

SPORTS



Three Lakes senior Kallie Volk jumps high above defenders to score two of her eight points in a loss to Crandon Friday in Three

Lakes. Also pictured is Libby Eppler (No. 11).

—Photos By William Zuelke

Crandon controls Three Lakes in Northern Lakes hoops battle

By WILLIAM ZUELKE
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

A well-rested Three Lakes girls varsity basketball was up against a tough 14-1 Crandon team Friday night, falling 62-22 in a game where the Jays struggled to score putting up 13 points in the first half and just nine points in the second.

At the same time their offense sputtered, so too did their defense which struggled to contain the Cardinals' offense who scored at ease in the 40-point win.

The loss puts the Bluejays back at the .500 mark where they have hovered for several games, having lost three of their last four. The latest streak comes after winning five of their previous six. They now stand alone in fourth place in the Northern Lakes Conference with a 3-4 record, trailing Florence by a half game for the third place position. Overall, the Bluejays are 8-8 on the year.

"This was certainly not the outcome we were hoping for or expecting," said co-head coach Michele Brown. "It was disappointing for sure. The girls did not play up to their potential whatsoever. We just had too many turnovers, many forced, which created easy point opportunities for Crandon. We were beaten and outplayed in all aspects of the game."

Brown gave credit to Crandon who played well and are 14-1 overall for good reason.

"But, we have to control the ball better against good teams like this if we want to

remain competitive," she said. "We also have to work harder on our offense where we shot just 40% on two-point shots, going 9 of 22 and we really struggled from behind the arc where we were 0 of 9 which made a significant difference in the game."

The Bluejays were also shorthanded to some extent due to a foot injury of freshman starter Kailyn Fogerty as she played limited minutes and was only able to score a single point as she went 1 of 2 from the free throw line. Fogerty did not even attempt a field goal in the game.

Karlee Weavers led the Bluejays in scoring as she was 5 of 7 for 10 points. Has added six boards also. Kallie Volk scored eight points to match her eight rebounds while also grabbing three steals and posting two blocked shots. Kaya Szewski scored three points to go with her two rebounds and four assists.

Libby Eppler did not score, but according to her coaches played a good game with two rebounds, two assists and a steal.

Outside of the 5 of 7 field goal shooting by Weavers, the team was just 4 of 25 from the field overall.

Co-head coach Tony Pharo was disappointed in the loss, and was hoping that the Bluejays would improve on the previous performance against Crandon where the Cardinals dominated by 37 points.

"We have been playing well lately and I was hoping to have better luck against Crandon than in our prior matchup," he said. "Unfortunately the Cardinals came out

shooting extremely hot and built on their lead throughout the game. I thought that we did a good job on running our inbound plays and I was happy to see Karlee Weavers step up and lead the team in scoring."

The Bluejays will next host Elcho this Friday in a 6 p.m. contest. This game will be special because it will mark 100

years of high school basketball in Three Lakes.

Elcho has lost seven of their last nine games including a 55-20 loss to the Jays in mid-December.

Following this contest, the team will be on the road for four consecutive games before hosting their final regular season home game against Goodman-Pembine, Feb. 17.



Karlee Weavers scores on jump shot during first-half action in last week's loss to Crandon. Weavers led the Bluejays in scoring with 10 points on 5-for-7 shooting and also contributed six rebounds.

Eagle boys stop Rhinelander; host Wausau East, Merrill next

By GARY RIDDERBUSCH
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Northland Pines boys basketball team traveled to Great Northern Conference (GNC) rival, Rhinelander and came away with a 61-47 win last Friday.

The Hodags used an energetic crowd as a sixth man and came out with some strong shooting to take an early 6-0 lead. The Eagles' Griffin Steimke finally got Pines on

the board with an offensive rebound and put back to be down 6-2 with 15 minutes remaining in the half.

The Eagles would get some good defensive stops and a couple nice post moves from Gabe Smith to tie the game at 6-6 with 12 minutes to go. The Hodags then hit deep back-to-back 3-pointers to take a 12-6 lead. Meanwhile, Pines struggled from the outside as they shot 0-for-6 from three on some good looks at the basket.

A Hodag turnover and a

Ryan Muench layup cut the home team's lead to four at 12-8 with 9 minutes left in the half. Another long three from the Hodags and a couple missed long balls from the Eagles would see the Hodags rally to a 9-point lead at 19-10 with 6 minutes left in the half.

The Eagles finally went on a little run of their own with back-to-back baskets from Smith to cut the Hodags' lead to five at 19-14 with 4 minutes on the clock. The home team got another deep triple and baseline drive and basket

to go up 24-15 with 3 minutes to go. The Eagles would finally hit a long ball and get a couple stops on the defensive end followed by a Smith post spin move and dunk to get the Eagles within five down 24-20 with under two remaining. The Eagles would get five defensive stops in a row and get two baskets to tie the game to go into the break knotted at 24-24.

"We could not buy a basket from the 3-point line,

To HOOPS, Pg. 12A

Sports Sidelines

By Doug Etten



Packers need to address Aaron Rodgers situation

I am a spoiled Green Bay Packers fan.

I am just old enough to remember Don Majkowski limping to the bench with an ankle injury as some young gunslinging quarterback by the name of Brett Favre ran onto the field just minutes before firing the first of his hundreds of touchdown passes.

Years later, when Favre handed the reigns to Rodgers, I was headed for another hand in the cookie jar as we again witnessed, for nearly two decades, one of the best to ever do it in the business.

So where I sit now is an uneasy, yet somewhat exciting place in time, as the Green Bay Packers are fumbling around the idea of moving on from their highest paid player ever, in hopes that Jordan Love can somewhat create the same buzz around Lambeau Field as has been the case the last three decades.

I am not sure what is necessarily the right direction, but the wrong one seems to be letting the national media spin the situation around the wash cycle for a few months while good-hearted, honest fans like many of us sit in the cheap seats just wondering who will be under center next season.

Do I think Rodgers can return and win a Super Bowl? I do.

Do I think they can do it with the same roster around him? I do not.

Do I think they can win a Super Bowl next year with Jordan Love? I do not.

Do I think they can win one down the road with him as the quarterback? Yes, I do.

Green Bay must make a move of some sort if they want to keep in the relevant conversation when it comes to NFC North Division title, playoffs and beyond.

That means deciding if they are going to cut some cap space by dealing Aaron Jones, along with figuring out if they're going to reinvest in guys like Randall Cobb, Allan Lazard and Robert Tonyan, who are likely to be key reasons for Rodgers returning or for him leaving.

Lots of folks seem convinced Rodgers is heading to the New York Jets, especially after news broke last week of the AFC East team naming Nathaniel Hackett as their offensive coordinator. Hackett, of course, is who Rodgers won his last two NFL MVP awards under, as he was in the same position with the Packers organization from 2019 to 2021.

