

SPORTS

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A TENSE GAME TURNS INTO A ROUT

Kettle Run buries Fauquier, 44-0, thanks to Chumley, Williams, Fasce

By Peter Brewington
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Sometimes you get a result so surprising all you can do is say, "Did that really just happen?"

Kettle Run's 44-0 smackdown of Fauquier on Saturday in Bealeton fell in that category.

The county rivals both displayed a ferocious brand of defense, taking turns bashing each other in a manner that looked likely to continue into the fourth quarter. The Cougars led 3-0 at halftime courtesy of Andrew Piercy's 37-yard field goal.

"It was a slugfest. At one point I thought this could end 3-0," said Kettle Run coach Charlie Porterfield.

While a tough Fauquier defense doled out plenty of punishment, the Cougars cracked the code to victory. Riding the left arm of senior quarterback Elijah Chumley, the Cougars scored six second half touchdowns to turn a tossup game into a blowout. "We felt if we trust what we're doing it was gonna break. To keep on track, it will go our way," said Porterfield.

"When it rained, it poured. It's all about competing for 48 minutes," said FHS coach Karl Buckwalter.

Chumley completed 15-of-23 passes for 193 yards and three TDs. Ahmal Williams caught four passes for 121 yards and two TDs. Peyton Mahaffey ran 12 times for 83 yards and a TD, and Nick Fasce had a 25-yard fumble return on defense.

Kettle Run bottled up elusive Falcon quarterback J.T. Diehl by keeping defensive ends Nick Fasce and Abram Chumley from rushing all-out. This kept Diehl from improvising and making big plays.

"The Diehl kid is a lot of fun to watch, but awful to game plan for," said Porterfield. "We stayed at home. Sometimes Nick did not even rush. It was just contain."

Both Falcon senior QBs had miserable games. Diehl completed 3-of-13 for 29 yards and an interception. Star senior receiver Evan Jackson, who relieved Diehl on the third drive of the third quarter, was 2-of-9 for 12 yards.



PHOTO BY RANDY LITZINGER

The local football scene changed significantly last week as Ahmal Williams (center) and the Kettle Run Cougars avenged last year's loss to Fauquier to improve to 2-0. Liberty (1-1) earned its first win by downing Culpeper 29-17. Both games were played as a doubleheader in Bealeton.

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

Kettle Run (2-0): HOME vs. Culpeper, Friday, 7 p.m.

Fauquier (2-1): HOME vs. Handley, Friday, 7 p.m.

Liberty (1-1): HOME vs. Goochland, Saturday, 1 p.m.

Kettle Run avenged last season's 21-7 loss to Fauquier and threw a bucket of ice water on Fauquier's impressive 2-0 start, which included last Monday's 21-14 win over Liberty.

Suddenly it's the Cougars flying high. After going 1-9 last season, they're 2-0 and averaging 46 points a game heading into Friday's Homecoming game with Culpeper.

And they have a potential all-district first team quarterback in Chumley, who has six TD passes in two games. "I'm not surprised. Look at the off-season he had. Hopefully we talk about this every

week," said Porterfield.

Chumley has learned to release his passes with very short dropback time. Chumley opened 2-for-8 but completed his last five in the first half and 8-for-10 in the second half to close 13 for 15.

He noted Chumley is "still not content with things. He's leading like a senior QB. He's looking like an all-district caliber kid. I'm pleased he can play again and show what he can do."

After three fumbles deep in FHS territory, two in the first half, Kettle Run scored their first TD on its third drive of the second half when Chumley hit Jordan Tapscott on a 7-yard out route to the left pylon with 5:33 left in the third.

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'It's not fair to these athletes'

Local all-district or all-region teams won't be selected this year

By Fred Hodge
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Athletes and coaches at Fauquier, Kettle Run and Liberty High Schools will not be receiving any individual postseason recognition this school year.

In a controversial decision, the Northwestern District, like many districts and regions around the state, opted out of the postseason awards process, following the VHSL's decision not to name all-state teams due to the shorter seasons.

