

NAC Hoop Season Begins Stoners Take On 'Cats

For area high school basketball squads the season may be as simple as thinking like winners.

This week the NAC boys basketball season gets underway with the Potsdam Sandstoners hosting Gouverneur tonight (Tuesday) at the high school gym. In other area games of interest, Norwood-Norfolk travels to Tupper Lake on Tuesday, while Colton-Pierrepont is at Chateaugay, St. Lawrence Central is at St. Regis Falls, Parishville-Hopkinton is at Salmon River and Saranac Lake is at N-N on Friday.

"We just have to learn how to think like a winner," said Stoner coach Hal Gillette who missed all of last year because of illness.

That might not be as easy as it sounds for the Stoner hoopers, who were a dismal 1-15 last year, but the potential to surprise people is certainly there.

Clifton-Fine found that out on Friday night as the Stoners defeated C-F, 60-58, behind the 20 point performance of Mark Nunge. Butch Nunge added nine points to the Potsdam victory despite the 32 point performance of C-F guard Paul Healy.

Earlier in the week at C-F, the Stoners dropped a 60-49 decision with Healy and Fred McCormick leading the way for C-F. Randy Sieminski had 12 points and Nunge 10 for the Stoners in the losing cause.

Nunge, only a sophomore, has played extremely well in the preseason for the Stoners. The 6'4" power forward will certainly be one of the keys to the success of the squad, along with the team's other big man, Ron Gillette. Gillette has been sick recently but should be back to playing form soon. Seniors Bigwarfe, Bob Bradish, Nick Matoti, Rich Frary, Andy Spencer and Sieminski should also be key factors to what must be a total team effort.

The Stoners don't have one super player, but overall they are solid and could surprise people. They will face a tough task tonight against Gouverneur, one of the toughest teams in the league this year.

Players up from the j.v. squad include: Mike Fields, Kevin Claffey, Brian Dempsey and Colin Boyle. Scott Sabar, a senior who just went out for the team this year, will also contribute to the total team effort.

Coach Gillette is being helped out by Kurt Barney, who some may remember played for the Sandstoners about five years ago.

N-N On Upswing
With eight sophomores on the varsity squad, Steve LaBarge's Flyers hoop squad was definitely in the rebuilding stage last season. This year, after much needed experience, the Flying N's should be on the upswing.

Coach LaBarge feels that this season's squad should get better game by game and be able to compete with anyone in Section 10 this year.

The Flyers in preseason dropped two tough contests at the Peru tournament; falling to MAI, 51-46, and Peru, 42-40 in action over the weekend. The

Flyers were led by Bob Queor on Friday with 11 points, while Dan Michalak netted 12 on Saturday.

The Flyers will have to depend on Michalak, who was second team All-NAC last year, as well as Randy Purvis, Bill Campbell and Queor if the team is to be a winner. Jim Bates, Brian Ferguson, Mike Arquette, Gene Rabideau, Thad Hawkins and Pete Molnar will also contribute to this year's squad.

C-P Hopes To Improve
Colton-Pierrepont mentor Tim Hennessy stated that he "has no idea yet" how this season will fare for his Colts but he is hoping to improve on last year's 10-10 overall record.

Coach Hennessy stated that the Colts should be strong at the guard position, but could have problems working the boards. How well they overcome that problem will probably tell how successful the season will be.

Steve Robert, along with Eric Andrews, Jeff Dominey and Joseph Robar will be the key returning members from last season's Colts seeking the board. How well they overcome that problem will probably tell how successful the season will be. Steve Robert, along with Eric Andrews, Jeff Dominey and Joseph Robar will be the key returning members from last season's Colts seeking the board. How well they overcome that problem will probably tell how successful the season will be.

