

Cougar basketball teams take losses against the Panthers

Gwen Barringer
IVN Contributing Writer

Though their scores were close at times, the Illinois Valley High School boys and girls varsity basketball teams struggled to keep up when they played against the Gold Beach Panthers Friday, Jan. 6.

The boys game was first, and although the Cougars' guard was strong in the beginning it was no match for their opponents' teamwork.

The large audience sat beneath the bright lights of the gym, cheering the boys on as they emerged onto the court. Though the Cougars valiantly attempted to keep the ball out of the Panthers' hands, they found themselves repeatedly faltering and allowing the opposition to gain an advantage. Throughout the first quarter, it seemed as though every time the Cougars

succeeded in making a basket, the Panthers made at least two. Though the home team began to pull through toward the end of the quarter, by the time the buzzer sounded the score was 18-7 in the Panthers' favor.

Despite the Cougars' best efforts, this pattern continued into the second quarter. The Cougars' score stayed firm at 7 while the Panthers' score rose to 32. Eventually the home team began to catch up to their opponents, but by halftime things were looking grim- the score was 41-20, with the Panthers score double that of the Cougars.

After halftime, the home team renewed their focus and began to gain on the opposition once again, but like the first half of the game they seemed to be outmatched. By the time the buzzer sounded to end the third quarter, the

Panthers were leading 65-45. The Cougars' stunning display of strength and unity towards the end of the game did not go unnoticed as they ferociously battled to gain on the Panthers. They managed to work their way out of the 20 point difference slowly, and although they lost the game 61-79, it's early enough in the season for this to be a good learning experience for the boys.

Lady Cougs
The girls varsity game started out stronger than the boys, with the Cougars and Panthers tying the score 4-4 toward the beginning of the first quarter. The Lady Cougars even gained a distinct edge on their opponents, keeping their guard up and preventing the Panthers from making several shots. At the end of the quarter their score sat at 16-10 in favor of the

home team. This was unfortunately the only advantage that the girls team seemed to gain, as during the second round they were met and matched by the Panthers. The Cougars didn't make a single shot that round, and the Panthers caught up. By halftime, they were tied 16-16. Though morale was still high, the Lady Cougars were shaken, which became obvious as the game progressed. The Panthers took the lead, though it wasn't much of one at first. By the end of the third quarter, however, the score was in the opposing team's favor, 24-19. While the Cougars played a relentless game, trying desperately to catch up to their opponents, they were only able to score four more points in the final quarter, while the Panthers repeatedly

blasted through their guard. Cougars were defeated 35-23. By the end of the game, the



(Photos by Lindsay Martinho for the *Illinois Valley News*)
No. 5 Isabella Podoll / Elliott, 11th grade; No. 13 Shelby Reed, 11th grade; and No. 4 Shylee Merritt, 12th grade, fight for a rebound during the home loss Friday, Jan. 6.

Illinois Valley High School Winter Sports Schedule

Thursday, January 12, 2023
4:30pm Boys Basketball JV Waldport @ AWAY
6pm Boys Basketball V Waldport @ AWAY
7:30pm Girls Basketball V Waldport @ AWAY
Friday, January 13, 2023
TBD Wrestling V Oregon Wrestling Classic @ Deschutes County Fairgrounds
Saturday, January 14, 2023
TBD Wrestling V Oregon Wrestling Classic @ Deschutes County Fairgrounds
4:30pm Boys Basketball JV Lowell @ AWAY
6pm Boys Basketball V Lowell @ AWAY
7:30pm Girls Basketball V Lowell @ AWAY
Tuesday, January 17, 2023
3pm Boys Basketball JV Oakland @ HOME
6pm Boys Basketball V Oakland @ HOME
7:30pm Girls Basketball V Oakland @ HOME
Wednesday, January 18, 2023
6pm Wrestling V Phoenix vs. I.V. Dual WRE Match @ HOME



No. 23, Tabor Braaten (left) brings the ball down court while No. 2 Daniel Polk and No.4, Jesse Connell look on. No. 4 Jesse Connell (above) goes up for a layup during the home loss Friday, Jan. 6.

LOST CAMP BAR & GRILL

1/2 OFF WINGS!

\$1 OFF DRAFTS!

541.787.5057

Friday, January 13

Music by

The Remnants

5:30 - 8:30 PM

Call 541-592-5358 for takeout

Taylor's Country Store

McGrew's!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

justin sayne

\$5 COVER

CALL FOR VENUE OR MENU

541-596-2202

Wild River

HANDCRAFTED FOOD & ALE

Dine-in or Take Out

541-592-3556

Open Mic

Wednesdays @ 5 PM

J BARLEY

Saturdays 6 - 9 PM

KXCJ (LP)

105.7 FM

Illinois Valley Community Radio

Download our current program schedule and live streaming at

kxcj.org

Sportsman Tavern

IS

DUCK CENTRAL

Every Saturday or whenever The Ducks play!

.50 off on all alcohol beverages during the game

Free Finger Food

Volunteer Potluck (not required)

BRIDGEVIEW

Bridgeview Wine Bar

Open year round daily noon to 5

Try our extensive food menu

Every Friday ~all day Happy Hour \$5 glass of wine

Call us: 541-592-4688

4210 Holland Loop Rd, Cave Junction

Carlos Mexican & Seafood Restaurante

and

CJ Coffee

ARE OPEN FOR DINE IN!

Regular Hours:

Carlos's 11 am - 9 pm (541) 592-4553

CJ Coffee 7 am - 4 pm (541) 592-2682

Chevron

Oregon Caves Chevron

541-592-3080

NAPA AUTO CARE CENTER

AAA Approved Auto Repair

Serving the Illinois Valley for 33 years

Complete Auto Truck repair

• Align Tires • Towing • Oil Changes • Propane • Snacks

Open Everyday 6:00am - 9:30pm

WHERE THE VALLEY GOES FOR CRAFT COCKTAILS!

TUESDAY'S OPEN MIC

WEDNESDAY'S KARAOKE

LIVE MUSIC ON THE WEEKENDS

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK FOR UPDATES

Bruno's CAVERN

FOOD • MUSIC • FUN

YOUR PLACE FOR SPORTS

NFL AND COLLEGE FOOTBALL GAMES ON 13 TV'S

12-11 MONDAY TO THURSDAY

12-12 FRIDAY

9-12 SATURDAY FOR FOOTBALL

10-11 SUNDAY - DIRECT TV SUNDAY NFL TICKET