

LOVC NW girls basketball tourney tips off at Okaw Valley

By **KENT A. STOCK**
Staff Writer

The Little Okaw Valley Conference Northwest Division girls' basketball tournament starts Saturday, January 12. Okaw Valley High School is the host for the Northwest tournament.

Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond is the tournament's top seed and received a bye in the first round of play. The other seeds are as follows: #2 Arcola; #3 Okaw Valley; #4 Cerro Gordo-

Bement; #5 Blue Ridge; #6 Argenta-Oreana; #7 Decatur LSA.

The all LOVC finals pitting the Southeast Division against the Northwest Division will take place Saturday, January 19 at Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond High School.

LOVC NW Division Girls Tournament Schedule Saturday, January 12
Arcola vs. LSA 10:00 am
Okaw Valley vs. Argenta-Oreana 11:30 am

CGB vs. Blue Ridge 1:00 pm

Monday, January 14
ALAH vs. CGB/BR winner 5:00 pm
Winner's Bracket Semifinal 6:30 pm
Consolation Semifinal 8:00 pm

Tuesday, January 15
Consolation Final 6:00 pm
Thursday, January 17
Consolation 6th place 5:00 pm
Third place 6:30 pm
NW Championship 8:00 pm

CGB falls to Arthur Okaw Christian

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The first game for the 2019 portion of the Cerro Gordo-Bement boys' basketball season was on the road at Arthur Okaw Christian. The Conquering Riders would be a tough test for the Broncos as they get out of the gate for play in the New Year.

This game would be a tight one throughout with the hosts taking a 16 - 10 lead in the opening quarter of play. The second quarter was evenly contested with

AOC holding on to their six point advantage at the half, 29 - 23.

CGB kept the game within range but the Conquering Riders always seemed to come up with a three point bucket when they needed one. AOC had eleven treys in the game. Cerro Gordo-Bement fought to the end but could never quite overcome the Conquering Riders lead. In the end, AOC outlasted the orange and blue by a final score of 67 - 55.

Scoring for CGB vs. AOC: Wes McDermith, 10; Connor

Moore, 5; Thaddious Roberts, 12; Matthew Guffey, 7; Braden Weaver, 13; Jake Hayes, 4; John Watzlawick, 4.

As a team the Broncos had four three pointers. Those were made by: Weaver (2), Guffey (1) and Moore (1).

The Broncos played a varsity only game on Saturday in Cerro Gordo against Decatur Christian. No information was made available on the CGB vs. the Warriors contest. The Broncos easily won the game by a final of 46 - 16.

CGB girls drop two games at Macon County Tournament

By **KENT A. STOCK**
Staff Writer

The 2019 portion of the basketball season got off to a rough start for the Cerro Gordo-Bement girls' basketball team. The Broncos opened up tournament play at Argenta-Oreana High School on Wednesday night against a formidable adversary Decatur St. Teresa.

The Bulldogs wasted no time in the Wednesday night quarterfinal matchup against CGB taking a 31 - 6 lead after one quarter of play. St. Teresa continued the onslaught in the second quarter taking a 49 - 10 lead by halftime.

The Broncos could never recover from the huge deficit as the second half played out much the same as the first. The final score was

Decatur St. Teresa 77 Cerro Gordo-Bement 25.

Scoring points for CGB vs. St. T.: Megan Hart, 5; Ella Mann, Erin Reed and Ellie Shonkwiler, 4 each; Riley Brandenburg and Cheyenne Gentry, 3 apiece; Trinity Stroisch, 2.

The Wednesday night setback put Cerro Gordo-Bement in the consolation semifinals the very next night against Meridian. The Broncos and the Hawks were two much more evenly matched squads.

The first quarter was close with Meridian taking a 10 - 6 lead after the first eight minutes of play. The second quarter turned out to be the turning point of the game as the Hawks outscored the Broncos by twelve points to take a 28 - 12 halftime lead.

The second half was very evenly played. The orange and blue would make a run to cut into the lead but Meridian was always able to regroup and keep the Broncos down by double digits. In the end it was the Hawks outlasting CGB by a final tally of 49 - 33.

The loss eliminated the Broncos from the tournament and dropped Cerro Gordo-Bement's overall season record to 5 - 15.

Scoring for CGB in the game vs. Meridian: Mann, 15; Hart, 9; Brandenburg, 3; Shonkwiler, Reed and Isabella Zigler, 2 each.

Riley Brandenburg had 10 rebounds in the contest. Cheyenne Gentry recorded 5 steals in the game while teammate Ella Mann had 4 takeaways.

Lake Land College Foundation scholarship application period closing February 1

Lake Land College Foundation scholarship applications for the 2019-2020 academic year are due February 1 at 11:59 p.m.

Students graduating from high school, adults who are enrolling at Lake Land College and current students are encouraged to apply. Those students who received a Lake Land College Foundation Scholarship for the 2018-2019 school year and wish to be considered for a 2019-2020 award must reapply.

The online scholarship application process has changed for 2019-2020. In order to apply, students will have to complete a Laker profile and Intent to Enroll at lakelandcollege.edu/enroll. A welcome packet will then arrive in the mail containing a student ID number and password, which is needed to access the Laker Hub. Once logged into the Laker Hub, students can then locate the scholarship application button to access and complete the application.

