

Mixed results so far for basketball teams

By Brian Mortensen
Spilyay Tymoo

While Junction City cooled down Madras' high-octane offense and handed the White Buffalo boys team its first loss to a 3A team this season, the White Buffalos ended the early non-conference portion of their schedule with the highest team scoring average in Class 3A and with the only triple-digit game in the state.

The White Buffalos placed fourth in the eight-team Sisters Holiday Tournament last week, beating LaPine and Banks after falling, 61-53, to Junction City on the first day of the tournament.

Before the Christmas holiday and going into the tournament, Madras was averaging 76.9 points a game and had scored 191 points in its two previous games against Burns and LaPine.

The first of those was the Buffs' 101-63 win at Burns, in which four players had season-highs in scoring, led by Jensen Harrington's 22 points and 13 each from Albert Adams and Carson Ahern. Five players scored in double figures for Madras, and every player on the roster scored.

The key to the Buffalos' high-powered offense has been their speed, constant substitutions and solid three-point shooting. Madras hit 13 three-pointers against Burns and 14 the next night in a 90-35 rout of LaPine. Derrick Metcalf, who leads the team with a 15.1 per-game scoring average, has

hit 29 this season, while Harrington (at 12.8) and Adams (7.4) have hit 21 each. Marcus Zacarias (9.7) has hit 19 this season.

Senior Tyler Ellsbury rounds out the usual starting five with an 8.7 average.

Madras' younger and less experienced players, in the White Buffalos' new system of five-for-five substitution that gives lots of players plenty of playing time in exchange for full-on effort, have seen their scoring averages rise, as well.

A.J. Adams averages 4.5 a game, while Carson Ahern's 13 points against Banks last Thursday raised his average to 6.5.

The LaPine game Dec. 22 also signaled the return of senior starter Jordan Say, who had originally thought to be out for the season with a broken collarbone. He scored three points in the win and since scored 10 points in two games at the Sisters Tournament.

The White Buffalos are off until Dec. 6, when they start Tri-Valley play against Sherwood. The Bowman (7-5) went 2-1 win in the Sisters Tournament, losing to Junction City in the championship, 53-42.

Wilsonville (10-3), the defending Class 3A champion, is ranked No. 4, but lost to No. 13 LaGrande on the last night of its tournament.

Like Madras, Valley Catholic is 8-4 but lost its last four games before the new year.

Heading into next week's schedule, Gladstone was 5-6

(pending a game against Rainier last Friday), LaSalle was 5-7, and Estacada was 2-7.

Girls team

The Madras girls team (5-6) hoped to be healthy and re-energized going into Tri-Valley play, hosting 8-4 Sherwood Friday.

The White Buffalo girls, already down to eight varsity players due to injury, lost another when senior Susan Ahern, their second-leading scorer, went down to an ankle injury in their game against Scappoose at the Sisters Tournament.

With seven players, the Madras girls finished seventh at the tournament, falling to Scappoose and conference opponent LaSalle before beating LaPine, 43-39.

With offense at a premium before Ahern was injured (with the team averaging 47.3 points), the pressure was on others to pick up their scoring. Sophomore guard Briana Sacona, who's averaged in double-figures in all but one game so far, scored 19 and 26 points in games against LaSalle and LaPine at the tournament. Sophomore Alyssa Selam scored 10 and eight points in those same games for Madras.

Stacona averages 15.6 points a game and has hit 20 three-pointers. Ahern averaged 7.3 points, but had averaged 9.8 after scoring a season-high 14 in the Buffalos' loss to No. 1 Burns Dec. 21.

Adams averages 5.8, and Selam 5.0, but the rest of the

team averages about 13 points a game.

The Tri-Valley girls league could be loaded this year, with four teams with winning records going into this week's conference play.

Valley Catholic has jumped out to an 11-1 mark, having won 10 straight games, while Gladstone is 8-2, while Wilsonville is 7-3 and Sherwood 8-4.

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Healing seminar Jan. 13-14

A healing seminar, Crossing2Freedom, is set for Friday and Saturday, Jan. 13-14, at the Warm Springs Community Center.

Crossing2Freedom is a relationship and inner healing seminar for men, women and teens. Goals of the seminar are:

To bring focus to the issues and wounds of the past; and to teach participants the tools needed to walk in healing instead of wounding.

There will be four workshop sessions, helping to heal wounded hearts and improve relationships and change lives

forever. Jan Hicks will be traveling from Alabama to Warm Springs to present this seminar. She has an extremely powerful testimony of deliverance from drug abuse, alcohol, adultery, divorce and abusive relationships.

Jan is a licensed ordained minister, international speaker, teacher and minister of prayer.

The seminar begins Friday evening, Jan. 13, and continues all day on Saturday, Jan. 14.

For more information contact Sarah Frank at the Victims of Crime office, 553-2293.

To place a notice in the Spilyay, call 553-3274, or mail to P.O. Box 870, Warm Springs, OR 97761. E-mail is spilyaytymoo@wstribes.org. Next deadline for submission is Friday, Jan. 13.

**Young Achiever
Kortney Stacona
Sponsored by Les Schwab**

Kortney Stacona, a fourth-grader, will soon be the first student to achieve 200 points in Warm Springs Elementary School's Accelerated Reader program.

Kortney, 9, needs only four points to reach the mark in the 10 days to earn the top prize, an Accelerated Reader program sweatshirt.

Kortney is in Ms. Flores' class, and her favorite subject is science. She received a telescope for Christmas, though it hasn't yet been assembled. So far, she's enjoyed play-

— Brian Mortensen

ing with another of her Christmas gifts, a Chihuabua named Abby. Kortney, whose birthday is July 30, lives in the Sunnyside area.

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