

Schedule

BOYS BASKETBALL

THURSDAY, FEB. 17

Coggon/8 p.m.
TBD vs. TBD
Class 1A District Semifinals

TUESDAY, FEB. 22

Jesup/7 p.m.
TBD vs. TBD
Class 1A District Finals

FEB. 28-MARCH 5

Des Moines/TBA
Girls State Tournament

GIRLS BASKETBALL

FRIDAY, FEB. 18

Riceville/7 p.m.
TBD vs. TBD
Class 1A Regional Semifinal

Regular season ends with loss

BY COREY MEINTS
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With key player Brody Roder injured, an already thin A G W S R Cougar (6-15) squad was run ragged last Tuesday in Sumner. A G W S R fell 74-49 after the Sumner-Fredericksburg Cougars (9-12) scored 26 points in the fourth quarter.



Stahl

The visitors were held scoreless through the first three-plus minutes of the game, but still were within striking distance at 22-14 after the first quarter. AGWSR cut into that lead in the second, to trail just 32-29 at the half.

AGWSR cut it to two early in the third, but S-F's surplus hit 11 points at the end of the frame. It grew from there, as that one big quarter that has hurt AGWSR all season unfurled.

Peyton Schmitz led S-F and all scorers with 39 points. Klay Seehase added 19 for the winners. Gabe Nederhoff and Daniel Stahl tossed in 18 and 15 respectively for AGWSR.

"I thought we played a really good first half and a very good game overall," AGWSR head coach Ryley Schipper said. "We made shots and defended pretty well, really. It was just another one of those nights where I feel like we just wore down."

While it wasn't the note Schipper wanted to end the regular season on, he's still confident good things are ahead as the postseason begins.

"I still think we are playing good basketball, we just have to continue to defend and execute on offense," Schipper said. "Teams have sped us up and that wears on us in the long run. We will re-group and see what we can do." ●

Sumner-Fredericksburg 74, AGWSR 49

Feb. 8 at Sumner
AGWSR: 14 15 8 12-49
S-F: 22 10 16 26-74

Scoring
AGWSR: Gabe Nederhoff 7 0-1 18; Daniel Stahl 4 4-4 15; Darren Veld 3 1-3 7; David Koop 1 3-3 6; Cale Culver 1 0-0 3.

Sum-Fred: Peyton Schmitz 17 0-0 39; Klay Seehase 8 3-6 18; Kade Mitchell 4 0-0 9; Brennan Duffy 1 0-2 3; Jamison Howard 1 0-0 2; Austin Langreck 0 2-2 2.

Regular season closes with a slam

AGWSR controls Royals, ends 11-9

BY COREY MEINTS
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At the risk of being repetitive, AGWSR Cougar head coach Mike Finger gave credit to his defense again Monday night. Rightly so, as his squad held the visiting Colo-NESCO Royals (6-16) to just five second-half points in Ackley on their way to a 48-14 win. It ended his first regular season at the helm with an 11-9 mark.

While this may have been the most consistent four quarters of the season as AGWSR's gears up for its regional home opener Thursday against Fort Dodge St. Edmond, Finger said it was more of the same, at least defensively. AGWSR forced 20 turnovers and held the Royals to just 10-percent shooting from the floor.

"I might sound like a broken record, but we had another really good defensive effort tonight," Finger said. "Thankfully, our girls recognize that that's our bread and butter - that if we play really good defense it gives us a chance to win. Our goal all season long is to take better care of the basketball and execute on offense. We did that Friday night and again tonight. It was a little bit rough in the first half, but in the second half, we were doing a much better job."

The Royals never got out of the starting gate as AGWSR raced out to a 9-1 first-quarter lead. The chasm grew to 23-9 at the



PHOTOS BY COREY MEINTS/ACKLEY WORLD JOURNAL

Trevyn Smith (left) and sister Brynn Smith battle for this rebound in a 48-14 regular season-ending win over Colo-NESCO Monday in Ackley. AGWSR dominated the boards and the scoreboard, beating the Royals 48-14.



half as the hosts limited C-N to just one field goal in the first 16 minutes of play.