"It all started with the state," said Kettle Run activities director Paul Frye, who said Region C decided against all-region teams in a close vote. The Northwestern and Dulles districts followed suit.

Some coaches are disappointed to see athletes deprived of much-deserved recognition.

"It's truly a disservice to the players," said Fauquier volleyball coach Diana Story. "We're lucky to have a season. We are very blessed by that, but we are having a season," she said pointedly. "It's not fair to these athletes who are working day in and day out for those accolades."

One argument cited by the VHSL when it chose not to name an all-state team was that nearly 20 percent of the 313-school membership did not play winter sports.

With five teams instead of the normal eight playing football in the Northwestern District, the decision makes some sense, said Kettle Run football coach Charlie Porterfield. "It's a strange year so it doesn't surprise me. It would be tough to pick true all-district teams without the in-

clusion of Sherando, Millbrook and James Wood," said Porterfield, noting only KRHS, FHS, LHS, Culpeper and Handley are competing for the district title in all winter sports.

But Story doesn't think teams playing should be penalized. "Why are you affecting my players because of a school district that decided not to play?" she asked. "If you decide not to play then you do not get the accolades."

All-district picked in Prince William

In nearby Prince William County, the Class 6 Cedar Run and Cardinal districts picked postseason teams in basketball, as did the Commonwealth District in Stafford County.

But those Class 6 Region B did not select an all-region team, which bothers Potomac boys coach Keith



PHOTO BY RANDY LITZINGER
Makayla Foddrell had a chance to be Northwestern District Player of the Year, but the district is not awarding honors this year.

Honore, whose squad won the region and lost in the Class 6 championship.

"COVID has taken so much away from our kids. They've had to play with masks on and without fans. I don't think more should be taken away, but we should give them as much as we could," said Honore.

See ATHLETES, page 15

FIELD HOCKEY

Smith's goal leads Cougars past Falcons 1-0 in OT

By Fred Hodge
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Persistence paid off Monday night in the season-opening game for the Kettle Run field hockey team.

The host Cougars held a decided advantage in circle penetration and shots on goal over Fauquier. Yet, Kettle Run found itself in a 0-0 tie entering a 15-minute sudden-victory overtime period with the Falcons.

Kettle Run made a quick, deep advancement in the first 90 seconds when the Falcons failed to stop the ball at midfield. The hosts translated that opening into Abbey Smith's game-winning score three minutes, 18 seconds into the extra period.

"We were definitely on the attack for much of the game," Kettle Run's first-year head coach Julie Kuhlberg said afterward, but she was hoping for a better shooting percentage.

"I think they need to work on getting it into the goal. They get into the circle, but then they were having trouble getting the shots in," she said.

"We had two games canceled last week, so they were super excited to play," Kuhlberg added. "Maybe they weren't quite as focused at the start. Once the game got going, they came together as a team and worked better."

Fauquier's attack, by contrast, sputtered at times, as the Falcons were not credited with a shot on goal on their fewer trips into the circle. Fauquier goalkeeper Erin Irvin came away with 11 saves.

"We waited too long to get offensively mind-



FILE PHOTO

Senior captain Maddie White and the Cougars travel to play defending champion Liberty on Thursday at 6 p.m. On Saturday, Liberty is at Fauquier at 11:30 a.m.

ed," Falcon coach Brook Settle said, adding the coaches still are experimenting to find the most effective lineup.

The Virginia High School League banned the usual two preseason scrimmages this year in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Settle said this unit needed those extra repetitions against outside opposition.

"We're still trying to figure out where to put girls that can work together. Our lineup today was completely different than our last time out," she said. "I think we would have been in a much better place if we would have had two scrimmages. We have a lot of holes to fill from last year."

Still, it's not time to panic. "What I've noticed this year is it's going to be anybody's game on any given day. Who shows up with the best field hockey mentality," Settle said of the close Northwestern District results thus far.

