

Ione girls and boys varsity rack up victories against Honkers

By Anne Morter

The mid-week edition of Ione basketball saw both the girls and boys varsity racking up victories against the visiting Arlington Honkers. On Tuesday, January 23, the Honkers fell victim to a strong girls effort and a renewed boys squad in front of an enthusiastic home crowd.

The Lady Cardinals took the floor first and went on to stampe the Honkers 68-33. Ione turned on the defensive pressure, controlled the game early and allowed Coach Dana Heideman to substitute freely.

Ione flexed their muscles in the first quarter, jumping to a 26-7 first quarter lead. The Lady Cards' five starting seniors played the first quarter with intensity, making good quick passes and pressuring Arlington into multiple errors and turnovers. Jo Cupps, in particular, raised havoc with the young Honkers, grabbing half of her game-high ten steals and close to half of her game-high 22 points in that quarter. The

starters took the bench for the second quarter, allowing the younger girls some playing time. Arlington took advantage of their nervousness, outscoring the Cards 16-6 and forcing them into numerous errors. Despite that, Ione led 32-23 at the half. The seniors returned to the floor in the third quarter, racking up 22 points to the Honkers' six, putting any thoughts of an Arlington comeback out of the question. The underclassmen finished off the game, playing much better basketball, and outscoring the Honkers, 14-4.

Kari Morgan and Darcee Padberg each added 12 points to Jo Cupps' game high total to lead the Cards' scoring attack. For the third game in a row, Darcee Padberg went 6-8 from the field. The rest of the Lady Cardinals were not so accurate as the team averaged 44 percent from the floor and 40 percent from the line. Ione held a rebounding edge, 36-23, over the taller Honkers with Kari Morgan pulling down 12 and Jo



Linda Morter (30) shoots against Arlington

Cupps grabbing seven. In the assist department, Jo Cupps had nine and Linda Morter added five.

Coach Heideman says the Lady Cards just keep improving, something any coach would like. Of his seasoned veterans' play in the first quarter, he comments, "it can't get much better." Heideman was pleased with the overall effort, especially the play of the underclassmen.

The boys varsity took the court next and steamrolled a scrappy Arlington team. The Honkers refused to roll over and play dead though, playing the Cards tough for most of the game. Ione was able to pull away for good midway through the third quarter, finishing the game on top, 68-42.

The Cardinals jumped out to a 17-8 first quarter advantage. Coach Del LaRue tried some different player combinations, and the Cardinals played even through the second quarter to end the half leading 30-21. In the third quarter, the starters returned to the court to really get their game going. After holding a 26-point advantage at one point in the period, they ended the quarter leading by 24 points, 54-30. With the game seemingly on ice, LaRue was able to spread the playing time around, getting good efforts from the younger players. Mike Garrett led the Cardinals in scoring with 22 points. Gabe Garcia



Mike Garrett (44) makes basket in Arlington game

played better than they had against Culver, but were still having trouble shooting. Ione made only 28 shots out of 88 attempts for a sickly 32 percent from the floor. They went 12-30 from the line for 40 percent. To the Cardinals advantage, Arlington shot even colder making on-

ly 23 percent of their shots from the floor (15-64) and 42 percent from the line (8-19.)

LaRue summed it up as a "good team game." All the players got some court time and he said he feels that the Cards are almost back to the same level of basketball as they were before their Culver setback.

Ione varsity sees weekend split



Gabe Garcia (10) drives for basket against Condon

By Anne Morter

The Ione boys varsity got a split on the weekend, beating Echo on Friday and falling to Condon on Saturday. The Cards used a balanced scoring attack to get away from Echo but couldn't find any combination to escape the powerful Blue Devils of Condon. Ione's league record goes to 5-4 and 7-10 overall.

Friday night, the Cards encountered a new and improved Echo squad on their home court. Ione edged to a 14-12 advantage in the first quarter but not before Mike Garrett got into foul trouble. With Garrett on the bench, Echo gained a lead. Ione scratched back to a 27-24 lead at the half. In the third quarter, they went ahead to stay as they out-scored the Cougars 17-8. Echo never rolled over, playing the Cards even in the last quarter but never gaining any ground.

Jim Davison was high scorer for the Cards with 17 points, followed by Garrett with 16. Shawn Hams and David Wagenblast each added an additional ten points. Eight of Wagenblast's points came from the free-throw line, where he shot 8-10. High scorer for the game was Echo's Phillip Hofbauer with 19 points. The teams were nearly even in rebounding with Ione having a one-board advantage. Davison led with 13, followed by Garrett with 10. Gabe Garcia led with five assists, followed by Hams and Wagenblast with three each. The Cardinals got away with a lot of steals with Garcia nabbing five and Garrett and Davison adding four each. The Cards kept their turnovers to a minimum, committing only sixteen. Ione managed only a 36 percent shooting average from the floor and a slightly better 54 percent from the line. Echo shot 38 percent from the floor and a paltry 19 percent from the line.

Coach Del LaRue was pleased with the low number of turnovers and high number of steals and he thought the team played with good concentration. He said Jim Davison did a good job picking up the slack when Mike Garrett had to do some

bench time due to fouls.

Saturday night, Ione faced a more formidable opponent when Condon came to town. Condon is undefeated and has been ranked number one in the State "B" basketball poll all year. The experienced Blue Devils simply overpowered and intimidated the Cardinals in the early going, rolling to a 65-40 victory.

Condon started the game by putting on its sticky press. The Cards handled it for the first few minutes before they got panicky and started making turnovers. In the first quarter, Condon held the Cardinals to just four points, ending the quarter on top, 19-4. The Devils ran off 24 points to the Cardinals ten to end the half with 43-14 advantage. In the third quarter, Ione got their offense going and outscored Condon 16-10 but they were just no match for their powerful opponent.

Condon's Dan Durfey led all scorers with 20 points. Mike Garrett and Jim Davison paced the Cardinals with nine points each. The Cards shot just 36 percent from the floor but went 4-5 from the free throw line for 80 percent. Condon didn't shoot particularly well either, managing just 40 percent from the field and 46 percent from the line. Garrett pulled down 13 boards and Davison grabbed eight to lead Ione's rebounding efforts. David Wagenblast handed out five assists and Ryan Halvorsen added three. Condon forced the Cardinals into 28 turnovers, which was not a coach-pleasing statistic.

"We had our moments," says Coach LaRue. He said the third quarter was good for the cards but they are a young team and are still working on handling pressure. A tough team like Condon intimidated the more inexperienced players and caused the Cardinals to make mistakes.

Next weekend's agenda finds Wheeler and Cascade Locks visiting Ione. LaRue expects both to be tough games but he thinks the team should be ready for both games.

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