While the Royals' offense was shut down by

AGWSR 48, Colo-NESCO 14

Monday at Ackley

C-N: 1 8 0 5 -14
AGWSR: 9 14 11 14 -48

Scoring

C-N: Izabell Voelker 1 1-2 4; Sofia Piziali 0 4-6 4; Molly Angell 1 0-0 2; Shelby Perisho 1 0-0 2; Callie Kohlwes 0 1-2 1; Sydney Ingle 0 1-2 1.

AGWSR: Brynn Smith 6 0-0 15; Grace finger 5 0-3 10;

Josie Kuper 4 1-2 9; Chaylie Lippert 2 0-2 5; Ava Olson 2 0-0 4; Karis Lippert 1 0-0 3; Catelynn Koop 1 0-0 2.

another stifling Cougar defensive effort, AGWSR found and opened up its offense. Brynn Smith was one of five different Cougars to score in the first half, leading the way with seven on her way to a game-high 15 points on the night. Josie Kuper dropped in six. Chaylie Lippert, getting a start as a senior on Senior Night, added all five of her points in the first half. Karis Lippert booked her three as well, and senior Grace Finger scored two and finished the game with 10.

The lone Royal field goal of the half was a three-pointer by Izabell Voelker with 2:21 to play. The rest came on 6-10 shooting at the charity stripe. They didn't even get that in the third quarter, as the Cougars shut them out while increasing their lead to 34-9 entering the fourth quarter. AGWSR cruised from there. ●

Chaylie Lippert (left) and Shaylee Hofmeister were part of the defense that helped the Cougars shut down Colo-NESCO last week in the regular season closer.

Westward no One rim cold for both, Cougars fall

BY COREY MEINTS
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The AGWSR Cougars (6-14) and Colo-NESCO Royals (14-7) had the same problem scoring on the west end of the court in Ackley - scoring. Unfortunately for the hosts, the Royals were shooting on the east in the second half.

The only answer the Cougars had in the final quarter was a pair of David Koop free throws as C-N went on to a 45-38 win in Ackley Monday night. The hosts led by as much as 12 points late in the third quarter.

"We just quit competing," AGWSR head coach Ryley Schipper said. "What we rely ourselves on, toughness and always playing hard, we just didn't have that in the second half. We have to get back to having fun playing basketball and not worry about what the scoreboard says. I can live with a loss if I thought we played hard, but tonight, I just didn't think we did. We took shots we didn't need to take that we weren't taking in the first half and we just didn't defend."

Up 25-16 at the half, the Cougars had the Royals right where they wanted them on Senior Night. Then, Schipper said, they just quit doing what got them there.

Seniors Cale Culver, Jeffrey Pfaltzgraff and Tanner Lindaman got the call to start on Senior Night. Those three typically come off the bench. They and regular starters Daniel Stahl and Darren Veld, also seniors, gave up three-straight baskets to the visitors and found themselves in a 6-0 hole



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as Schipper called a quick break in the action to get another senior regular starter David Koop and sophomore Gabe Nederhoff in the game.

That was the spark they needed as Nederhoff put the hosts on the board with a three-pointer. Stahl followed with two of his own to give AGWSR a 9-3 lead. Stahl finished the quarter with 11 points, but ended the night with 12.

The Royals tied and eventually took a brief

lead in the second verse, but the Cougars used a Veld drive to spark a 10-0 run to the half. The final score was a Veld putback at the buzzer off a Nederhoff three-point miss.

That 25-16 lead grew to 36-24 on a make and freebie by Veld with 1:17 to play in the third. That was the last tally the Cougars would have until the 1:37 mark of the fourth frame. In between, the Royals scored 18 points to take a 42-36 lead on their way to the win. ●

Darren Veld watched this ball, and the Cougars the game, slip away in Ackley Monday night. AGWSR led by as much as 12 late in the third quarter, but only scored a pair of free throws in the fourth to lose 45-38 to Colo-NESCO.

Colo-NESCO 45, AGWSR 38

Feb. 7 at Ackley
C-N: 10 6 15 14 - 45
AGWSR: 14 11 11 2 - 38

Scoring
C-N: Lucas Frohwein 7 3-4 17; Nolan Smith 6 0-3 12; Andrew Tschantz 5 0-0 10; Kenny Cutler 1 1-3 3; Bradley Thomas 1 0-0 3.

AGWSR: Daniel Stahl 4 2-3 12; David Koop 4 4-4 12; Darren veld 3 3-3 11; Gabe Nederhoff 1 0-0 3.