Regardless of how the situation plays out, it won't work in the Packers favor to wait. Fans, especially this one, will respect whatever decision they decide to make, so long as it's sooner and not later.

Stephenson, Sterne separate atop USSA ProStar standings

By DOUG ETTEN
SPORTS EDITOR

Just three races into the USSA ProStar Cup Tour season Blaine Stephenson of Hutchinson, Minn., and Gunnar Sterne of West Chicago, Ill., are separating themselves from the field following racing action at the 525 Racing Complex in Wausau this past weekend.

Stephenson, coming off a perfect three rounds of heats and a win in the final at Eagle River, was near perfect once more in Wausau atop his No. 102 Wahl Bros.' Polaris, winning two of his three heat races and collecting a win in the final Saturday after Justin Peterson of Campbellsport slipped through the snow dust with less than two laps remaining.

Peterson was aboard a fast Ski-Doo all weekend, and after winning two of his three heat races looked poised to take the championship race and 100 points toward the year-end standings when he came out of turn two high and got washed into the ice shavings which gave Stephenson the opening he needed to secure the top spot.

Stephenson never looked back and was able to wash away some of the disappointment from last Sunday where a late-race caution flag crippled his drive for a fifth World Championship at the Eagle River race.

"It kind of just panned out for us," said Stephenson after the race. "This class is so dang competitive so to win any race is good. Dang good points today. Justin drove one hell of a race. When he got motoring, boy, I was like (I don't know if we can catch them)."

Peterson said after the race that he had one of the fastest sleds at the track that day, but that may have been what inevitably bit him.

"We just got a little too aggressive and it wore me out pretty quick. The rest is history," he said. "The race was really good for about 11 laps, then a couple after that. Then it didn't go so well."

The shuffle sent Peterson to second place. He was followed by Travis McDonald of Gonner, Manitoba in third. Fourth place went to Tom Olson of Lodi who's best was yet to come Sunday where he would win the Sprint World Cup race. Sterne placed fifth which helped him lock down 87 total points on the weekend.

Sterne came into Wausau with a narrow 10 point lead in the season-long standings, however Stephenson overtook the top spot and now rests there with 353 points, 30 ahead of Sterne.

Olson sits in third place

To USSA, Pg. 14A

SPORTS

Rebel Jay wrestlers earn important wins at Wisconsin Dells tournament

By WILLIAM ZUELKE
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Three Lakes-Laona-Wabeno varsity wrestling team had a number of solid individual performances in Wisconsin Dells this week, indications of a team trying to peak just as conference championship action is set to begin Friday in Crandon.

The Wisconsin Dells Invitational was attended by 13 different high schools and more than 140 wrestlers competed. The Rebel Jays as a whole earned 19 match victories and were led once again by Ryan Roy, who went 4-0 for the event and contributed a team high 27 points and a first-place finish in his 170 lb. weight class.

One of Roy's most accomplished wins of the day came over Rylee Wanek of Riverside who came in with nearly identical match records as Roy.

The two wrestling standouts put on a very competitive performance that moved to the ultimate tiebreaker round as neither wrestler could gain a point in the one minute sudden victory.

The match was extended to an additional two periods of 30 seconds each, and since neither of them scored a point in these periods, the match was then extended to the ultimate tiebreaker round where a series of rules determines the winner if the round ends scoreless.

Fortunately for Roy, he pinned his opponent before the period finally ended.

Gus Fink also had a strong showing in the heavyweight category with a 3-1 record on the day and earned 16 team points.

His only loss of the meet occurred in the semifinal round of championship action where he lost by decision to Diego Morales of Cedar Grove-Belgium. Fink was the only competitor to wrestle Morales to a decision as his other opponents were all defeated by pin. Morales has a 32-3 total match record this season.

Fink recovered quickly from his single loss in the third-place championship match where he defeated Connor Lawrence of Crandon by decision. Lawrence is another high-ranking wrestler who came to the match with a 20-6 overall record for the season.

Fink is now 34-14 for the year and has been scoring substantial victories in recent events and his only losses have been to top-five wrestlers.

"Our team really seems to be finding its stride, and this is the ideal time of year for all of our guys to be reaching their peak," said head coach Seth Senter. "Ryan and Gus are performing especially well and I think they are both in a great position to advance beyond the conference championship level. We have several other wrestlers who are also finding their stride and will likely wrestle just as well as we prepare for postseason competition."

Senter said both Roy and Fink have been team leaders this year, and understand the time for peaking in the sport.

"Both seem to be in top form at this point," said Senter. "Their recent performances are only possible by understanding the technical aspects of the sport and by investing the appropriate time and dedication necessary to succeed. The coaching staff is proud of these guys and proud to play a role in their personal and athletic development and achievement."

Senter also pointed out that Roy is only three victories away from having a career milestone 150 match wins which he could reach at the conference championship event this Friday.

"He has finally shaken off the rust after being away from the sport earlier in the season due to injury, and is now in fine mid-season shape," said Senter. "His recent string of victories clearly demonstrates why he is a three-time state championship competitor."

Other varsity results for the Rebel Jays included Adison Romprey (138 lb.) and Noah Kincaid (145 lb.) who each had 3-2 match records during the event and each contributed nine points while Brady Shepard contributed 7.5 points to the team and also finished his day with a 3-2 record. Max Clark (106 lb.) and Levi Newman (152 lb.) collectively had three wins and contributed seven total team points. Hayden Demerath (126 lb.) and Paul Lewis (145 lb.) wrestled hard but did not score in this event.

As a team, the Rebel Jays had 75.5 points which placed them in 11th place out of 13 schools, but they competed with eight wrestlers com-



Ryan Roy continues to perform well for the Rebel Jays wrestling team. The senior finished on top of his bracket once again this past weekend in Wisconsin Dells. —Photo By William Zuelke

pared to the team winner, Cedar Grove-Belgium, who finished in first place with 226 points and a full squad of 23 wrestlers.

The Wisconsin Dells Invitational followed a quad meet that was held at Laona High School last Tuesday.

In that event, Southern Door pulled out of the event leaving the Rebel Jays to face

Phillips and Lakeland in a series of duals which eventually led Phillips to win the event.

This coming Friday will be a much more important event for the Rebel Jays as they will wrestle in a Northern Lakes Conference quad against Crandon, Elcho and Florence at Crandon High School before postseason Regionals begin Feb. 11.

Hockey team kicks off GNC tourney action in Tomahawk

By CHRIS OATMAN
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Northland Pines boys hockey team was very busy this past week as the Eagles played four games in six days.

Two of those games were in the annual Pines Classic, which for many years has seen Mosinee, Hayward and University School of Milwaukee come to Eagle River to participate.

In the first semifinal game on Friday, Pines met the Hayward Hurricanes in a game between teams that were near mirror images of each other statistically. And that similarity

played out on the ice in a tight contest that Pines dropped 4-3 in overtime.

