

Lady Loggers setting the pace for Northwest League volleyball

Vernonia's Lady Loggers, a finely-tuned volleyball machine, are dominating NW League play and remain the only undefeated team, sporting an 8-0 record.

"Way to go players!" said their proud head coach, Michelle Kunkel.

"It's clear from our stats...even with one player dominating in each game, there's always a range of hitters in every game," said Kunkel. "This team has amazing depth. Bench support is incredible."

Vernonians were treated to an exciting evening of volleyball Oct. 15, when the Lady Loggers blew-out the NW League's second place team, City Christian (formerly Temple Christian), 15-0, 15-6.

"Their mental effectiveness and discipline on the court is just huge," said Kunkel.

Abby Pond opened game one and defined the term 'serv-

ing ace' for everyone present. Pond served 13 straight, giving the ladies a 12-0 lead — three of those were completely unreturnable.

The Lady Lions had six opportunities to score, but couldn't manage to overcome Vernonia's ability to return just about everything, and to spot the holes on City Christian's side of the court. Pond scored point-15 with another ace.

The Lady Lions came out stronger in game two and made Vernonia work for a few points but, with all due respect for their strength against the rest of the NW League — the Lions were at Vernonia's mercy every step of the way.

Kill stats: Ellie Prpich and Zuzana Budinska, three each; Casey Weller, two; Pond, Bridget Titus and Erica Hobart, one apiece.

The Lady Loggers, always strong servers, turned in a stellar performance in their Oct. 13

win at Corbett, 15-6, 15-3.

In game one, Prpich scored seven points and Budinska five. The team committed just three serving errors.

Budinska shone in game two. "Zuzana started serving at point four and went to 15," said Kunkel.

Kill leader in the match was Prpich with nine, six in game one alone. Contributing one kill each to the match were Budinska, Becca Johansen, Weller, Titus, and Kirsten Hyde.

Oct. 8 Vernonia faced an unknown team on unfamiliar turf. The Gervais team turned out to be strong serve receivers, but fell to the Lady Loggers in two games, 15-11, 15-8.

"Gervais presented strength but not a lot of depth and were much stronger defensively than offensively," said Kunkel. "Abby Pond executed nine perfect passes in the Gervais match. She consistently displays incredibly strong passing."

Gervais denied the Lady Loggers any serving aces in game one, and though Vernonia's serving intensity reached its usual peak in game two, Allie Krahn and Pond served the team's only two aces.

Casey Weller's level of play was lethal to Gervais. In game one she served five points, and led kills with four in each game. Prpich also served five points in game one.

Vernonia's entire team shared in the attack. Weller clearly dominated, but this match highlighted the squad's broad range of talent.

Kill numbers in the Gervais match: Weller 8, Budinska 3, Heather Sargent 3, Titus 2, Prpich 2, Hyde 1.

Krahn and Budinska racked up the most assists in this strong team effort.

The Lady Loggers showed the hometown crowd how volleyball should be played when



Lady Logger Ellie Prpich makes the play against Delphian at the Vernonia Invitational Volleyball Tournament. Bridget Titus stands ready to make her contribution to the championship effort.

they hosted Warrenton Oct. 6 and celebrated a spectacular victory, 15-1, 15-8.

"I'm pleased to see the team winning strong—not just by the score, but by our strengths," said Kunkel. "This was the first match after the Invitational. The fact that they came out

strong showed their mental toughness."

- 10/15 vs. City Christian W15-0, W15-6
- 10/13 @ Corbett W15-6; W15-3
- 10/8 @ Gervais W15-11; W15-8
- 10/6 vs. Warrenton W15-1; W15-8

Road games prove tough for JVs

Vernonia's junior varsity Logger football team hasn't had good luck on the road in the past two weeks.

Oct. 19 they lost to the Neah-Kah-Nie Pirates, 44-16, and Oct. 12 to Knappa's Loggers 12-6.

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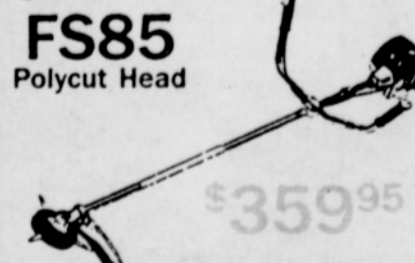
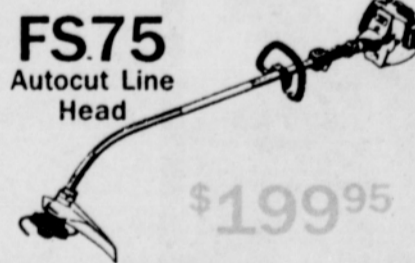
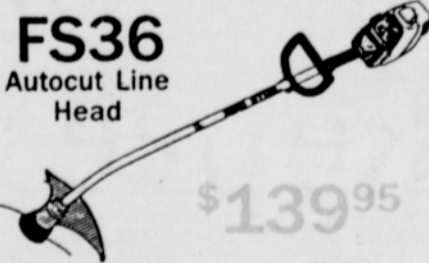
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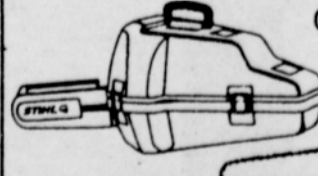
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