Falcon JV wins 2-0

Fauquier took the junior varsity fray, 2-0, on scores by Lindsey Cree and Kaylee Shuler off assists by Elisa Duca and Lily Paccassi, respectively.

Fauquier had opened its season with another heart-breaking loss March 1 at George Mason. The Falcons squandered leads of 1-0 and 2-1 before falling, 3-2, on a Mustang goal with only seven seconds remaining in regulation play.

Fauquier's JVs won their opener, 4-0, on goals by Cree, Elena Fackenthal, Marjorie Davenport and Leonie Graus.

Eagles pull out opening win in shootout

Liberty, the defending district champion, also had a tight game with George Mason March 4. The teams were tied at 1-1 following regulation and sudden-victory periods, forcing a one-versus-one session. Gretchen Thomas, Daphne Daymude and Abby Keller scored for the Eagle victory. Lise Eanes tallied Liberty's regulation goal.

The condensed season and wet conditions have led to a crowded weekly schedule. Fauquier hosts Culpeper on Senior Night Thursday at 5 p.m. Liberty hosts Kettle Run at 6 p.m. that night before the Eagles play at Fauquier 11:30 a.m. Saturday.

'It's not fair to these athletes'

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Added Honore, "I don't think there was malice. I just think it was a bad decision and could have been thought out a little more. It's not too late to go back and do what's right. The consensus of the coaches in Region 6B is that we want an all-region team."

Fauquier girls basketball coach Brian Fodrell is also feeling deprived after his Falcons won their first district girls basketball championship since 1972. Fodrell probably would have been Coach of the Year and at least three players honored.

"Colleges want to see the personal achievements (for recruiting purposes). For a resume standpoint, it hurts the kids," said Fodrell. "Those are things kids can't get back. They have worked hard to get to a point where they could be named all district or all-region."

"We went ahead and played a district, region and state championship. So, everything that comes with it should be in one bundle. We shouldn't omit those things."

Kettle Run shuts out Fauquier

COUGARS, from page 14

The game was still tight at 10-0 entering the fourth – until the Cougars scored five more TDs.

The first featured some luck as Falcon cornerback Robert Vasquez got in front of a pass to Cougar Ahmal Williams and tipped it up over his back to Williams, who scooted the final 15 yards for a 22-yard TD to make it 17-0 after Piercy's kick.

Chumley then hit Williams for a 49-yard TD to make it 24-0 after Ella Slevin's kick. Lineman Nick Fasce ran 25 yards after a Jackson fumble to make it 31-0 after Slevin's kick.

The last two TDs came on a 4-yard run by Logan Branham and 11-yard run by Peyton Mehaffey. Porterfield, who is now 5-1 lifetime vs. Fau-

Fauquier's Goldman takes second in 100 fly at state swim meet

By Peter Brewington
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Fauquier senior Jake Goldman was the top local swimmer at the Class 4 state meet in Christiansburg on Feb. 23, placing second in the 200-yard individual medley in 1:55.37.

Goldman was also fifth in the 100-yard butterfly in 52.73.

"I'm just thankful I was able to compete along with all the other seniors for one final season," said Goldman, who plans to swim at an NCAA Division III school and is deciding between academic powerhouses Caltech, MIT and Carnegie Mellon.

Kettle Run's girls 400-yard freestyle relay team had the second best local performance, taking fourth in 3:46.07. The team consisted



PHOTO BY PATRICIA DAVIS
Fauquier senior Jake Goldman's superb career ended with a second place finish at states in the 100-yard butterfly.

of sophomore Megan Fallin, freshman Lily VonHerbulis, senior Peyton Talomie and junior Emma Craddock.

Kettle Run's 200 medley relay team of Craddock, Talomie, Fallin and Allegra Craft took eighth in 1:57.61.

Individually, VonHerbulis was ninth in the 200 free (1:59.04). Fallin was 10th in the 100 free (58:43) and 12th in the 100 butterfly (1:01.88). Craddock was 11th in the 200 IM (2:20.71).