Pines got the only goal of the first period as Josh Graves scored off an assist from Peter Anderson to make it 1-0. Guy Swenson of Hayward then tied the score on an unassisted short-handed goal at 7:08 of the second period making it 1-1.

Tyler Beitler tallied with helpers from Nicholas Boxrucker and Luke Wessel 90 seconds later and Pines took a 2-1 lead that held-up until the end of the period.

Hayward's Maddux Achtor scored at 3:07 of the third period and it was tied at two until

Wessel scored from Graves at 6:45 and the Eagles regained the lead at 3-2.

But Achtor was the story of the game for Hayward as he tied it at 3-3 at 9:43 to go which would last through the third and push the teams to overtime. There it didn't take long for Achtor to find the net for Hayward again as just 18 seconds in he gave Hayward a 4-3 win.

Pines goalie Eli Kerner stopped 28 of 32 shots including several spectacular saves on odd-man rushes and break-aways.

"Eli played phenomenal.

To HOCKEY, Pg. 13A

Falcons split Marquette series, host De Pere Saturday at Dome

By DOUG ETIEN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Eagle River Falcons mens hockey team split a pair of Great Lakes Hockey League games over the weekend as they visited the Marquette Mutineers, Friday and Saturday.

After opening the series with a struggle defensively, dropping the opener 12-7, the team recovered Saturday to win the second game of the matchup, 5-3.

Friday's game saw the home Mutineers jump out in front with four goals in the first which surrounded a lone Eagle River goal off the stick of Cal Laggis, assisted by Todd Koritzinsky and Mike Otto.

The Falcons looked poised to start the second as the comeback started with back-to-back goals in the first three minutes from Koritzinsky which made it 4-3 Marquette with 17:32 to go in the period. Alex Kornely, Laggis, Bob McDonald and Otto all assisted on the goals.

From there the Mutineers put the pedal down scoring four unanswered, three of them in the second period from Dallas McLaughlin who ended the night with five goals in total to lead the way for the home team.

Lucas Otto tried to car-

ry his team back to within striking distance in the third, scoring three consecutive goals which made it 8-6 Marquette with under four minutes to play. The first of the three came on the power play as Otto was assisted there by his older brother and Alex Hauswirth.

Within a pair of goals with just four minutes to play, Marquette would get two goals in the next minute to increase the space, and after Mike Otto scored with 2:34 to go to make it 10-7, the Mutineers put the icing on the cake with two more goals in the final 90 seconds to take that 12-7 final.

Eagle River put 51 shots on goal to just 40 for Marquette. Richard Yeshe took the loss in goal stopping 28 shots while Jordan Nagelkirk took the win, stopping 44 shots on the night.

Both Koritzinsky and Mike Otto each had four points to lead the way for Eagle River followed by three apiece for Lucas Otto and Hauswirth. Laggis and McDonald added two while Kornely, and Jacob Robinson each had an assist.

Saturday's game was much different as the Falcons only got 30 shots on goal, they pulled off the 5-3 win as Yeshe returned to form to stop 36 of 39 Mutineers shots in picking up the win.

Marquette took the early

lead as McLaughlin notched his sixth goal of the weekend for a 1-0 lead. Koritzinsky then got his first of the night to tie the game just three minutes later, and Bryan Kronberger came through midway through the first with a power play goal assisted by Koritzinsky and Lucas Otto to make it 2-1 Eagle River.

The second period then belonged to the Falcon's top goal scorer as again Koritzinsky rang the bell, not once but twice as the forward put the visiting Falcons in front 4-1 before the end of the period.

Marquette would close the gap in the third, getting back-to-back scores to make it 4-3 before a much-needed insurance goal from McDonald found a home to close the game, 5-3.

Koritzinsky ended the night with five points on three goals and two assists. He's now sitting at 20 points on the season which ranks him ninth overall in the Great Lakes Hockey League.

With 10 points on the year the Falcons rest in fourth place in the league trailing Fond du Lac (20), Portage Lake (16) and Mosinee (15). Marquette (9) rests in fifth, Calumet (6) sixth, De Pere (4) seventh and Fox Cities (0) in eighth.

The team will have a home game this coming Saturday at the ERRA Dome, taking on De Pere at 8 p.m.

Hockey Schedules 2022-'23



NORTHLAND PINES HIGH SCHOOL - BOYS

Tue. 11/22	@ DC Everest	L7-3	Thu. 1/5	@ Antigo	W5-4 OT
Tue. 11/29	@ Pacelli Catholic	L6-5 OT	Tue. 1/10	Ashland	T6-6
Fri. 12/2	@ Waupaca	L8-3	Thu. 1/12	@ Medford	W11-2
Sat. 12/3	@ Waupan	L6-1	Tue. 1/17	Tomahawk	Cancelled
Tue. 12/6	Shawano	L8-5	Sat. 1/21	@ Marshfield	L7-2
Thu. 12/8	Lakeland Union	L6-2	Tue. 1/24	@ Mosinee	L6-3
Tue. 12/13	@ Ashland	L6-0	Fri. 1/27	Hayward	L4-3 OT
Thu. 12/15	Rhineland	ppd.	Sat. 1/28	Mosinee	L6-4
Thu. 12/22	@ Merrill	Canceled	Tue. 1/31	@ Lakeland Union (GNC Meet)	7 pm
Thu. 12/29	@ West Salem (Tourn.)	W6-3	Thu. 2/2	@ Shawano	7 pm
Fri. 12/30	Tomahawk (Tourn.)	W7-1	Tue. 2/7	@ Lakeland Union (GNC Meet)	7 pm
Tue. 1/3	Pacelli	W7-1	Sat. 2/11	@ Medford (GNC Meet)	4 pm

NORTHLAND PINES HIGH SCHOOL - GIRLS

Fri. 11/25	vs. Arrowhead L10-2; vs. Brookfield L16-1	Mon. 1/9	@ Rhineland	L5-2	
Sat. 11/26	vs. Lakeshore	L16-3	Tue. 1/10	@ Hayward	L13-0
Fri. 12/2	Chippewa Falls	L14-1	Thu. 1/12	Marshfield	L7-1
Mon. 12/5	@ Rhineland	L10-4	Sat. 1/21	Arrowhead	L10-2
Fri. 12/9	@ Eau Claire North	L12-1	Tue. 1/24	@ Medford	L3-2
Sat. 12/10	@ Black River Falls	L8-0	Tue. 1/31	Hayward	6 pm
Fri. 12/16	Medford*	L3-2	Mon. 2/6	Rhineland	7 pm
Wed. 12/28	@ Madison	L7-1	Sat. 2/11	Beaver Dam	1 pm
Thu. 12/29	Badger	L12-1	Tue. 2/14	Regionals	TBD
Thu. 1/5	DC Everest	L13-0			

