The girls are scheduled to play again January 2 against Hidden Valley while on the road.

The boys also struggled during the tournament due to lack of practices and not really having the time to come together as a team. On Friday, Dec. 27, the boys went up against Butte Falls, but struggled to keep up during the game, losing 34-50. While not being able to practice and just playing game after game, the boys fought hard to keep up, but weren't able to catch up with Butte Falls.

Even with a loss, the boys were able to keep good spirits and make the best of the game. Conrad Davis, who plays center, was able to score 14 points during the game while Lander Nordal, a forward, had a total of six rebounds.

On Saturday, Dec. 28, the boys had a better game against Rogue River, but lost 35-59. By halftime the Cougars were behind 17 points and were not able to draw near enough to overtake Rogue River. During the second half, the boys were able to hold their own, but still could not score enough to take the win. Davis was able to get eight rebounds and was chosen for the all-

star team for the tournament. Each team chose one player to represent them during a future all-star game. During the same game on Saturday, Zak Welsh, a guard, scored 12 points.

The boys are now 1-5 with the same goals as in the beginning of the season. Head coach Jeff Winters wishes to improve defense and rebounds along with lowering the amount of turnovers.

"We know what the problems are and how to improve we just need to get in practices to improve," said Winters.

The boys next scheduled game is slated for January 2 against Hidden Valley on the road.

With an upcoming break in games, both coaches are hoping to make the most of what few practices they have and teach the players those missing elements to make the teams better and stronger.

Winding Trails: by Al Hobart

Thursday, August 22, 1963 - Illinois Valley News, Cave Junction, OR -

Rambling in the Siskiyou

Ambling along the various trails, in reality and in fantasy, some of them obvious and clear, some shadowy and devious - this is the only life for me.

Observing and enjoying the wild living things and natural beauty that nature has to offer, trying to understand and learn about the wonderful, amazing world we live in; hoping and trying to gather some useful facts to pass along to knowledge-hungry others - all this surely must be a frequently rewarding, always interesting occupation. And, to a more or less limited extent, over a number of years in the past I have found this to

be so.

The Siskiyou Mountain chain is my adopted range and special weakness, and its many old and beautiful trails the lure that makes my old cabin in Packer's Gulch a summer-time headquarters and stopping place between hikes and jeep journeys into the mountains, in search of more information on the wild plant life of the Siskiyou - and for more and better color transparencies of the animal life and the unbeatable scenery to be viewed from some of our high trails.

My love for this sort of thing is so great that at times in hiking on these old dream-inspiring mountain trails, I find it almost impossible to stop until weariness prevents me from going on, and more than once I have been caught in the dark a long way from camp or home. I call this

reckless urge the 'trail raptures'.

The Siskiyou in general, and specifically the Upper Illinois River Valley, which is at the very heart of this old, old mountain range - these are two of old Earth's countless convoluted features that for more than a quarter of a century have affected me most deeply. They have provided me with the greatest thrills and deepest satisfaction of my life, have given me health and happiness of a kind that seems to provide an answer to that often-thought, often-asked question: What's it all about, anyway?

All through our mountains are well-worn trails, some of them unbelievably long, following seemingly never-ending interconnecting ridges; or dipping down here and there to cross through a high green

valley, some of them followed by early pioneers and by the wilderness-loving Indians before them. Many of these wonderful historical old trails have fallen victim to the tidal wave of civilization and have become partly obliterated by logging and other operations, but many others are preserved by the Forest Service and other agencies and are enjoyed by more and more riders and hikers who have come to realize the great pleasure and healthful exercise to be gained by their use.

My ambition is to explore these old mountains, hoping to peep into some hidden nook or remote, lonely spot where no one has ever prowled, there perhaps find a shy plant wildie that has never been catalogued. I have had the pleasure of finding new locations for sev-

eral plants far from their previously known range, and found two new ones for the state of California; but the dream of every botanist is to find a brand new, hitherto unnamed plant, and no more likely place exists in the country for such a discovery than here in our Siskiyou. If I should ever be lucky enough to find one, that will be the uttermost, tiptop peak of my botanical effort.

I'll keep on searching and hoping. Meanwhile the facts of my trail-rambling experiences that seem worthy of telling, and anything of educational or entertainment value I gather or dream up, I'll pass along to those who are interested, especially to my old friends in and about the Valley.

<p>Arts Red Garter Where the Valley comes to play Karaoke - Dancing Live Music</p>	<p>B' Wishes Friday, Jan. 3 @ 5:30 p.m. Taylor's Country Store</p>	<p><i>Wild River</i> Tim Mitchell Sat., Jan. 4 @ 6 p.m. Open Mic. Night From 6-8 p.m.</p>	<p>Karaoke New Years Eve Dec. 31 & Friday Jan. 3 @ Sportsmans Tavern</p>	<p>Kate's Redwood Bar and Grill Tuesday to Sunday Noon to Close Happy Hour 3-5 Stop in and see Kate and Mamie Today!</p>	<p>New Years Eve Party Tuesday, Dec. 31 9 p.m. \$3 cover Dawna Crocker & DJ GAL x SEE @ Mc Grew's Course</p>
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