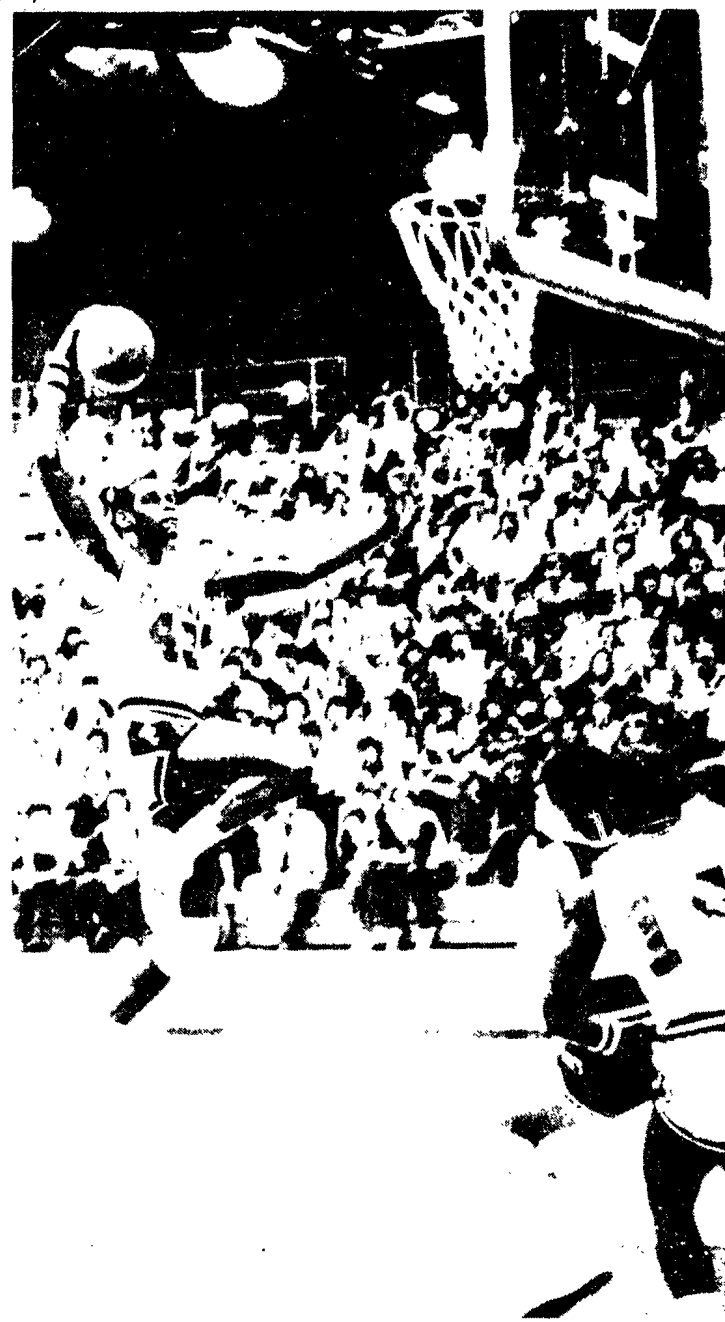
Players up from the j.v. squad include: David Gregg, Steve Morgan, Tom Walrich, Jerry Ford, Tim Buckley, Stan Francis, Jim Welch and Bill Huckle.

P-H Rebuilding
Parishville-Hopkinton's coach Larry Jenne has called this season a rebuilding year for his Panthers. "If we win one game, that's a successful season for me," he said.

P-H dropped a 54-43 decision at the hands of Knox Memorial in preseason action on Friday. Steve Richards led the Panther attack with 14 points.

SLC Wins, Loses
While preseason contests don't normally mean much, last Friday's 62-61 cliffhanger against Beekmantown of Section 7 in a preseason tourney at Chateaugay had to do a lot for Joe Jubinville's Larries. Dan Truax pulled off some late-game heroics, sinking a last second shot for the victory.

Chateaugay, sparked by 26 points from MVP Dick King dropped St. Lawrence Central, 56-45, in the finals of the tourney. Dennis Lynch's 18 points led the Larries in the finals.