*at Ironwood

EAGLE RIVER FALCONS

Fri. 12/2	Calumet Wolverines	L5-3	Sat. 2/11	Marquette Mutineers	8 pm
Sat. 12/3	@ Calumet Wolverines	W10-5	Fri. 2/17	Mosinee Papermakers	8 pm
Fri. 1/6	Portage Lake Pioneers	W5-2	Sat. 2/18	@ Mosinee Papermakers	8 pm
Sat. 1/7	Calumet Wolverines	W9-7	Fri. 2/24	@ Calumet Wolverines	6:30 pm
Sat. 1/14	@ Portage Lake Pioneers	W5-4	Sat. 2/25	@ Portage Lake Pioneers	6:30 pm
Sat. 1/21	Fond du Lac Bears	L7-2	Sat. 3/4	Portage Lake Pioneers	8 pm
Fri. 1/27	@ Marquette Mutineers	L12-8	Fri. 3/10	Marquette Mutineers	8 pm
Sat. 1/28	@ Marquette Mutineers	W5-3	Sat. 3/11	@ DePere Deacons	7:30 pm
Sat. 2/4	DePere Deacons	8 pm	Fri. 3/24	@ Fox Cities Ice Dogs	7:30 pm
Fri. 2/10	Fox Cities Ice Dogs	8 pm	Fri. 3/25	@ Fond du Lac Bears	8 pm

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SPORTS

Hoops FROM PAGE 10A

we shot 1-for-13 from deep and they were all good open looks," said Pines coach Terry Klemett. "I was pleased with our patience on offense. The Hodags did a good job of keeping us out of the post, but we were able to get the pressure on them with our offensive rebounding and put-backs. They shot the ball very well which allowed them an early lead."

The second half saw the Eagles go on a 10-0 run to take a 34-24 lead with 14 minutes left in the game. The home team finally got a tough basket to cut the Eagles' lead down to eight, but another Eagles' run capped off by Smith's two handed put down got the Eagles up by 14 at 40-26 with 9 minutes to go.

The Hodags would not go away as their strong shooting cut the Eagles lead to seven at 42-35 with 7 minutes left. Both teams traded baskets until the Eagles got a couple defensive stops in a row and capitalized on back-to-back threes from Steimke and Noland Lurvey to go up 12 at 48-36. The Hodags hit two tough baskets to get back into the game, but the Eagles ran a deliberate slow-down offense to kill some clock, up 49-41 with 3 minutes remaining.

The Hodags scored, but were forced to foul and the Eagles would ice the game from the free throw line going a stellar 13-for-15 down the stretch. Smith was an amazing 9-for-10 from the

foul line in that stretch. The Eagles would close out the Hodags 61-47.

"This was a grinder of a game. We did make some great plays out of the break and we talked about that," said Klemett. "We knew we had to get some early separation to start that second half. The last thing we wanted was a dog fight for the rest of the game. I was very pleased with our poise despite our poor shooting. We have been on a shooting slump as of late and I'm hoping we can climb out of it soon before the tournament starts. Give the Hodags credit, they played a great game and gave us everything we could handle and they are tough at home."

The Eagles shot 15-for-23 for 65% from two and 3-for-21 from three. Pines was a stellar 22-for-26 from the free throw line which happened to be where the game was won.

Smith had a fine game with 21 points, eight rebounds. Steimke and Muench chipped in with 14 and 13 points, respectively, for the Eagles. With the win, the Eagles are now 7-1 in the GNC and 13-4 overall.

The Eagles will be home Tuesday against Wausau East at 7:15 p.m. and will host Merrill this Thursday, Feb. 2, at 8 p.m. Both are nonconference games. Pines will then host Mosinee Tuesday, Feb. 7, in a key GNC matchup at 7:15 p.m.

Tomahawk win

The Northland Pines boys basketball team played at Tomahawk Jan. 20 and came away with a convincing 81-24 victory in the GNC game.

The Eagles stormed out of

the gate, building a 14-0 lead led by Lurvey's three 3-point baskets and some hustling full-court defense that led to some easy baskets.

The Hatchets struggled with the Eagles' defensive intensity as the lead grew to 24-2 with 8 minutes remaining in the half. Pines eventually led 55-13 at the intermission.

The Eagles got contributions from players off the bench and was able to rest some regular players early with a running clock, building a 73-20 advantage with 4 minutes left. Pines closed out the Hatchets with a convincing 57-point win, shooting a blistering 23-of-34 from the floor and 14-of-17 from the free throw line.

"I was pleased with the overall game we played and the intensity we played with," said Klemett. "Everyone got a chance to play and played well. You can't ask for a better game from us."

Smith led the Eagles with 20 points, followed by Lurvey's 17 and Kadin Kroeplin's 16.

Tough road loss

The Eagles traveled to seventh-ranked Catholic Memorial in Waukesha Jan. 21 and came up short in a 61-47 loss to one of the best teams in Division 3.

Both teams started out with great intensity on defense and the Eagles got on the board first with a Stiemke put back. The Crusaders got a strong post basket to tie the game 2-2 with 14 minutes to go in the half.

A Muench steal and bucket put the Eagles up 4-2 as both teams continued to work

the ball on offense. The Crusaders eventually hit a corner triple to go up 5-4 with 11 minutes to go. A Smith bucket and Stiemke drive and finish put Pines up 8-5 with 10 minutes to play.

Kroeplin got a nice bucket around the rim on the Eagles' next possession to cut the Crusaders' lead to four at 15-11 with 3:30 left in the half, but the Crusaders would capitalize on the Eagles' shooting misfortunes and went on an 8-0 run to build a 23-11 lead with 2 minutes remaining. A Pines' bucket and two offensive put backs would see the Crusaders up 27-13 at the break.

The second half saw the

Eagles come alive on the offensive end. A couple tough Smith post ups for baskets and a Muench post move got the Eagles within striking distance at 27-19 with 14 minutes to play. The home team continued to make tough shots, keeping the Eagles at bay, leading 31-23 with 10 minutes to play.

The Crusaders' lead eventually grew to 15 points with 8 minutes remaining, up 40-25, but the Eagles' Miles McCanles hit three straight triples to get the Eagles within eight points with 4 minutes remaining in the game.

But the Crusaders countered with back-to-back triples of their own to push the

lead back to 14 points, up 54-40. Muench and Smith both scored on post buckets, but it would prove to be too late as the Eagles fell to the Crusaders 61-47.

"We didn't capitalize on anything we had chances with in the first half. We scored 34 points in the second half and did a great job of being strong with the ball going towards the basket and not settling for three pointers," said Klemett.

The Eagles were 4-of-5 from three and 9-of-18 from the floor in the second half, didn't turn the ball over, and rebounded better, according to Klemett. Muench led the Eagles with 13 points, followed by Smith's 10.

Flu bug bites Windigo as team falls twice in Soldotna

By DOUG ETTE
SPORTS EDITOR

One of the hottest teams in the Midwest Division was in Soldotna, AK, this week where illness and injury were just too much to overcome as the Wisconsin Windigo dropped a pair of league games to the Kenai River Brown Bears.