New students are advised to allow two weeks for this process.

There are four questions a student should be prepared to answer with a 100-word response for each. They are: 1. Describe your career aspirations and your educational plans to meet these goals; 2. Explain how you have helped your family and/or made your community a better place to live; 3. Describe your financial situation and how a Foundation Scholarship can help you achieve your educational goals; and 4. Describe a significant change or experience that has occurred in your life. How did you respond and what did you learn about yourself?

Applicants will be considered for all foundation scholarships for which they qualify by submitting just one application. Applications will not be accepted after the deadline.

This academic year the foundation awarded 648 scholarships, ranging from \$300 to \$5,000 each. Since 1992, the foundation has awarded more than \$6 million to 10,000 deserving students attending Lake Land College.

For additional information, contact the foundation at 217-234-5445 or foundation@lakelandcollege.edu.



Adam Hingson (#12) of the Knights leaps for the tip off in the home contest against LOVC SE foe Oblong. Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond roared past the visiting Panthers, 50 - 39, in the first game of the 2019 portion of the basketball season. It was the Knights first victory of the 2018 - 2019 campaign. Photo Sally McCarthy

Knights boys capture first win of season

By **KENT A. STOCK**
Staff Writer

The Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond boys' basketball team finished up the 2018 portion of the schedule with two more games at the Decatur St. Teresa Holiday Tournament. The two games played prior to Christmas were tough ones and the Knights were looking for a better showing in the last two games of the tourney.

Mt. Pulaski was the final pool play opponent and the Hilltoppers opened up a 21 - 9 lead in the first quarter. ALAH regrouped in the second quarter but lost a little more ground on the scoreboard with the Hilltoppers taking a 37 - 19 lead into the locker room at the midway point.

The Knights did not give up and not only played their opponents evenly during the second half but outscored MPHS by four points. However, it was too little too late as Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond fell to the Toppers by a final score of 57 - 42.

Scoring for the Knights vs. Mt. Pulaski: Adam Day, 16; Austin Romine, 9; Domonick Baker, 4; Austin Plank, 5; Cody Miller, 1; Jamison Rockey, 5.

The final game of the tournament was for sev-

enth place and put ALAH up against LOVC NW rival Decatur LSA. The Lions are paced by outstanding scorer Grant Karsten who was going for a tournament record for individual points in the tournament.

The Karsten offensive show started early and lasted through most of the contest. The Knights, nor any other team that faced LSA in the tournament, could not contain the hot-shooting Lion. LSA took an 18 - 9 lead by the end of the first quarter. The Lions expanded that lead to 36 - 18 at the half.

The red, black and gold played their opponents evenly through the second half but could never put together a serious run to cut into the lead. At the end of the game the scoreboard read Decatur LSA 65 Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond 45.

Karsten had 36 points in the contest which gave him 112 points in the four games of the tournament. This was 10 points better than the old tournament record for individual scoring.

Scoring for the Knights vs. the Lions: Day, 6; A. Romine, 12; Baker, 6; Plank, 13; Miller, 5; Jack Rollyson, 2; Wyatt Romine, 1.

The 2019 portion of the season is off to a very good start for the Knights. In the

first game of the New Year, ALAH hosted Oblong on Friday night, January 4 and came away with their first victory of the season. It was a huge win for the Knights and the first for Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond head coach Brad McGill.

For the first time this season, ALAH dominated from the tipoff and rarely had to look back. The hosts took an 18 - 6 lead at the end of the first quarter. The Panthers hung around close in the second quarter but it was the red, black and gold maintaining a double digit lead, 28 - 17 at halftime.

Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond continued their consistent play into the third period turning away each Oblong attempt to cut into the ALAH lead. The Knights expanded their advantage to 41 - 28 heading into the final quarter.

Coach McGill had been looking for a full game of basketball from his team and only eight minutes of ball remained to see if the Knights could put it together. ALAH responded with another consistent quarter and walked away with their first victory of the 2018 - 2019 campaign, a 50 - 39 triumph over LOVC SE foe Oblong.

No statistics were provided for this game.

AREA TEAMS SPORTS SCHEDULES**

HS BOYS BASKETBALL

Friday, January 11 -CGB at Villa Grove/Heritage 6:00 pm

Saturday, January 12 - CGB at Fisher 5:30 pm

Tuesday, January 15 -CGB at Decatur LSA 6:00 pm

HS GIRLS BASKETBALL

Thursday, January 10 -CGB at Arcola 6:00 pm

Saturday, January 12 - Thursday, January 17 - LOVC NW Basketball Tournament at Okaw Valley

JR. HIGH BOYS BASKETBALL

Thursday, January 10 - JHOC Tournament at Cerro Gordo

Monday, January 14 - Cerro Gordo at Central A&M 6:00 pm

Tuesday, January 15 - ALAH at Tri-County 6:00 pm

LSA at Cerro Gordo 6:00 pm

Bement at Champaign Next Generation 6:00 pm

JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL

Thursday, January 10 - ALAH at Arcola 6:00 pm

Monday, January 14 - Bement at Decatur Garfield 6:00 pm

Blue Ridge at Cerro Gordo 6:00 pm

Tuesday, January 15 - Bement at Villa Grove 6:00 pm

**Schedules subject to change

**ALAH HS girls and boys basketball schedules

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