SLAM DUNK — Potsdam College's Gary Sparks takes to the air for a crashing slam dunk which put the Bears ahead of the Binghamton Colonials for good in the first half of Saturday's match-up. (Jim Murphy photo)

sports

Women Hoop Team Triumphs Twice

Potsdam College's women's basketball team defeated Vanler, 58-52 to put their record to 3-2 on the season thus far. Lorraine King and Phyllis Flesham netted 10 points each to lead the Bears.

Hoopsters 1-1
The Bears women's basketball squad evened their record to 2-2 with a convincing 66-37 victory over cross-town rival Clarkson College on Saturday. Earlier in the week the Bears dropped a 70-56 decision to St. Lawrence University.

On Saturday, Rhonda Ross and Reggie Chmura led a potent and balanced scoring attack, netting 11 points each for the Bears. Caroline Collins and Donna Finley contributed eight points each.

In other Potsdam College sports action last week:
Wrestlers Drop Two
Potsdam College's wrestling squad continued their spurring start this season with a double loss to Albany, 32-8, and Binghamton, 30-12, in wrestling action over the weekend.

Brent Griffin, at 158 lbs., and Terry Bernat, in the 190 lb. weight class, posted the only two victories by decisions for the Bears in their match against Albany. Griffin and Bernat again were the bright spots of the Potsdam squad against the Colonials winning their matches; along with Brian Gross, who won a decision at 142 lbs. Griffin won his match by a pin. The Bears Grapplers' record now stands at 6-3 for the season so far.

Swimmers Place Third
Potsdam College's swimmers placed third out of eight squads overall at the McGill Invitational held over the weekend. The men's squad placed third behind host McGill and St. Lawrence University; while the women were also third trailing Vermont and McGill. The best club topped the field of swimmers overall with St. Lawrence placing second.

The 800 freestyle relay team of Rene Hatter, Jane Heinrich, Cathy Riley and Ann Donato set a school record at the meet, posting a 8:31.25 time. The same team also set a school record in the 400 freestyle relay, with a 2:50.04 time.

The team of Riley, Donato, Hatter and Maggie Murphy combined to set a new school record in the 400 medley relay, with a time of 4:25.43.

Individual honors went to Donato who set records in both the 200 freestyle and the 100 butterfly and Hatter who set a new school record for the 200 individual medley competition.

Russians Are Coming
The Clarkson College Golden Knights Hockey squad will face off against the Gorky Torpedos of the U.S.S.R. on Jan. 2 at Clarkson's Walker Arena. Game time is 7:30 p.m. For ticket information, contact Scott Smalling at the arena, 288-7750.

Public Record
Terry L. White, 18, 118 Market St., was charged with unsafe backing on Sunday after an automobile accident on Market Street.

Patrick T. Reynolds, 18, 28 Washington St., was charged Saturday with disorderly conduct.

John E. Lopez, 20, 51 1/2 Market St., was charged Friday with operation while license suspended and inadequate exhaust.

Robert D. Fesler, II, 22, Camillus, N.Y., was charged Thursday with failure to comply, reckless driving, inadequate exhaust, driving while intoxicated and speeding.

Mary L. Lyman, 16, Morley Road, Potsdam, was charged last Wednesday with speeding.

Darrell F. Rafter, Jr., 22, Racquette Acres, was charged last Tuesday with harassment.

Bears 72, St. Lawrence 50
Earlier in the week, the Bears played a much better game against St. Lawrence — another team which looks to have a long long season ahead of it.

Potsdam shot a torrid 54 percent from the floor overall and took command right from the opening tip-off enroute to an easy 22 point victory.

Sparks dominated the inside game, netting 19 points and eight rebounds to lead the Bears. Jim Sigone also had a big game with 15 points, while Witherspoon added 14. Matt Ramsdell and Blaine Harris each led St. Lawrence with 12 points.

Potsdam Skaters Improve Larries, Flyers Strong

The Northern Athletic Conference hockey season gets underway this week with a full slate of games in what is expected to be the most competitive and most exciting year in recent memory for area teams.