The Windigo entered the weekend in third place in their division, just three points back of Fairbanks and one point behind the league-leading Minnesota Wilderness.

Friday, the Windigo were without star forward Will Schumacher who was unable to play the entire weekend due to a lower body injury suffered at Fairbanks. Schumacher's injury, together with a flu bug making its way through the Windigo locker room, were evident during the first several minutes of the game on Friday.

Kenai River went up 1-0 just over 14 minutes into the period before the Windigo recovered when Luke Levandowski tied the game 50 seconds into the second period after receiving a cross ice pass from Victor Widlund. Cole Mickel earned the second assist on the goal.

Kenai would go up 2-1 before the second period

ended. Zach Cline then tied it up at 2-2 at 9:31 of the third period when he received a pass from Levandowski and drove hard to the low slot before finding the back of the net. Daniil Dolzhenko also assisted on the goal.

With 3:39 remaining in the game a scrum in front of the net sent a Windigo player to the penalty box, allowing Kenai's Hayden Walters to pounce on the power play opportunity just 10 seconds later to put his team up for good, bringing an end to the Windigo's seven-game win streak.

Saturday, in front of a crowd of 1,821 hometown fans, Kenai River broke the ice early with a goal by Garrett Drotts halfway into the opening period.

Connor Mahony was rewarded for his aggressive forechecking when he created a turnover deep in Kenai's zone and eventually scored to tie it for the Windigo at 4:55 of the second period. Max Martin and Mario DiMaggio were credited with the assists.

Mahony's goal seemed to be the spark the Windigo needed as they carried the play to the Brown Bears for the remainder of the game, outshooting Kenai 27 to 11 in the final two periods. Unfortunately, the Windigo were unable to capitalize on three power play opportu-

nities, allowing the Brown Bears to close out the scoring with two goals in the second period.

Gavin Moffatt suffered just his fourth loss on the season in net and was part of Windigo coach Blake Hietala's upbeat look on things afterwards.

"I was proud of our effort for the most part on Saturday," he said. "I liked our push better tonight, but we were still a little disjointed and not nearly as crisp with our passing as we have been the past few weeks. Not to make excuses for our guys, but trying to engineer a road win without our captain, and a locker room that looked like a sick bay, was a tall order tonight."

"I give Kenai credit. They played hard, scored when they had the opportunity, and Wallstrom made several incredible saves."

The Windigo head to Cloquet, Minn., to face the Midwest Division leaders, Minnesota Wilderness. Games are set for Friday and Saturday, Feb. 3-4.

Following that the team returns home Feb. 9-10 for USA Pond Hockey weekend when they take on the Anchorage Wolverines. Puck drop is set for 7 p.m. Feb. 9 and 6 p.m. the following day. Tickets are available online at wisconsinjuniorhockey.com/tickets or at the door.



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High School Sports Schedules WINTER 2022-23

NORTHLAND PINES EAGLES

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL		GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL	
Tue. 11/22 @ Three Lakes	W 77-31	Tue. 11/22 @ Three Lakes	L 55-23
Fri. 11/25 Newman Catholic	L 60-58	Fri. 11/25 @ Wausau East (Tourn.)	L 50-26
Sat. 11/26 Stanley-Boyd	W 82-47	Tue. 11/29 Antigo	L 50-23
Sat. 12/2 Tomahawk	W 58-30	Fri. 12/2 @ Tomahawk	W 39-31
Mon. 12/5 @ Clintonville	W 62-52	Tue. 12/6 @ Ewen-Trout Creek	L 51-24
Fri. 12/9 Rhinelander	W 68-36	Fri. 12/9 @ Rhinelander	L 77-36
Tue. 12/13 @ Hurley	W 77-51	Tue. 12/13 Merrill	L 67-40
Fri. 12/16 Ladysmith	ppd.	Thu. 12/15 Florence	ppd.
Tue. 12/20 Wittenberg-Biramwood	W 79-40	Tue. 12/20 Wittenberg-Biramwood	L 70-19
Wed. 12/28 @ Marinette	W 78-39	Wed. 12/28 @ Marinette	L 34-14
Fri. 12/30 Arrowhead	L 60-40	Tue. 1/3 Mosinee	L 58-32
Tue. 1/3 @ Mosinee	W 70-61	Fri. 1/6 @ Medford	L 45-30
Fri. 1/6 Medford	L 59-50	Tue. 1/10 Lakeland Union	L 78-20
Tue. 1/10 @ Lakeland Union	W 57-39	Fri. 1/13 @ Antigo	L 46-24
Fri. 1/13 Antigo	W 54-10	Fri. 1/20 Tomahawk	W 51-30
Tue. 1/17 Merrill	Cancelled	Sat. 1/21 Gillett	L 43-28
Fri. 1/20 @ Tomahawk	W 81-24	Mon. 1/30 @ Menominee Indian	Cancelled
Sat. 1/21 @ Catholic Memorial	L 61-47	Tue. 1/31 Rhinelander	7:15 pm
Fri. 1/27 @ Rhinelander	W 61-47	Tue. 2/7 @ Mosinee	7:15 pm
Tue. 1/31 Wausau East	7:15 pm	Fri. 2/10 Medford	7:15 pm
Tue. 2/7 Mosinee	7:15 pm	Fri. 2/17 @ Lakeland Union	7:15 pm
Fri. 2/10 @ Medford	7:15 pm		
Fri. 2/17 Lakeland Union	7:15 pm		
Thu. 2/23 @ Antigo	7:15 pm		

