

# Sports

## Boys beat Lakeview Honkers 58-56

**Tristan Stocker**  
IVN Contributing Writer

On Friday, Jan. 26, the Illinois Valley boys' basketball team traveled to Lakeview to play the Honkers (1-4), scooping up another league win which puts their current league record at 3-2. The final score was 58-56.

"That was a good road-win for us because it's always tough to make that trip all the way to Lakeview," said head coach Matt Knight. "We always have to sit through a couple games before

we get to play."

The boys left Illinois Valley High School at 9 a.m. that morning despite the fact that their game didn't start until 7 p.m., and since they have to turn around and drive back after the game they didn't make it home until 3 a.m.

According to Knight, there has been some talk to change that, however, when IVHS drops down to a 2A school next year, Lakeview is doing the same, which means the long trips over the passes at night will continue.

"I'm hoping that next year they'll do something, because

next year when we drop down to 2A, our league will include Bonanza, Lost River and Lakeview," said Knight. "And I know they were talking about doing a Friday and Saturday thing where we'd play both days spend the night so we wouldn't have to go over the passes so many times."

Top scoring players in the game against Lakeview were Caleb Hess with 20 points and then Elijah Polk and Bryce Bruner both scored 15.

Backtracking to Tuesday, Jan. 16, just before the break, the boys played and lost at Cascade

Christian (5-0) which resulted in a final score of 32-61.

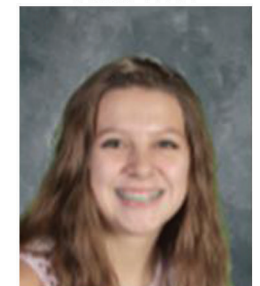
"They're a very good team," said Knight. "Very disciplined on everything they do. It's always tough competition."

Hess scored the most points during the game against Cascade Christian with 17.

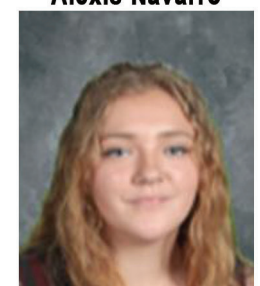
Coming up, the boys are set to take on the Crusaders of St. Mary's, (3-2) Friday, Feb. 2, at 7 p.m. in Medford and then the final game of the season is a home game against Cascade Christian Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m.



Caleb Hess



Alexis Navarro



Destiny Culbertson



Dillon St Onge



541-592-3080

## Girls struggle as end of the season draws near

**Tristan Stocker**  
IVN Contributing Writer

The Illinois Valley girls' basketball team (2-3) recently played and lost to Lakeview (5-0) in an away game Friday, Jan. 26. The final score was 43-48.

"We played a lot better this time around than we did the first time we played against them," said head coach Jonathan Valenzuela-Reece.

The girls were down by 10 points in the first quarter, and then down by just 5 in the second.

"We kept bringing the lead down, down, down, but we got into trouble in the fourth quarter," said Valenzuela-Reece. "They made their free throws and we didn't."

Aarika Brooks scored the most points for the Lady Cougars with 20 points over 10 rebounds, earning herself a double-double, and then Courtney Scott scored 11 points.

Before the break, the girls played Cascade

Christian (3-2) Tuesday, Jan. 16, in another away game and lost 36-44.

Brooks came out on top once again scoring 11 points and Scott was just behind her with 8.

With the season winding down, the girls have just two games to go. On Friday, Feb. 2, at 5:30 p.m., the Lady Cougars play St. Mary's, (2-3) in Medford and then the final game of the season is here at home against Cascade Christian (3-2) Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 5:30 p.m.

## Ionescu has 9th triple-double to lead Oregon women over Utah

By JOHN COON  
Associated Press

**SALT LAKE CITY** (AP) — Sabrina Ionescu had 19 points, 13 assists and 10 rebounds in her ninth career triple-double, Maite Cazorla scored 21 points and was 5 for 5 from 3-point range, and No. 7 Oregon pulled away for an 84-68 victory over Utah on Sunday.

Satou Sabally and Ruthy Hebard chipped in 15 points apiece. Oregon (20-3, 9-1 Pac-12) beat the Utes for the sixth straight time.

Daneesha Provo led Utah with 19 points and Tanaeya Bocclair added 13. Utah (14-7, 5-5) dropped its fifth consecutive home game in conference play.

Oregon held the Utes without a field goal for the first 6 1/2 minutes of the first quarter and built a 23-4 lead. Cazorla drained a pair of 3-pointers and Hebard added a pair of layups to fuel the fast start for the Ducks.

Handling Oregon's defensive pressure proved to be a major problem for the Utes from the beginning. Utah

coughed up seven turnovers in the first quarter alone. The Utes also missed their first seven shots from the field before Megan Huff broke the ice with a layup.

Utah finally got its offense going late in the first quarter. The Utes hit six straight shots to finish out the quarter and fuel a 17-2 run that cut Oregon's lead to 25-21 early in the second Erika Bean punctuated the rally with back-to-back layups.

The Ducks answered with a 10-0 run just before halftime to extend their lead

to 41-28. Utah missed 10 of 11 shots and did not score a basket over the final six minutes of the half. Ionescu triggered Oregon's run with a 3-pointer and Sabally finished it off by turning a steal into a layup.

Utah cut the deficit to 61-53 on a layup from Torrie Williams with a minute left in the third quarter. The Ducks pulled away again in the fourth, going up 78-61 with 2:26 remaining on back-to-back baskets from Ionescu and Hebard.

### BIG PICTURE

Oregon: Explosive offense is Oregon's trademark this season, but the Ducks turned to their defense to provide a spark at critical junctures against Utah. Oregon twice held the Utes without a field goal for at least six minutes during the first half. Utah missed its last eight shots of the second quarter.

Utah: The Utes have become progressively more competitive in the Pac-12 over the last three seasons, but they still have some steps

to take before joining the conference elite. Oregon's offense had little trouble overwhelming Utah's defense when necessary. The Ducks shot 55 percent from the field, highlighted by 10-of-15 shooting from 3-point range.

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