Also, Kettle Run sophomore Mark Fallin was 10th in the 50 free (23:14) and 10th in the 100 backstroke (56:54).

In the team scoring, the Kettle Run girls were 11th, Fauquier boys 16th and Kettle Run boys 19th.



PHOTO BY RANDY LITZINGER
After two Saturday wins in Bealeton, Kettle Run's first home game is Friday at 7 p.m. against Culpeper (0-2) for Homecoming.

quiher, said last year's loss to the Falcons was a factor Saturday.

"I think our kids didn't forget that. One of the issues was I'm not sure we gave them respect. Even though we didn't roll into that game last year with a great record, we thought we were gonna beat them," said Porterfield.

Kettle Run has now won nine of the last 11 meetings against Fauquier and leads the series 9-5.

Other stars Saturday included Jacob Robinson, who caught six passes for 32 yards, and Tapscott, who caught two for 16 yards and a TD.

The kicking game was also spot on. Piercy made the game-winning points on a 37-yard field goal and punted well on a windy day where field position mattered. Backup kicker Ella Slevin went 3-for-3 on extra points, making her 5-for-5 through two games.

The baseball gods don't shine on Hawks

Leading most of game, Highland falls in state final, 7-6

By Peter Brewington
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Highland wanted to be the team dogpiling in celebration at the pitcher's mound Saturday.

Instead, the top-seeded Hawks were frustrated in their bid to win their first VISA Division II baseball title, losing to traditional power and No. 2 seed Greenbrier Christian 7-6 in the championship game at Shepherd Stadium in Colonial Heights.

Coming in with an arsenal of NCAA Division I-bound players, the Hawks played like the top dog all year, and seemed poised to win with George Washington University-bound ace Ed Wagner on the mound.

While not in complete control, the 6-foot-6 Wagner produced a gritty effort, going five innings and allowing four earned runs with five strikeouts, and leaving with his team ahead 5-4. "Ed Wagner was a program changer in his three years for us. I'd give him the ball again. It played like we wanted it. He did not have his best stuff, but he competed. That's what Ed does," said Highland coach Micah Higgins.

The Hawks scored in five of the seven innings and led 2-0, 3-0, 4-3, 5-3 and 5-4, but could never break it wide open. Greenbrier won it with three runs in the top of the sixth to lead 7-5. Highland scored once in the bottom of the sixth and had the tying run at second in the bottom of the

seventh, but could not score.

"This group is special in so many ways," said Higgins. "They love each other each and every day. That trumps the game score. Life-long relationships is what we strive for. Highland baseball has never been hotter."

It was Highland's second straight loss in the title game. In 2019 they eliminated Greenbrier in the semis but lost the final to Miller School. "This was Greenbrier's 14th state title and they've had multiple pro players," added Higgins. "It feels good to compete with people like that at the top of the heap. We want to stay there."

The game was an engrossing back and forth duel. The Gators, decked out in blue and orange like the University of Florida, got in deep trouble numerous times with multiple errors, but managed to keep it tight despite trailing.

Down 2-0, Greenbrier coach Patrick Nichols pulled starting pitcher Bailey Matela quickly in the second inning, and backup James McCrady went the rest of the way, allowing three runs (two earned) in 5½ impressive innings.

With eight hits, five walks and numerous Gators' errors, Highland reached base frequently, but made key mistakes that killed potentially big innings.

The Hawks had a runner picked off second in the second and hit into a



COURTESY PHOTO

Despite a frustrating loss in Saturday's state final, coach Micah Higgins' talent-laden Highland baseball program had its finest season, going 24-6.

hard-luck double play to end the third when runner Blake Cuddington was called out on a popup slide into second resulting in an automatic out at first.

But perhaps the biggest regret was not scoring in the fifth when Highland, nursing a 5-4 lead, loaded the bases with no out, but scored no runs when John Noah Lukonis was thrown out at the plate on a fairly deep flyout to right field after leaving late.

