

VHS varsity working hard to qualify for post-season competition

The Vernonia High School boys varsity basketball season is coming to a close. With two games left in the regular season, head coach Scott Finlay said there is a possibility of post-season play.

The Loggers squeaked by the Warrenton Warriors with a 54-48 win Feb. 11, putting them on track for the third spot in district playoffs for the west side of the division. Warrenton may also be in the running for this spot, and if the two teams are tied, they will face off in a

game on Feb. 19. At press time, the team in that third play-off position had not yet been determined.

Leaders in the Feb. 11 game were seniors Travis Hightower with 17 points, and Kelly Baska with 15.

"We accomplished our goals and held their key players, point guard Nick Ryan, and post Jarrod Thebiay to six points each," said Finlay.

The team traveled to Neah-Kah-Nie Feb. 8 and returned home with a 78-43 win. "It was

nice to have a comfortable win," said a smiling Finlay.

Hightower led the way with 25 points and seven rebounds, while Baska contributed 22 points and five assists. Senior Jason Busch also chipped in 13 points.

Feb. 4, against Catlin Gabel, the Loggers suffered a 57-63 loss.

"The first and third quarters are where we seemed to disappear," said Finlay. "We scored only five points in the first quarter, and eight points in the third." The second and fourth

quarters went much better for the team, as they scored 23 points in the second quarter, and 21 in the fourth.

High points again went to Hightower with 22. Hightower also had 10 rebounds. Baska brought in nine points and eight assists, while sophomore Kyle Cota wasn't far behind with eight points.

"They played hard," said Finlay. "There just wasn't collective consistency. With better patience and consistency, we could have won that game."

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VHS girls in third place as league season nears end

The Vernonia High School girls varsity basketball team lost their Feb. 10 game against Warrenton, 53-41.

"We tried a different offense than what we've played against Warrenton in the past, because they knew our plays almost as well as we did," said head coach Vince Baker. "The girls played excellently, but things didn't go our way."

Senior Erica Hobart had 16 points in the game, 12 of them from three-point shots. Seniors Alexis Posley and Bridget Titus had seven points each. Senior Kirsten Hyde made five rebounds, blocked six shots and had one assist.

Things were tough for the Lady Loggers in the fourth quarter, when they scored only four points from the field. "We really had no choice. We had to foul them to try and get back into the game," said Baker.

Feb. 8, the girls brought home a 41-33 win from Neah-Kah-Nie.

"Our defense was outstanding in the third quarter," said Baker. "We took care of the ball and controlled the turn-overs."

Hobart had 16 points and three assists, Titus made 10 points, and Hyde scored nine and blocked five shots. Posley added four steals and four blocked shots.

Against Catlin Gabel on Feb. 4, the Lady Loggers suf-

fered a 25-42 loss.

"We didn't execute well, and they ripped at our offense," said Baker.

High points went to Hyde, with nine, and Hobart with seven. Hyde also had 10 rebounds and four blocked shots, while

Logger jayvee season nears end

The Vernonia High School boys junior varsity basketball team lost to Warrenton at home Feb. 11, 40-32.

"I was encouraged to see the boys work hard throughout the game," said coach Bob Bruce.

High scorers were junior Eric Patterson with eight points and freshman Paul Orlando, with six.

Vernonia defeated Neah-Kah-Nie, 53-48, on Feb. 8.

"We played a decent game," said Bruce, as the Loggers survived a late fourth quarter rally by Neah-Kah-Nie.

Patterson and Orlando again led, scoring 15 and 12 respectively.

The Loggers played tough in a 44-38 loss, Feb. 4 at Catlin Gabel. Down 27-9 at the end of the half, they made things exciting in the fourth quarter, outscoring Catlin Gabel 22-4."

Patterson had nine points, Orlando made eight, and sophomore Darcy Kunkel scored six.

Posley had five rebounds and four blocked shots.

The team shot 24 percent from the field, and 50 percent from the line.

As of Feb. 14, the Lady Loggers were third in league standings, with a record of 7-5.

Feb. 1 against Portland Adventist, the Loggers lost big, 91-37. "They pressed us and we turned it over," said Bruce. "I think Portland Adventist is the best jayvee team we've played this season."

Patterson scored 16 points, while sophomore Keith Rondo contributed eight.

The Loggers' season record is 7-11 overall, and 4-8 in league. The jayvees' season will end at home against Portland Christian on Feb. 17.

Girls jayvee season will end Thursday

The Vernonia High School Lady Loggers jayvee team lost to Warrenton Feb. 10, 42-29, in spite of 20 points from sophomore Kim Normand.

"We were down by almost 30 in the third quarter, and tried to make a comeback, but just couldn't get there, said coach Jeff Cheney.

The Feb. 8 game against Neah-Kah-Nie was more com-

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