THREE LAKES BLUEJAYS

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL		GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL		VARSITY WRESTLING	
Tue. 11/22 Northland Pines	L 77-31	Tue. 11/22 Northland Pines	W 55-23	Sat. 12/3 @ Antigo (Inv.)	
Tue. 11/29 @ Tomahawk	W 58-42	Mon. 11/28 @ Phillips	L 80-47	Sat. 12/10 @ Forest County Potawatomi Community Center (Inv.)	8th/12
Fri. 12/2 Laona-Wabeno	W 43-32	Thu. 12/1 Laona-Wabeno	L 58-23	Sat. 12/17 @ Shawano (Inv.)	16th/30
Thu. 12/8 Lakeland Union	L 67-38	Mon. 12/5 @ Wittenberg-Biramwood	L 77-30	Tue. 12/20 @ Bay Port (Match)	
Sat. 12/10 @ Suring	W 78-23	Sat. 12/10 @ Suring	W 48-40	Wrightstown	L 53-22
Tue. 12/13 Crandon	W 55-36	Mon. 12/12 @ Crandon	L 56-19	Southern Door	L 29-19
Fri. 12/16 @ Elcho	W 55-51	Thu. 12/15 @ Elcho	W 55-20	Thu. 12/22 @ Rhinelander (Inv.)	Cancelled
Wed. 12/28 Niagara	W 42-40	Tue. 12/20 Prentice	W 47-40	Wed. 12/28 @ Lourdes Academy (Inv.)	38th/68
Tue. 1/3 Laona-Wabeno	W 74-63	Wed. 12/28 Niagara	L 53-41	Sat. 1/7 @ Merrill (Inv.)	20th/25
Fri. 1/6 Florence	L 53-33	Tue. 1/3 Wakefield-Marenisco	W 53-36	Sat. 1/14 @ New London (Inv.)	12th/18
Tue. 1/10 @ Goodman-Pembine	W 68-59	Thu. 1/5 Florence	W 52-29	Tue. 1/17 Quad (Home)	3rd
Mon. 1/16 @ Laona-Wabeno	W 55-52	Mon. 1/9 @ Goodman-Pembine	W 51-8	Iron Mountain, Merrill, Rhinelander	
Thu. 1/19 @ Watersmeet	Cancelled	Tue. 1/17 @ Laona-Wabeno	L 41-24	Sat. 1/21 @ Wausau East (Inv.)	12th
Mon. 1/23 @ Crandon	W 54-37	Fri. 1/20 Rhinelander	W 64-55	Tue. 1/24 @ Laona (Quad)	N/R
Fri. 1/27 Prentice	W 71-60	Sat. 1/21 Lena	L 45-41	Sat. 1/28 @ Wisconsin Dells (Inv.)	11th/13
Sat. 2/4 @ Gresham	2:15 pm	Fri. 1/27 Crandon	L 61-21	Fri. 2/3 @ Crandon (Duals)	7 pm
Mon. 2/6 Elcho	7:15 pm	Tue. 1/31 Gresham	7:15 pm		
Thu. 2/9 Hurley	7 pm	Fri. 2/3 Elcho	7:15 pm		
Fri. 2/10 @ Bowler	7:15 pm	Mon. 2/6 @ Crivitz	7:15 pm		
Mon. 2/13 @ Florence	7:15 pm	Tue. 2/7 @ Antigo	7:15 pm		
Tue. 2/14 Phillips	7 pm	Fri. 2/10 @ Florence	7:15 pm		
Mon. 2/20 Goodman-Pembine	7:15 pm	Tue. 2/14 @ Hurley	7:15 pm		
Tue. 2/21 @ Antigo	7:15 pm	Fri. 2/17 Goodman-Pembine	7:15 pm		

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SPORTS

Krueger's two goals late lifts Medford over Pines

BY DOUG ETTEN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northland Pines girls hockey co-op was edged on the road in Medford last week 3-1 as two third-period goals off the stick of Skylier Krueger was the difference.

Pines would strike first with just four minutes left in the first period as Ava Carrillo knocked the puck by Medford's Zayleah Leonhardt off an assist from Mallory Schmidt to make it 1-0 Eagles.

That one-goal lead stood tall through the end of the first as the Pines defense and goalie Jenna Uhrine turned away 10 Raiders' shots combined through the first 17 minutes.

In period two the Medford defense rose up, as did their offense, which peppered Uhrine with 15 shots, one of which snuck by off the stick of Victoria Konieczny, tying the game at 1-1 with 4:33 gone by in the second.

Neither team would capitalize offensively from there on out as the third period began with the score still 1-1. That was until Krueger got

loose four minutes in, scoring the eventual game-winner off assists from Konieczny and Carly Koski to make it 2-1.

Krueger would add her second of the game on a power play goal with 4:27 to play, assisted by Delaney Hrabby and Zayleah Leonhardt, which made it 3-1.

Medford outshot Pines 34 to 29 on the night. They also beat Pines in the penalty area as they were whistled for just one two-minute minor compared to four for the Eagle River team.

Zayleah Leonhardt combined with Ilsa Brunner to pick up the win in goal for Medford while Uhrine absorbed the loss, although she stopped 31 of 34 shots on the night in net for Pines.

Pines was to be back home Tuesday, Jan. 31 to face Hayward before hosting the Northern Edge Co-Op, Feb. 6. After a game Feb. 11 at home against Beaver Dam, the team will open playoff action the following week with Regionals set to begin, Feb. 14.



Northland Pines skater Hailey Krzrnarich battles for possession of the puck along the boards with Medford's Jaylin Machon (No. 9) and Grace Schmidtfanz (No. 44).

—Photo By Matt Frey

USSA FROM PAGE 10A

with 254 points followed by 2023 World Champion, Matt Goede with 243. The rest of the top 10 includes MacDonald (225), Peterson (195), John Henke (151), Hunter Sears (141), Calvin Cook (124) and Matt Szalai (108).

The next two rounds of ProStar Cup Tour racing takes drivers and teams north of the border with racing this weekend in Eganville, Ontario followed by the Grand Prix in Valcourt, Quebec the following week.

After that teams are heading to Manawa for the Sno-deo event, Feb. 18-19 before they return to Eagle River for the World Series of Snowmobile Racing, Feb. 24-26. The final race of the season than takes place in Beausejour, Manitoba where the season points race will culminate.

For more information, standings and driver profiles go to ussaprostar.com.

Olson Claims World Cup
Gunnar Sterne was on his way to a sure top spot in Sun-



day's inaugural running of the USSA Sprint World Cup as the accomplished driver had set apart a 12 second lead on the field with just seven laps to go in the 20-lap final.

It was then his drive belt let loose, bringing his No. 220 Ski-Doo to a halt between turns three and four and sending Tom Olson of the Wahl Bros.' team to the top spot on the upcoming restart.

From there, Olson clicked away the final laps as he hoisted the cup in victory lane for what was undoubtedly his biggest win to date in the Champ 440 field netting him just over \$6,500 in prize money.

"I didn't think I was an emotional person, but there is a lot of emotions right now," said Olson following the race. "Thank you Wahls. You can't thank those guys enough. You have to have longevity and those guys work very hard. This was a challenging week for everyone to get everything together after (Eagle River). But those guys really work, I can't thank them enough. I just drive the sled, but they put in a lot of the hours behind the scenes."

Sterne following the race, was understanding of the events that took place, but disheartened to say the least.

"Days like today are why I race," said Sterne. "I love to compete and I love the feeling of knowing you put your best all out there and just put a whooping down on the track.

I love that feeling when I do it, and I hate it when people do it to me. But today was a hard one to swallow.

"Right before the drive belt blew we had an 11 second lead in just 13 laps. And all of that credit goes to my crew. I wanted to bring home a Sprint World Cup for my guys so bad but it just wasn't meant to be. In the end I am still so proud of my team and all the hard work we put in to get this sled as fast as it was after a pretty horrible showing on Saturday."

Following Olson with another podium finish was Goede who came in second place. Earning a hard-fought podium also was third place finisher Fred Manke of Lodi, whose team is based out of Eagle River and Minocqua, sponsored by Ryden Marine and Eagle River Dock & Lift.