"Some things did not go our way. It's not easy. That's baseball, man. We love the sport," said Higgins.

Greenbrier responded with a huge bases-loaded double by Joey Allen to the base of the left-center field fence in the top of the sixth to clear the bases for a 7-5 Gators' lead.

That hit came off Cuddington, but the loss went to Jackson Gimbel, who walked three batters to open the sixth.

Greenbrier also had a three-run home run from Ethan Ott to tie the

game at 3-3 in the top of the third. "They got six runs on two swings," lamented Higgins about the Gators' two huge hits.

Highland's hitting star was Cuddington, who had a two-run single in the first and RBI single in the third, long double in the seventh, and finished 3-for-3 with a walk and hit by pitch.

"Cuddington was clutch all week. That's him all year. He was the best in the big moments," said Higgins.

Griffin Carroll had an RBI single in the second. Nate Dulevitz tripled to right-center in the sixth and scored on Connor McAuley's RBI groundout to make it 7-6.

Despite the disappointment, the Hawks finished 24-6 and returns another loaded squad next spring. "In the grand scheme, we're so fortunate and blessed to be able to play 30 baseball games this year," said Higgins.

Winebarger silences Kettle Run as Falcons get revenge, 3-2

By Peter Brewington
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Kettle Run and Fauquier have both made the Class 4 state baseball tournament within the last five years, and make regular visits to regionals.

With both programs in the thick of the Northwestern District race, postseason thoughts of glory are not unrealistic this season, especially in a crazy, late-starting, COVID-affected year.

Both Fauquier and Kettle Run have solid pitching, strong position players and are under sound

management with Falcon coach Matt O'Saben and Cougar coach Ty Thorpe.

"I think we're both getting quality pitching. It comes down which team can put together enough offense to put together a win. Pitchers are ahead of hitters all year. In the post-COVID situations the hitters are behind," said Fauquier's O'Saben.

Entering the final week of the regular season, both are 5-3 and tied for third in the Northwestern District. The district tournament runs June 1 and June 3. Due to the format it's possible both local teams could make it to the regionals again,

although Millbrook (8-0) and James Wood (7-1) have been the best teams so far.

Last Friday's second Falcon-Cougar showdown in a week showed how close they are. Fauquier got revenge for a 4-0 loss on May 17 with a 3-2 win behind the lights-out pitching of Falcon sophomore Owen Winebarger.

Fauquier went 10 innings over the two games before finally scoring against Kettle Run, and were helped by some Kettle Run infield mistakes last Friday.

But the lefty Winebarger was the story, assuredly controlling multiple pitches. He was never hit hard in recording nine strikeouts, including five caught-looking. "Owen did what Owen does. He commanded the strike zone in and out and up and down. He kept them off balance," said O'Saben.

Starter Harrison Yergey, a junior righthander, was also impressive for the Cougars, striking out seven Cougars in his six innings, before giving way to Zac Gimon, who struck out the side in the seventh.

Kettle Run took a 1-0 lead in the second on infield singles by Chase Rogers and Yergey and a solid RBI single to center by Peyton Mehaffey to score Rogers.

Northwestern District baseball standings

Millbrook	8-0
James Wood	7-1
Kettle Run	5-3
Fauquier	5-3
Sherando	4-4
Culpeper	2-6
Liberty	1-7
Handley	0-8



TIMES STAFF PHOTO/COY FERRELL

Evenly-matched Fauquier and Kettle Run split two well-played games last week. The regular season concludes this week with Fauquier hosting Culpeper Thursday and Kettle Run visiting Liberty Friday.

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DOMBROWSKI TAKES SECOND IN SPANISH VUELTA BIKE RACE

Professional cyclist Joe Dombrowski of Warrenton finished second in the third stage of the Vuelta a Espana Monday. Dombrowski, 30, made a strong move during the mountainous finish but was outdueled by winner Rein Taaramäe. The 2009 Fauquier High grad has been a pro racer since 2011 and now rides for UAE Team Emirates.

