

Inconsistent play, lack of teamwork plague Vernonia hoopsters

Vernonia High School Logger basketball team opened regular-season play with an easy win at Neah-Kah-Nie and a tough loss at Warrenton.

Despite Neah-Kah-Nie's mismatch in size, they put up a good fight against the Loggers, in a game that Vernonia led by 20 points most of the time and won 69-55.

Vernonia coach Scott Finlay credits the Pirates, "During the first part of the game they played a zone defense, that's when we improved our lead. Then they decided to play us man to man and did a good job trying to come back,

but we did a good job getting the ball to our post men."

Logger post men Trey Williamson and Erik Davis had a fine night, scoring a combined 48 points and pulling down 22 rebounds. Steve Wolf added 9 points to the offense.

In Vernonia's second league game, against Warrenton, the tables were turned. The slow pace of the game was dictated mostly by the Warriors, but ironically the Loggers led throughout most of the game.

Vernonia had a jump start in the first quarter when they took a 9 point lead, 19-10,

and maintained a 6 point lead until half time, 30-24.

The Warriors played well through adversity and never gave up, they set some very good picks that confused the Loggers. By the third quarter they had cut the lead to within three, 34-37.

An impatient Logger team started shooting and missing, allowing the Warriors to get back into the game.

The Warriors managed to capitalize on important free-throws in clutch situations, on the other hand, the Loggers shot only eight freethrows, hitting just two. The Loggers went on to lose 55-46 to the

Warrenton Warriors.

Finlay felt his team didn't play as a team, "The pace was mostly dictated by the Warriors, they took their time through picks, while we on the other hand, didn't play as a team. We had no patience in shooting the ball. I hope this loss will show us that we need to work as a team."

Warrenton post Robbie Fulton led all scorers with 27 points. For Vernonia, Davis scored 17 and had 13 boards. Brad McKedy scored 10 points, all in the first half and Bill Busch had a fine night with 3-4 shooting and 9 points. The Loggers shot a

poor 39 percent from the floor.

The Loggers had their last non-league game against Jesuit and won 87-50. Davis scored 16; McKedy and Matt Woodard each had 10.

Finlay feels it's not going to get any easier, "We're at a critical point; we should have beaten Warrenton. We have some tough opponents coming up and we need to do well in order to keep up with them. We have to find the intensity in order to win." The Loggers will go to Portland Adventist today to see if their lesson has been learned.



Some members of the cast and crew of the VHS production of *Cyrano*: Charlotte Koch, Pat Smith, Beth Grebenc, Rian Ragsdale, Luke Everett, Skeeter Edwards, Tracy Eckertson, Karl Cradit, Santina Leonetti and Chris Evenhus. Not pictured are Jessica and Carol Baughman, James Acton, Kristen Frame and Brandy Richardson.

Lady Loggers enjoy a winning touch

Vernonia High School's Lady Loggers finally found winning ways, upping their record to 2-8, with wins against Neah-Kah-Nie and Clatskanie at home.

They came into the Neah-Kah-Nie game with an 0-5 record, 0-3 league. Good rebounding, 23 boards and only six turnovers pushed the Loggers to their first win all season, 29-36.

Since this win, Tandle Cox is looking forward to the season ahead, "Now we found out we can win, I'm looking forward to the rest of the season, and I hope we can win more games."

With one win already sitting comfortably in their record, the Lady Loggers had their hands full Monday night against Clatskanie, who they had previously lost to, 32-78.

The Lady Loggers played through adversity and maintained their composure to win 35-23.

Fawn Daniels credits Vernonia's composure; "We really played well and kept our cool throughout the game. That helped us win this game."

Tarah Pond led all scorers with 9 points. Åsa Bjorklund

scored 8 points, pulled down 16 rebounds and had five blocked shots. Nicole Ness scored 7 points for Clatskanie. The Lady Loggers rebounded well, with 31 off the boards.

In between the Neah-Kah-Nie and Clatskanie wins the Lady Loggers suffered a loss to Warrenton, 44-29.

Leah Keenon feels the offense needs improvement, "We need to take the open shot if we see it. We also

need to pass when under pressure. Our penetration to the basket also needs to get better."

The Lady Loggers are set to play Portland Adventist today at home at 6 p.m. Tarah Pond says team work will help, "We need to start playing as a team and not individually. We are a team and should play and act like one. When we start doing that we can have fun and win some games."

Parent volunteers make help Reading Loft happen

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new loft, "pretty" and "colorful" and "real neat" were additional responses.

Aultman spoke for a moment on the civic responsibility that the parents demonstrated in order to provide the reading loft and told the students that, someday, they would be able to do the same. He added that they were not only the first blended class in the district, they were also the first to have a reading loft.

Now it was time to cut the ribbon and, since there are two ladders to the loft, Kristina cut the first ribbon and

Nick cut the second, thus dedicating the reading loft to the 1993-94, K-1 class and many classes to follow.

After the ribbon was cut the students were instructed on safe procedures for climbing and descending the ladders of the loft.

Some students voiced concern over the height of the loft and shared past, scary experiences with heights. Once the students were done relating their stories, Mrs. Nice reassured them of the loft's safety by comparing it to the height of their playground equipment. She reminded them, however, that it was not

to be treated as playground equipment.

Each student was then given the opportunity to climb into the loft, look around, then climb down practicing their safety techniques.

The students even included the loft in a tuneful ditty as they took turns checking it out. By the end of the day, all

had tried out the loft, even those who were initially nervous.

The reading loft was made possible by donated time and effort. School district expenses were \$500 for materials — and the loft will be a special place for years to come, as primary students practice their reading skills.

Campfire organizing is underway

An organizational meeting for a Campfire Girls and Boys group will be held on Monday, January 17 at 3:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Vernonia.

Interested persons are invited. For more information call Gwen Milligan at 429-0108 or Crystal Bower at 429-6321.

Drama class will perform "Cyrano"

A one-act version of *Cyrano de Bergerac* will be presented by the Vernonia High School drama class.

Adapted from a novel by Edmond Rostand, the tragic-comedy features Rian Ragsdale as Cyrano, whose unrequited love for Roxane (Beth Grebenc) is put to the test when handsome Christian (Brandy Richardson) becomes the object of Roxane's affection.

Other characters include three nuns (Kari Cradit, Charlotte Koch and Kristen Frame), Roxane's "Duenna"

(Heather Parmeter), Le Bret (Luke Everett), and Rage-neau (Janika Kneeland). Other parts are double cast.

Student director is Traci Eckertson. Forrest Cooper is the drama instructor.

The performance is scheduled for Sunday evening, January 23, at 7:00 p.m. in the Vernonia High School gym.

General admission is \$2.00, and the community is invited to attend. Refreshments will be available prior to the performance.

Preschool plans Casino Night fun

Vernonia Preschool will hold its annual "Casino Night" Saturday, March 5, from 7 to 11 p.m. at Lew's Place.

Wild Bill's Casino will provide dealers for six blackjack tables, roulette and craps. Players will be eligible for many prizes, including a television set and a trip to Reno for two.

Tickets are \$15 each, or two for \$25. Each ticket includes \$25 worth of playing scrip. Additional scrip will be available.

All profits will go to preschool operations' costs.

Last year, the profits from Casino Night totalled 15 percent of Vernonia Preschool's operating income. Casino Night, the April golf tournament and other fundraisers provide 43 percent of the nonprofit preschool's income.

The preschool board is hoping that fundraisers will enable them to develop at least two scholarships for students who need to be in preschool and cannot afford tuition.

Call the Vernonia Cooperative Preschool for more information or ticket purchases, at 429-9501.