"All the time in the shop we've done the last couple of years makes this moment all worth it," said Manke. "This is probably only my third time driving Wausau ever. We came out in practice and I was not very good. The sled was really good. It was all me, and I just had to make the adjustments. The sled was there the whole time."

Following Manke in fourth place was Justin Peterson. Fifth went to Calvin Peterson ahead of Jordan Sobetski, Travis MacDonald, John Henke, Sterne, Blaine Stephenson, Hunter Sears and Calvin Cook.



Jason Linn of the Northland Pines-Rhinelanders Northern Conference ski race at Mount Ashwababay.

—Contributed Photo

Pines, Rhinelanders complete third leg of Northern Conference

BY DOUG ETTEN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Northland Pines and Rhinelanders alpine ski and snowboard team took part in the third leg of the Northern Conference season last week, taking to the hill at Mount Ashwababay located between Washburn and Bayfield on the north shore of Chequamegon Bay.

The boys ski team came through the competition in first place, while the girls would finish fifth.

Following Pines/Rhinelanders on the boys side was the Wausau Co-Op in second, Ashwababay in third and Rice Lake in fourth.

Leading the way for the boys was Pines sophomore Jason Linn who, with a combined time of 102.01, finished in fourth overall. Linn was fifth fastest in both the Slalom and Giant Slalom while

finishing eighth fastest in the Super G.

Right behind Linn was teammate Ben Olson who was fifth with a combined time of 102.86. Lukas Bishop finished in seventh place, followed by Brandon Bacon in eighth. Bacon had a combined time of 103.19. Rounding out the Pines/Rhinelanders squad was Riley Zarm in 12th (104.86) and Brody Kowieski in 13th (106.27).

Holden Schmitz also competed and finished with a combined time of 114.30 in a separate race.

For the junior varsity boys Garrett Hull was fourth overall with a time of 128.31. Robert Guolee was 10th.

On the varsity girls side the Wausau Co-op won the event followed by Ashwababay, Rice Lake, Sturgeon Bay and Pines/Rhinelanders.

Individually Tommie Jo Springer captured the overall title, posting the top time in

all three disciplines to win by nearly five seconds overall.

Lydia Fritz was in 19th place followed by Madeliein Ewan in 27th, Kelsey Yunkers in 30th and Callie Hoerchler in 31st.

In the varsity boys snowboard event Max Durkee of Pines/Rhinelanders was the top overall finisher with a time of 209.59, more than 20 seconds ahead of second place Tristan Brilla of Sturgeon Bay (231.55).

Also finishing in the top 10 for the Pines/Rhinelanders team was Owen Repenshek in fourth, Isiah Willoughby in fifth, Reese Frisque in sixth, Brady Frisque in seventh and Trevyn Rappley in eighth. Will Gregersen was 11th overall.

For the girls Nicole Long was second overall in the snowboard events with a time of 263.56. Sydney Sarkausdas was third with a time of 278.18.

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SPORTS

Three Lakes boys building momentum with 4 wins; hold second place in NLC

By WILLIAM ZUELKE
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Three Lakes boys varsity basketball team defeated Prentice 71-60 last Friday in a nonconference home contest which marked their fourth win in a row as they still hold tight to a second place position in the Northern Lakes Conference (NLC).

The Bluejays (11-3, 6-1) have been on a hot streak lately, winning nine of their last 10 games while scoring 70 or more points in three of those wins.

Prentice jumped to an early lead just seconds into the game before Josh Cogar tied the game with a driving overhand layup for the home Bluejays.

The Bluejays did not just take off and breeze to victory. Instead, this contest would have some back-and-forth challenges starting with an 8-2 deficit Three Lakes overcame with six unanswered points. Cogar once again tied the game after a steal and a break-away layup which made it 8-8 early.

Prentice would jump back to build a 23-12 lead with eight minutes left to play in the first half, but L.J. Terlizzi ended the Buccaneer scoring run with a short jump shot to cut the lead to single digits.

Then, after each team traded buckets on consecutive possessions, the Buccaneers once again grabbed a 30-19 advantage with just over four minutes in the half before the Jays responded with another comeback ending with a Cogar driving layup to bring the Bluejays to within a point at 32-31 going into the half.

In the second, Prentice scored first on an easy layup by Ashton Makovsky, who eventually led both teams with 34 points. Moments later, Jared Kaufman rebounded a shot and ran the entire length of the court for an easy layup to bring it to 34-34. The play seemed to sparked some fresh energy into the Bluejays as they went on run, getting a hoop followed by a steal from Toby Volkmann which would precede a Kaufman score to give the Bluejays a 38-34 lead.

The Jays extended that lead to nine as they seemed crisper with their passing and shooting, and had an aggressive defense that forced multiple turnovers.

When senior Austin Adams hit two free throws during this same time period, the Bluejays had their first double digit lead of the game and went on to an 11-point victory.

Cogar led the Bluejays with 24 points, including 4 of 5 shooting from the free throw line and two shots



L.J. Terlizzi drives to basket for two points in first half of home game against Prentice last Friday. Terlizzi would go on to score

nine points in the home win.

—Photo By William Zuelke

that dropped from distance. Kaufman added 17, while Melton had another double-digit scoring effort as he chipped in 10 points. Terlizzi contributed nine, followed by Volkmann with seven and Adams with four.

The win against Prentice followed a victory earlier in the week where Monday they

defeated Crandon 54-37 on the road in a tough NLC matchup.

The Cardinals took an early lead in that game before the Bluejays even warmed up, but once they turned the heat on the Jays coasted through some large point margins of 20 and 25 points before closing out the game with a final 17-point

victory.

The Bluejays made 41% of their field goals while Crandon could only muster up 22%. The three-point shooting gap was even wider as the Bluejays statistically dominated the Cardinals and swept the two game conference series for the season.

The Bluejays will next

head to Gresham this Saturday for a nonconference game against a struggling 1-16 Wildcats team. Following that the team returns home Monday for a 7:15 p.m. matchup with Elcho, an important conference game.

The Bluejays beat the Hornets on the road in an earlier matchup in December.

Clash of the Paddles to be hosted by YMCA March 25

The YMCA of the Northwoods and Rhinelander High School tennis team will host an indoor pickleball tournament Saturday, March 25, at the Hodag Dome in Rhinelander.

“Clash of the Paddles” will feature a round robin format based on participant’s United States Amateur Pickleball Association (USAPA) ratings. Nine different divisions will be open for registration until Friday, March 10, and a final tournament schedule will be sent out via email Tuesday, March 21, according to tournament director Marilyn Duschl.

“With 10 courts available at the Hodag Dome there will be plenty of competition in all divisions,” said Duschl.