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COURTESY PHOTOS

A resident of The Plains, Haley Van Voorhis, 18, will reportedly become the first woman to play NCAA college football in a position other than kicker. She's a freshman defensive back at Division 3 Shenandoah University in Winchester and played this past spring for the D.C. Divas women's team, pictured above.

HALEY PREPARES TO MAKE HISTORY

Fauquier County's Van Voorhis begins freshman year as Shenandoah University defensive back

By Peter Brewington
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Shenandoah University football coach Scott Yoder calls Haley Van Voorhis "hard-working and humble."

A week into the team's practice schedule, he's pleased with what he's seen from Van Voorhis, a freshman defensive back who reportedly will become the first woman to play NCAA college football at a position other than kicker.

"She has been a great teammate. Haley made a nice play and intercepted a pass in an 11-on-11 drill and the defense was really excited about that," Yoder said.

The 5-foot-7, 150-pounder from The Plains was recruited as a defensive back in December, 2020 after Shenandoah coaches liked her film and saw her at a scouting combine in Richmond.

See VAN VOORHIS, page 20



Van Voorhis graduated from Christchurch School in May.



PHOTO BY JIM STEIGELMAN

The Kettle Run golf team is off to a hot start. From left is assistant coach Dale Edwards, followed by freshman Jack Wargo, junior Hayes Talomie, sophomore Brian Slaughter, senior Ben Gray, sophomore Evan Gentry, senior Colin Doyle and head coach Chris Ferrell.

Talented Kettle Run golfers seek elusive state berth

By Peter Brewington
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Is this the year?

New Kettle Run High golf coach Chris Ferrell hopes so.

After five straight years of winning the Northwestern District title and making the region tournament, the Cougars' golf program feels it's high time they made states.

"It's been our nemesis," says Ferrell, whose impressive program has never done it.

Kettle Run lost its No. 3 and 6 players to graduation in Joey Shull and Ashley Gentry, but return No. 1 Ben Gray and No. 2 Colin Doyle, both seniors. Also back are sophomore Evan Gentry and junior Hayes Talomie, who play No. 3 and No. 4, respectively.

Throw in talented freshman Jack Wargo, who has also played in the No. 4 slot, and sophomores Brian Slaughter and Nick Adkins, who have rotated at No. 6, and you can see why the Cougars think this could be their year.

"This is the deepest team we've had in a long time," said Ferrell, who feels a state berth is attainable. "We are very good this year. We just have to make sure we keep striving to get better. The sky's the limit, but we can't feed that into them too early. With all the hype and everything, they need to keep their heads on straight."

Kettle Run set a school record of 298 in rolling to victory in the opening district meet on Aug. 2, then finished a solid fourth at the 29-team Curly Licklider tournament in Winchester on Aug. 4. After winning another district tournament on Aug. 9, they've all but clinched the regular season title and a region berth.

The district tournament is Sept. 27 at Blue Ridge Shadows in Front Royal, giving Ferrell plenty of time to keep assessing his team's chances.

A former top Kettle Run golfer, Ferrell graduated in 2011 and is working in sales and investment for Ross Real Estate. He played under former coach Dale Edwards, then served as the Cougars' assistant coach under Edwards for four years before the two switched jobs after last season.

"It fits my personality. I like teaching the game," said Ferrell, who played golf at Shepherd University and graduated in 2015.

Kettle Run's undisputed No. 1 is Gray, who shot two-under par 69 at the first meet. "Ben is our superstar if that's what you want to call him. He's our best player and (fellow senior) Colin is a solid No. 2," said Ferrell, noting Doyle has shot 71 this year.

The new coach knows at least three or four low individual scores will be needed at regionals against schools like Loudoun County, Loudoun Valley or Tuscarora to earn one of the two precious Class 4 state berths that have consistently eluded the Cougars.

