

Sports

Loggers ready for league play, but lose Schmidlin for the season

Vernonia High School boys varsity basketball team competed in the Portland Adventist Tournament Dec. 29 and 30th, along with three other schools.

Dec. 30th the Loggers lost to Lowell, 64-58.

Thirteen seconds into the game Greg Schmidlin suffered a season-ending ankle injury while scoring on a rebound. Schmidlin will be in a cast for the next four weeks and a brace for another two weeks.

Vernonia and Lowell were tied, 16-16 at the end of the first quarter. The Loggers pulled ahead in the second (22-20) until the final two minutes, when Lowell came back to lead 32-24 at halftime.

"They adjusted to our fast-break," said head coach Scott Finlay, "and stopped our good quick shots."

Even though the Loggers consistently got the ball inside to Frank Spry (6'6" sophomore), Lowell was up by nine going into the fourth quarter. Plagued by high turnovers, Vernonia couldn't come back enough to capture the win, even with Ryan Aultman's leadership and a team effort that outscored Lowell in the fourth.

"The Portland Adventist Tournament was classy and

well organized," said Finlay. "We had a great time. Norm Ballou [organizer of the tournament] did a great job."

High Scores: Spry, 16 points, 7 rebounds, 2 steals; Aultman, 13 points, 10 rebounds and 5 assists; Jacob Shetler, 13 points.

Dec. 29, in Vernonia's first game of the tournament, the Loggers lost to Warrenton, 56-47.

Vernonia applied some heavy pressure but Warrenton handled it well and hit their free throws consistently. Warrenton's Mitchell Johnson hit five of six free throws in the fourth quarter and was a big threat for the entire game.

"We applied a half court trap. Warrenton responded well and turned the tables," said Finlay. "We ended up chasing them and fouling. They hit their free throws to close the game."

High Scores: Spry, 12 points, Schmidlin, 11 points and 13 rebounds, Aultman, 10 points.

Spry was named to the Portland Adventist All-Tournament Team.

The Loggers, one of four teams at the Clatskanie Tournament Dec. 22-23, lost both of their games.

Dec. 23rd, against Newport, the final score was 78-50.

Vernonia's fourth quarter run, and Schmidlin's 16 points couldn't counter the damage done by turnovers.

High Scores: Schmidlin, 16 points; Aultman, 10; Shetler 8.

Dec. 22, against Clatskanie was an 83-46 loss..

Shetler (13 points) had a good open court game against Clatskanie.

High Scores: Shetler, 13 points;

Walters, 10; Schmidlin, 8.

The Loggers travelled to Salem Academy Dec. 19, where they lost 75-57.

Salem's Josh Davis (6'8", 23 points), and Zack Hollin (24 points) dominated the court.

"Davis is not only tall, but athletic," said Coach Finlay. "He can play inside and out."

Shetler is a big open court strength for the Loggers, and a good fastbreak shooter, ex-

plained Finlay. Spry moved up from junior varsity for this game, and saw his first varsity action in the third quarter.

High Scores: Shetler, 23 points, Aultman and Walters, 11 points apiece.

"It's been a frustrating pre-season, but now it's over," said Finlay. The Loggers and coaches are looking forward to the start of league play, Friday, Jan. 9, vs. Neah-Kah-Nie, in Vernonia.

Jayvee teams win some, lose some, while learning

Vernonia High boys junior varsity basketball team played at Clatskanie Dec. 22, winning 52-37.

High Scores: Chad DeWitt, 18 points, Kelly Baska, 17.

Dec.19 the team lost at Salem Academy, 64-40.

High Score: Charlie Ray, 12 points. The Loggers notched a win at home against Banks, Dec. 16, 72-36.

High Scores: Frank Spry, 22 points, DeWitt, 10 points, Ray, 10 points.

The junior varsity II basketball team travelled to Salem Academy Dec. 19, where they lost 37-30.

JVII scores from the Jan. 6th

game at Scappoose, Jan. 13 at 21 issue of *The INDEPENDENT*. Corbett will appear in the Jan. DENT.

Vernonia junior varsity girls play

Vernonia High School girls junior varsity basketball team lost at Scappoose High School Dec. 19, 31-28.

High Scores: Misty Linke, 8 points, Kirsten Hyde, 6.

Scores from the Jan. 6 Alsea game, will be in the Jan.

21 issue of *The INDEPENDENT*.

Upcoming games are Jan. 8, when Vernonia will host Neah-Kah-Nie, Jan. 12 at Corbett, Jan. 15 vs. Warrenton, and Jan. 20 at Temple Christian.

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