The Potsdam Sandstoners, in particular, are hoping to rebound from last year's losing season, while Norwood-Norfolk and St. Lawrence Central hope for a rematch of last year's Division B championship.

The Stoners will host Norwood-Norfolk at Pine Street Arena on Wednesday night, while the Larries travel to Aix Bay in what will be the opening matches for all three clubs.

The Stoners will be looking to improve on last year's 9-12 mark by combining a more disciplined approach to the game with a more positive attitude, to be better productive both offensively and defensively.

Bob Bronson, who led last year's Potsdam Midgets to the Midget B state championship, has been helping out second year mentor Russ Audycki shape this year's Stoners squad.

Despite the loss of four defencemen to graduation, Coach Audycki feels that his club will be better inside their own blue line with three juniors, Brad James, Donnie Lynch and Ed Barrows protecting talented but untested netminders, Mike James and Scott Domingos.

The Stoners' offense should also improve with the team's top five goal scorers returning this year. Key returning players include: Jay Wiberg, Bernie Adams, Randy Reagan, Matt Lovelace, Pat Snyder, Ty Jacob, Brian Loveless and Mike James. Key newcomers up from the j.v.'s include: Mike Yette, Jay Carey, Peter Doran, Scott Ward, John Jones, Marty Lashomb, Ron Bitley and Chris Donah.

According to coach Audycki, the Stoners must avoid the lapses in concentration which plagued the club last season if they are to leave the pack and challenge NAC power Massena. The Stoners will take on the Red Raiders at Pine Street on Saturday for their second straight tough test.

SLC Hopes To Repeat
St. Lawrence Central hockey coach Mickey Locke is looking forward to making a tradition out of the state divisional championship this season, with much of the 23-3-1 squad of last year returning to defend their title.

But Locke feels that it will take a total team effort and an injury free season if the Larries are to beat down the challenge of Norwood-Norfolk and Salmon River.

The Larries combine strong goaltending, a veteran squad and the high scoring line of Joe Prashaw.

Other members who should play a key role in the Larries' success this year include: Rich LaFave, Tony Arquette, Ivan Dyke, Russ Stickey, Bart Normie, Joe Cameron, Jerry Prentice, Steve Yandoh, Jamie Lantry, King Compo, Robbie Roach, Vern White and Greg Derwin.

N-N Should Challenge
One other team vying to topple the king of the mountain this season is the N-N Flying N's, who boast one of league's best individual athletes in scoring sensation and last year's MVP, Roger Hulatt. Co-captain Hulatt, who had an incredible 45 goals and 30 assists last season, hopes to be the catalyst to this season's squad. The Flyers were 15-9-3 overall last year, third in Division B and battled with St. Lawrence Central for the sectional championship.

The core of that successful squad will be returning this season to challenge once again for the top spot in the Division B. Returning are co-captain Mike McDonald, who along with Hulatt competed on this section's Empire State hockey squad, Lail Donahue, Mark Tisdell, Bud Fiocco, Mike Richards, Jim Woods and Rob Purvis. Sophomore George Molnar and Heath Huczel are also returning from last year's squad.

Up from the j.v. squad are: Kevin Dibble, Mike Ryan, Ken Plumb, Preston Mossow, Rich Stone, Andy Marsjanik and Chuck Charland. John Sawyer, who last year played basketball, also joins this year's squad.

Flyer coach Tim Long cites Hulatt, McDonald and four strong defencemen as his paramount strengths, while calling a lack of depth his strongest weakness.

While the Flyers boasted the third most potent attack in the league last year, the squad also gave up the third most goals of any team in the league. "We feel we can score," Coach Long said, "But we've always had trouble keeping the puck out of the net."

How well the Flyers improve defensively should tell how high atop the standings they will be come season's end.

Clarkson Skaters Bomb Brown

The Knights were looking to beat up on somebody and lowly Brown happened to get in the way.