"We're looking at Evan, Jack, Hayes or Brian. Any of them can bust into that next realm," Ferrell said of Gentry, Wargo, Talomie and Slaughter.

The region tournament is Oct. 4 at a site to be determined. The Class 4 state championship is Oct. 12 at Glenrochie Country Club in Abingdon.

35-second shot clock approved for high school hoops in 2022

VHSL could pass measure to speed up game in October

By Fred Hodge

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Your local high school gymnasiums may be sporting brand new shot clocks 15 months from now.

The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) has approved the use of a 35-second clock for use in boys and girls basketball. Regulations for shot clock use will be included in the official rules manual beginning with the 2022-23 school year.

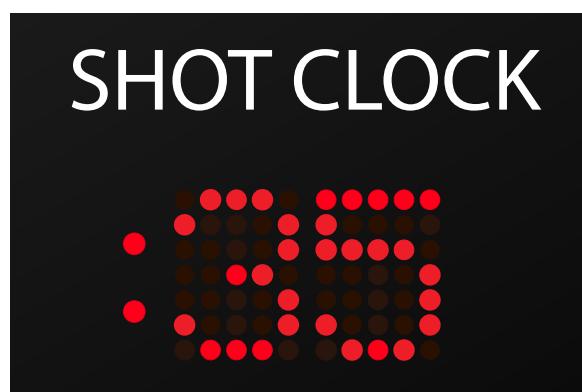
Approval for use by Virginia public schools will require passage by the Virginia High School League membership. The first opportunity for the entire VHSL state membership to consider the change is at October's state meeting in Charlottesville.

California, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Washington and Georgia are the nine states currently using 30- or 35-second shot clocks despite no previous rules from the national organization allowing them. Those states provided guidance to the NFHS.

A shot clock was among the topics discussed by the NFHS basketball rules committee at its annual April meeting. A recommendation to institute shot clocks was approved later by the NFHS Board of Directors. Rule 2-14 will state that each state association may adopt a shot clock to encourage standardization among states.

Guidelines include displaying two timepieces, one at each end of the court, connected to a horn that is different from the standard game-clock horn.

An alternative timing device, such as a stopwatch at the scorer's table, must be available in case of a malfunction. The guidelines also allow for corrections to the shot clock only during the shot-clock period in which an error occurred. Officials must have sufficient information to determine whether a mistake or malfunction has occurred.



The transition to a clock probably will be approved in Virginia, yet the process will not be smooth automatically, said two Fauquier County activities directors.

"I think it will pass," Kettle Run's Paul Frye said, adding there are several pros and cons.

"If I were still coaching, I would love it," said Frye, who used to coach Liberty's boys basketball team. "But in this job it is hard enough to get someone to run the regular clock. Now, I'll have to find somebody to run the shot clock. It's going to be a pain just for the logistics."

New technology requires training

The new clocks will require a separate operator who will require training on how to operate the system. The person also must learn when to reset the clock following a basket or turnover.

Fauquier AD Mark Ott was somewhat ambivalent in his reaction to the proposed changes.

"My thought process was I would immediately be against it," Ott said, primarily pointing to the cost and installation of the new equipment. "That's just another added expense (for the high schools)."

Following some additional thought, Ott said he could see where some teams would benefit from a guarantee of an uptempo game, adding the change also will hurt teams desiring a more deliberate style.

"It would speed up having to shoot, but it won't speed up the (length of a) game," he forecasted. "It's not that I'm completely against it. It's going to take time to adjust to it."

Another reason some opponents in non-shot clock states already are using against a shot clock was cited in a recent article in The Billings (MT) Gazette.

Based on discussions and past surveys, Mark Beckman, executive of the state's high school association, said Montanans are split on whether or not to add shot clocks.

"You hear some that are for it and like to say that it would be the best for the game and make it more exciting," Beckman told the newspaper. "You have others who are saying they like the traditional game."

He also cited the same aforementioned concerns of cost and finding someone to fill the new slot. "They struggle to get scorers and timers as it is."