The tournament will begin

with an advanced women and men’s bracket at 8 a.m., followed by novice and intermediate mixed brackets at 10:30 a.m. At 1 p.m., high intermediate men and women’s brackets along with an advanced mixed bracket will begin.

Final tournament brackets of the day include low intermediate women and men’s brackets beginning at 3:30 p.m. The tentative start times are indicated by division, according to Duschl.

Teams are guaranteed five games and USAPA rules will apply throughout the tournament. Prizes will be awarded to the top three teams in each division.

All divisions are currently open for registration. The fee per player is \$30 and \$10 to

enter an additional division. Participants are reminded to register individually and indicate their partner.

Individuals who want to participate but don’t have a partner can email Duschl at mduschl@ymcanw.org for more information.

The Rhinelander boys high school tennis team will assist with the tournament and sell lunch, snacks and beverages. Proceeds from this tournament will support the tennis team as well as the Y Annual Support Campaign which provides assistance for youth, adults and families to attend YMCA programs and activities.

For registration forms and additional information, visit ymcaofthenorthwoods.org or call 715-362-9622.

Hockey

FROM PAGE 11A

he really stood on his head and kept us in the game,” said Pines coach Patrick Schmidt. “It shouldn’t have come down to overtime. We had good opportunities to score in the second and third periods and didn’t take advantage of them.”

The loss moved the Eagles into Saturday’s consolation game against Great Northern Conference (GNC) rival Mosinee, which lost to University School 6-3 in Friday night’s other semifinal.

Beitler scored on an assist by Graves in the first period, but Mosinee scored twice for a 2-1 lead.

Michael Schmidt scored a short-handed goal in the second period for a 2-2 tie, but Mosinee scored again for a 3-2 lead after two periods.

And they started fast in the third period, eventually scoring three unanswered goals for a 6-2 advantage.

The Eagles though didn’t quit as Graves tallied a score on an assist from Beitler. Wessel then scored unassisted to make it 6-4 Mosinee, but that’s how it ended.

“Our effort was good, but we struggled with penalties again and that cost us some

(two) goals. Mosinee is a very good team. They are very deep and they have three good lines,” said Schmidt. “The boys gave everything they had. They never gave up and that’s good to see. That’s something you can build on.”

It turned out that Pines played Mosinee twice last week, as a regular season road match-up was on the schedule for the previous Tuesday.

There the Eagles gave Mosinee a bit of a wake-up call by taking a 2-1 lead after the first period on goals by Graves, from Roen McGee, and Peter Anderson with assists from Schmidt and Julian Merschorf.

But Mosinee scored the next five goals before Graves set up Schmidt for the last one of the game in the 6-3 Mosinee win.

“We were happy with our performance. A lot of good things came out of that game,” said coach Schmidt. “It was fantastic to see the kids lead going into the second period. But we got into penalty trouble again. If they could put together a complete game and stay out of the penalty box they could really make some noise.”

The Eagles opened last week with a Monday home game against Tomahawk. The Hatchets already owned a 7-1 win over Pines in the champi-

onship game of the West Salem holiday tournament.

The Eagles got a first period goal from Merschorf assisted by Anderson, but they were shut out in the second period. During that time, Tomahawk scored five goals. And they got another one early in the third period to take a 6-1 lead.

Again, there was no quit in the Pines boys, as they tallied the next three goals. Brett Wielhouwer and Graves each scored unassisted before Wessel set up Graves to make it 6-4.

But Tomahawk got two late goals to secure an 8-4 win.

“They were the fastest team we’ve faced so far. They have some kids that can really fly,” said Schmidt. “We’re trying to get the kids to understand that when you play good teams, they’re going to score goals and they have to learn how to bounce back from that.”

Pines was scheduled to play a make-up GNC game against the Rhinelander Hodags at home on Monday. Following that game it was onto the first round of the GNC tourney scheduled for Jan. 31 where the Eagles were set to meet Tomahawk again on the road at Sara Park.

Game time Tuesday was set for 7 p.m. Following that game the team heads to Shawano this Thursday before the next round of the GNC tourney is scheduled Feb. 7.

STANDINGS

EAGLE RIVER POOL LEAGUE

Results of 1/26/23

Results: Shotskis 12, Denoyer’s I 4; Eagle Lanes 11, Great Escape 5; Denoyer’s II 11, Twin Lake Pub 5; Uncle Kent’s I 10, Brew’s Pub II 6; Brew’s Pub I 9, Uncle Kent’s II 7; Club 45 I 11, Club 45 II 5.

Eight ball runs: Don Merten 2, Gary Dennison, Don Klienelder.

Eight ball break: Rian Stauffacher.

STANDINGS	W	L
Shotskis	158	66
Uncle Kent’s I	128	96
Eagle Lanes	128	96
Brew’s Pub II	120	104
Great Escape	118	106
Denoyer’s I	114	110
Brew’s Pub I	116	108
Denoyer’s II	98	126
Club 45 I	97	127
Uncle Kents II	95	129
Twin Lake Pub	88	136
Club 45 II	84	140

THREE LAKES DARTBALL

Results of 1/25/23

Team results: Wildcats 3, Oneida Village II 0; Newbies 2, Village People 1.

Top women shooters: Leigh Travis 5, Amy Davis 3, Bev Beyer 2, Ann Kuntech 2.

Top men shooters: Steve Schultz 6, Larry Roth 5, Bob Borek 7, Art Martinez 2.

Home Runs: Amy Davis 1, Diane Hoffman 1.

STANDINGS	W	L
Wildcats	23	1
Village People	9	15
Legion Newbies	9	15
Oneida Village II	7	17

EAGLE RIVER DARTBALL

Results of 1/25/23

Team results: Club Denoyer 3, Mud Creek 0; Eagle Lanes 3, Denoyer’s II 0; Shotskis 2, Sweetwater 1.

Top women shooters: Jane Klug 9/18, Taylor Healy 8/19, Lindsey Nylund 4/19.

Top men shooters: Dan Welzien 8/18, John Ariola 6/15, Joe Romdenne 6/15, Troy Ernst 6/19, Frank Merkel 5/20, Keith Popp 4/17.

Home runs: Deanne Thompson, Don Scharf.

STANDINGS	W	L
Eagle Lanes	25	11
Club Denoyer	24	12
Sweetwater	23	13
Shotskis	22	14
Mud Creek	9	27
Denoyer’s II	5	31



WINNING AGAIN — A week after making his professional ice oval racing debut Eagle River’s Zach Herfindahl was back on his No. 312 Arctic Cat factory machine as he took first place in both the Pro Stock and Pro Open events at

the Heartland 200 in Park Rapids, Minn. Teams will now prepare for the Goodridge/Grygla 1-500 set for Feb. 12-13.. Herfindahl will head to Sault Ste. Marie this coming week for the Soo 500 Enduro event. —Photo Courtesy of Alex Spiess

RECYCLE
Plastic Newspaper Glass Aluminum

Safety First
Remember: 55 at Night