



These Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond Seniors ended the regular portion of the 2018 - 2019 basketball season on a high note. The Knights added the LOVC NW Division regular season title to their LOVC NW Tournament title by defeating Okaw Valley 44 - 28. It was a must win game against the Timberwolves who had also come into the contest with no losses in conference play. Pictured are: Shania Alexander, Nisa Asghar, Taylor Nichols, Marissa Herschberger, Emma Harris, Reagan Miller and Marcy Petersheim. Photo Stephanie Wierman

## ALAH girls win LOVC NW regular season title

By KENT A. STOCK  
Staff Writer

The Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond girls' basketball team welcomed Okaw Valley to the home

floor on Saturday afternoon with the victor in the contest walking away with the LOVC Northwest Division regular season crown. The game was originally

scheduled to take place Thursday evening but the weather postponed the title match until the weekend. It took both teams some time to get warmed up as first quarter shooting was as cold as the weather had been earlier in the week. The Knights held an 8 - 2 lead at the end of the first.

ALAH warmed up in the second period of play though and that proved to be a pivotal point in the game. The Timberwolves could not get on track on the offensive end which allowed the hosts to jump out to a 24 - 7 half-time lead.

While the Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond offense continued to sputter a bit the Knights defense continued to step up as needed to keep the ALAH lead over double digits. OVHS tried to chip into that advantage

several times but the Timberwolves were never able to break through.

The red, black and gold took command in the final quarter of play to put the game away by a final score of 44 - 28.

The victory left the Knights in sole possession of first place in the Little Okaw Valley Conference Northwest Division final regular season standings with a 6 win 0 loss mark. Okaw Valley ended the season with a 5 - 1 tally in conference play. ALAH also won the LOVC NW conference tournament championship earlier this season.

Scoring for the Knights vs. the Timberwolves: Marissa Herschberger, 10; Jolynn Barbee, 9; Alexa Miller, 9; Marcy Petersheim, 7; Mackenzi Bowles, 5; Emma Harris, 4.

## Broncos girls' end regular season play with two wins

By KENT A. STOCK  
Staff Writer

The youthful Cerro Gordo-Bement girls basketball team has shown steady improvement over the second part of the season which has not always paid off in victories. That changed last week as CGB powered their way through to win the final two games of the regular

season both against conference foes.

The last road trip of the regular season was to Argenta-Oreana on Monday night. In this game the Broncos might not have scored much in the first quarter but their 9 points bested the Bombers 3 points. A-O was only able to cut into the CGB lead by one point in the second quarter leaving the Broncos with a five point halftime lead, 19 - 14.

In the final half of the game Argenta-Oreana came after Cerro Gordo-Bement but the Broncos would not budge. In the end, CGB walked out of their gym with their second conference win of the season by a final score of 42 - 37.

Scoring for the Broncos vs. the Bombers: Ella Mann, 10; Megan Hart, 9; Cheyenne Gentry, 9; Riley Brandenburg, 4; Ellie Shonkwiler, 4; Isabel Zigler, 4; Graycie Copsy, 2.

It was Senior Night on Thursday night at home in the Cerro Gordo gymnasium against Decatur LSA. Erin Reed, the sole senior on the team, made the most of the evening by scoring a season-high and career-high 22 points in one game as the Broncos put all the pieces together for another big win.

CGB wasted no time getting into the lead quickly in the first quarter, 13 - 6. The orange and blue poured it on in the second period of play taking a commanding 32 - 16 lead into the locker room at halftime. The Broncos did not let up

## Knights boys fall to league leading Decatur LSA

By KENT A. STOCK  
Staff Writer

Another week of schedule changes due to weather only left the Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond boys' basketball team playing one game. It was a tough one too as the Knights traveled to Decatur to take on division leading and LOVC tournament champions LSA.

ALAH was hoping to put back to back wins together for the first time this season by defeating Sangamon Valley for the second time in a row. However, the frigid, inclement weather postponed that game which has not been rescheduled as of press time.

That postponement left the Knights facing the Lions in Decatur on Friday night. The game did not start out badly for the visitors who only trailed by four points, 12 - 8, at the end of the first

quarter. LSA extended that lead over the next eight minutes of play to 27 - 16 at halftime so the Knights were not out of it yet.