Thoughts from local coaches

While administrators have to worry about the budget and manpower, a pair of Fauquier County coaches both support the move.

"The shot clock would be great for the game," said Pat Frazer, Liberty's head boys coach.

"The ending of the game would be improved. You wouldn't always have to foul."

He noted that because a team could not try to hold the ball for extended periods to protect a lead. "You would be able to rely on solid defense in order to get the ball back. The offense would have to rely on execution instead of just going to the free throw line."

Bryan Foddrell, Fauquier girls head coach, sees multiple positive aspects of a shot clock in Virginia schools.

"A lot of the time, the players are standing around and the offenses are not moving," he said of the girls game in particular. "That can't happen with the shot clock."

Foddrell also feels a clock for high school games will be beneficial for the growing number of athletes who wish to continue the game in college.

Foddrell's daughter Makayla, a Falcon senior, currently is involved with the recruiting process after playing the sport for years. The family has visited multiple schools and spoken with many coaches in its search for the best fit. He sees one constant factor in his conversations with those coaches.

See SHOT CLOCK, page 23

Van Voorhis: 'Playing football is just a dream of mine, and now I'm able to do it.'

VAN VOORHIS, from page 19

The former Kettle Run High athlete attended Christchurch School the previous three years, graduating in May after completing school all online.

Due to the pandemic, Van Voorhis missed the final year of football and lacrosse at Christchurch, but she stayed sharp playing strong safety this past spring season for the D.C. Divas of the Women's Football Alliance.

She made the all-WFA team as a strong safety and recorded 21 solo tackles in the Divas' five games.

That experience was legal under NCAA rules because she did it before full-time college enrollment and paid to play on the team, said her mother Heidi.

"She really was a terrific Diva, a terrific teammate, and a terrific football player," Divas' owner Rich Daniel said on the team website. "And at the age of eighteen, that is quite a statement to make about anybody. Whether it be a boy or a young lady."

In an article on the Divas' website, Van Voorhis said, "I got to be physically playing a lot more than I had before, so I was able to pick up new things, and keep myself playing football."

Although she is a multi-sport standout who also shined in basketball and lacrosse, football captured her attention early. She began tackle football in sixth grade, and played in a Fauquier County boys league for three years.

She attended Kettle Run as a freshman in 2017, playing JV football as a wide receiver/defensive back. She transferred to Christchurch, a boarding



COURTESY PHOTO

Shenandoah coach Scott Yoder said Haley Van Voorhis intercepted a pass at a recent practice. "She came into camp in good shape and it is apparent she has been training most of the summer," he said.

school located near the base of the Rappahannock River in eastern Virginia, for her sophomore year and shined in basketball, lacrosse and football as a sophomore.

She played football again as a junior, but with the

pandemic hitting, Christchurch's basketball season was cut short and lacrosse canceled. Her entire senior year of sports were cancelled, her mom said.

To fill the void, Van Voorhis trained diligently at home in The Plains and joined the Divas.

A trainer she works with recently posted a Twitter video of Van Voorhis dead-lifting 315 pounds.

"No days off this past year until her one beach vacation week in July. We're proud of her tenacity and hard work," said her mother Heidi. "We look forward to cheering on the entire Shenandoah Football team in September!"

Asked if she feels pressure, Haley told the Divas' website she's aware some people are watching her.

"I'm out here playing football, having fun," she said. "I mean, I do keep in my mind I'm the first and I gotta put a little extra 110% to prove to myself that women can do anything that maybe they're not supposed to do. So, playing football is just a dream of mine, and now I'm able to do it."

Yoder said Van Voorhis looks fit.

"Haley is playing defensive back and is doing well. She came in to camp in good shape and it is apparent she has been training most of the summer. This has served her well," said Yoder.

"Haley has been extremely coachable and we look forward to watching her progress through the next few weeks."

Shenandoah begins its season Sept. 4 with a home game against Methodist at 1 p.m.