After spending the last two weeks scratching and clawing for victories which, on paper at least, should have been easy, the Clarkson Golden Knights hockey team let loose with fury, pounding the Bruins 9-0 at Walker Arena on Saturday.

The Green and Gold will have the week off before traveling to RPI on Saturday.

For a while it looked like the frustrating pattern that the Knights have found themselves in recently was going to hold true again on Saturday. Clarkson pounded away at the net in the first period with a stubborn precision matched only by the equally stubborn performance of Bruin netminder Paul McCarthy. McCarthy came up big time after time in the opening stanza, frustrating a Green and Gold attack which was doing everything right — except scoring.

The Knights' awesome pressure finally paid off when Colin Patterson stole the puck, and from the slot drilled a shot which somehow McCarthy got his leg in front of. The rebound bounced through the crowd in front of the net onto the stick of Gord Sharpe who knocked it home for Clarkson's first tally, a power play goal with just over three minutes left. Bruce McDonough also assisted on the play.

The power play also helped get things started for the Knights in the second period as McDonough tallied from close range completing the nifty passing of Sharpe and Bob Armstrong.

Deron Bauer drilled a slap shot from the right face off circle between the legs of McCarthy from Pat Haramis at the 4:02 point of the second stanza, as the Knights began to pull away.

The Green and Gold then put the game on ice by netting three more goals in less than three minutes to break the match wide open. Greg Wiese, Patterson and Bill Norton each tallied during a span where the Knights had countless opportunities to put the puck in the net.

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Bears Lose To Nazareth On Last Second Jumper

Nazareth's Steve Perkins' five foot jumper with just three seconds left sank the Potsdam Bears, 45-44, for their second home loss of the season on Monday night.

Perkins, with 18 points, dominated the inside throughout the contest, marred by sloppy play and frequent turnovers, but close right to the final buzzer. Gary Sparks and Marty Groginski each netted 14 points to pace the Bears.

The Golden Flyers simply didn't miss in the second half, shooting an incredible 80 percent (12 for 15) from the floor. The Bears kept pace throughout the game, which was deadlocked 21-21 at halftime.

Potsdam now takes to the road against Albany on Saturday.

The old adage that a team only performs to the level of the competition certainly rang true on Saturday when the dismal performance of the Binghamton Colonials proved to be contagious to Potsdam.

The Bears played perhaps their poorest first half this season and still wound up 11 points ahead at halftime, 29-18. That's because the Colonials made every lay-up or foul shot an adventure, shooting only 39 percent from the floor and 44 percent from the charity stripe.

The Bears, however, were far from overpowering, shooting only 41 percent from the floor themselves in the first stanza. After over five minutes into the game one frustrated fan gave a cheer normally reserved for the hockey arena.

"One...two...three...four...We want five!"

Leroy Witherspoon, with easy fast break lay-ups, and Gary Sparks, with a crashing slam dunk, put Potsdam ahead for good by the middle of the first period.

The Bears rebounded somewhat in the second stanza, scoring 10 straight points early in the half to put the game on ice. Witherspoon led the Bears' attack, netting 18 points and dishing out four assists. Sparks, with 10 points and 13 rebounds, Scott Culler, with 11 points, and Ed Okuniewski with 10 points, also were keys to Potsdam's victory.

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Extra Points High School Athletes Honored

BY JIM MURPHY
Sports Editor
The Potsdam High School Boosters Club did it again Monday night, putting on another successful awards banquet to honor the athletes from the girls and boys soccer and cross-country squads.

Receiving the Booster Club's Sportsmanship Awards after the fine food were: Margaret Gibbs of the girls j.v. soccer team; Jill Tomalty of the girls varsity soccer squad; Chris Frary of the boys j.v. soccer squad and Steve Bartlett of the varsity soccer squad. Margaret Bradley received the Beth Rich Award.

For the cross-country teams, Larry Garcia of the j.v. squad and Rob McCarrigan of the varsity squad were each honored with sportsmanship awards. The door prize of a radio, donated by White's True Value Hardware, was received by Dan Lynch. The boosters wished to thank everyone who helped make the evening an enjoyable one.