However, the second half proved to be the downfall for ALAH. Cold shooting, inconsistent defense and turnovers allowed the Lions to run away with the game routing the Knights by a final score of 57 - 27.

Scoring for ALAH in the game vs. Decatur LSA: Austin Romine, 10; Adam Day, 8; Austin Plank, 5; Domonick Baker, 2; Wyatt Romine, 2.

The Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond boys' basketball team has been assigned to the Tolono (Unity) Sectional complex. They will play in a Regional at either Broadlands (Villa Grove/Heritage) or Oakwood. Regional play starts on February 18.

## CGB boys' defeated by Purple Riders in division play

By KENT A. STOCK  
Staff Writer

The Cerro Gordo-Bement boys' basketball team was only able to get in one conference game this past week. It was a home contest at Cerro Gordo against Arcola.

The earlier game last week at Blue Ridge was postponed as were many other athletic events across the area.

After wins by the CGB Freshman and the Junior Varsity squads against the Riders the hope was the Varsity would follow suit in their game.

It was the visitors who jumped out to an early lead of 12 - 7 in the first quarter.

The orange and blue continued to struggle in the second period as Arcola doubled the lead on the Broncos at 26 - 13 by the midway point.

In the second half of play

Cerro Gordo-Bement simply could not find and sustain any rhythm on the offensive end of the floor. The half was closely played but it was Arcola that pulled away for the nineteen point win, 49 - 30.

Scoring for CGB in the game vs. Arcola: Connor Moore, 10; Jake Hayes, 2; Braden Weaver, 7; Thaddious Roberts, 6; JD Benson, 4; John Watzlawick, 1.

Please note that there was a game played at Bement on Saturday against Urbana University High School for which we have no information.

The Broncos have been assigned to the IHSA Class 1A Colfax (Ridgeview) Sectional Complex for post-season play. CGB will play in a Regional hosted at either Cissna Park or Farmer City (Blue Ridge). Tournament season starts on Monday, February 18.



Knights freshman Alexa Miller drives in for a shot during Saturday's last game of the regular season for ALAH. The home contest was an important one as the 44 - 28 victory over Okaw Valley gave Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond the LOVC NW division championship. Miller had 9 points in the contest. Photo Stephanie Wierman



Jolynn Barbee, ALAH sophomore, takes a short jumper during the Knights battle with Okaw Valley on Saturday. Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond defeated the Timberwolves 44 - 28 and finished the season with a perfect 6 - 0 mark. ALAH will play Tuscola on Wednesday evening in the IHSA Class 2A Pana Regional. Photo Stephanie Wierman

**AREA TEAMS SPORTS SCHEDULES\*\***  
**HS BOYS BASKETBALL**  
 Friday, February 8 - Okaw Valley vs. CGB at Bement 6:00 pm  
 Tuesday, February 12 - CGB at Argenta-Oreana 6:00 pm  
**JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL**  
 Thursday, February 7 - Cerro Gordo at Decatur OLOL 6:00 pm  
 Saturday, February 9 - Tuesday, February 12 - Jr. High Okaw Conference Tournament  
**\*\*Schedules subject to change**  
**\*\*ALAH HS girls and boys basketball schedules can be found on sponsors page**

**Benjamin F. Edwards & Co.**  
**Teacher Spotlight Award**

Our January 2019 Teacher Spotlight award winner is Jill Snearly.

Ms. Snearly has been teaching for 18 years. She taught 15 years at Sullivan High School and has been teaching 3 years at Cerro Gordo High School. She teaches Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus and College Algebra as a dual credit course in conjunction with Richland Community College.

She has a Masters of Arts in Mathematics from Eastern Illinois University.

She enjoys relaxing to a good drama movie when she is at home with some time to spare and, when possible, she also enjoys traveling the U.S. to see new places. She is expecting her first grandchild later this year, and she imagines spending time with him or her will become an enjoyable hobby as well.

What she most likes about teaching at Cerro Gordo, "I have a very supportive administration that supports me as I look for ways to effectively support my student's needs. I enjoy giving one on one assistance to my students when they have questions or difficulties, and I enjoy seeing my students grow mathematically as we progress through the year."

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