Booster Meeting Changed
Because of the holidays, the Potsdam High School Booster Club meeting has been moved up from Dec. 20 to Dec. 13.

Frozen Foote Series
Get out your wooly running suit and Nike snowshoes — the fifth annual Frozen Foote Series, a series of four four-mile road races to be held regardless of weather conditions, is here. The first of the series will be Dec. 11, with other competitions to be held on Jan. 15, Feb. 12 and March 12.

The Frozen Foote course begins and ends in front of the Augsbury Physical Education Center at St. Lawrence University and runs out and back on the hilly Woodmere Road.

The Frozen Foote races start at 10:30 a.m., with registration beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Augsbury lobby. A \$2 entry fee covers the entire four race series and Frozen Foote T-shirts will be awarded to the runners who compete in all four races.

WTBS Basketball Match-up
What could be perhaps one of the key basketball match-ups in college basketball this season will be broadcast this Saturday on "Superstation" WTBS when Georgetown battles the Virginia Cavaliers at 8 p.m. The contest will be a showcase for two of the best big men in college basketball, the Hoyas' Patrick Ewing and the Cavs' Ralph Sampson. Potsdam cable subscribers can see it all live on cable channel 17 in what will be the first of 12 great college match-ups to be broadcast by the Turner station through March.

Pro Wrestling In O'burg
After a very successful stint in Massena, pro wrestling fans in the North Country will have another opportunity to see the Destroyer, Pat Patterson, Edouard Carpentier, Gilles "the fish" Poisson, not to mention the midgets, Little Brutus and Tiger Jackson in an evening of pro wrestling at the Ogdensburg Free Academy William L. Dwyer Gymnasium on Dec. 9. The promotion, sponsored by and for the benefit of the Ogdensburg Athletic Department, will begin at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$7 for ringside seats and \$5 general admission. Tickets will be available at the door.

Clarkson Booters Honored
Clarkson College soccer players Vele Galovski and Ali Ouarzeddini have been tapped for post-season honors. The Golden Knights have been selected as members of the 1982 All New York State Soccer Team for Division III.

Senior Vele Galovski from Rochester was chosen to be the first team at the goaltender position, while Ouarzeddini, from Algeria, was chosen at the midfielder position.

Galovski was chosen for the second team last season, while Ouarzeddini is making his third appearance on the team.

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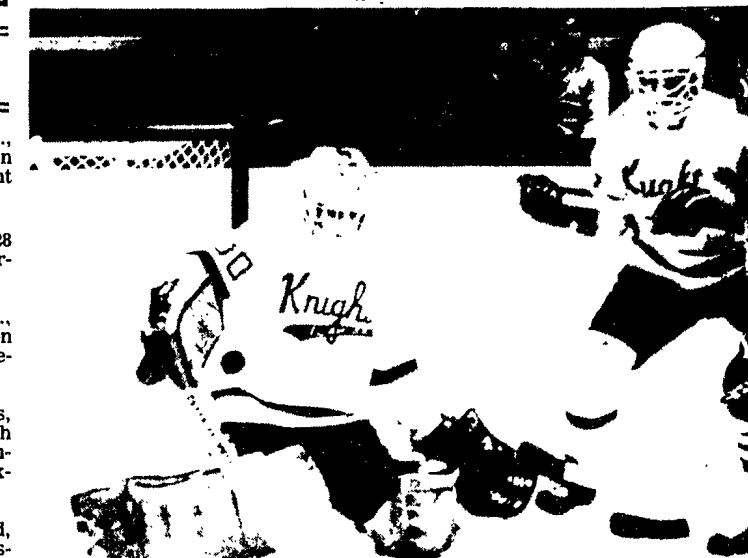
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FALE PERFECT — Clarkson goaltender Jamie Falle makes one of several big saves during the Knights' 9-0 victory over Brown University on Saturday. For the freshman netminder, it was his first collegiate shutout.