

COLGAN FOOTBALL COACH NAMED THIS MONTH?

Steve Baudendistel's replacement as Colgan High football coach is expected before the end of January. There are 25 applicants with interviews scheduled soon with Principal Tim Healey.

Prince William Times | January 6, 2022

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'BASICALLY, I HAVE FIVE GUARDS OUT THERE'

Yergey, Vollmer and youth have undersized Brentsville girls hoops squad rolling at 8-1

Junior co-captain Cara Vollmer is one of Brentsville's potent scorers.

TIMES STAFF PHOTOS/COY FERRELL



By Jason S. Rufner
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

The future looks bright for Brentsville girls basketball.

The present looks pretty great, too.

Brentsville has a starting five of two juniors, two freshmen and a sophomore, and an 11-player roster with two seniors.

That's right, without a senior starter or one over 6-feet, the Tigers are 8-1 overall and collecting decisive victories over much larger schools.

Brentsville has yet to play a fellow Class 3 school. The Tigers own five wins over Class 6 programs, including Gainesville, Osbourn, Freedom (Woodbridge), Hylton and Gar-Field, and three versus Class 4 teams, averaging a 22.75-point margin of victory. Only a 44-36 setback at Class 4 Fauquier on Dec. 10 blemishes their record.

They are heavy favorites with Meridian in the Class 3 Northwestern District, giving them long-range dreams of a strong run in the region and state tournaments.

There's been nothing fancy about it.

"Playing hard and executing, everybody buying in. That's what it's been so far," said head coach Eugene Baltimore, in his 13th season helming the program in Nokesville. "We're battling. We just need to continue to do that moving forward."

The Tigers are built for success this year and next with freshmen Brookelynn Miller and Macie Mayes in the starting lineup along with sophomore Liz Rice.

COURTESY PHOTO



MEET THE TIGERS

-Overall record: 8-1

-District record: 0-0

-Coach: Eugene Baltimore

-Starting lineup: Alden Yergey, guard, Jr.; Cara Vollmer, guard, Jr.; Liz Rice, forward, Soph.; Brookelynn Miller, guard, Fr.; Macie Mayes, guard, Fr.

-Next game: Jan. 7 at Kettle Run

-Next home game: Jan. 14 vs. Skyline

Meet the Tigers

The Tigers are young, scrappy, and "not very big," Baltimore said. "Every team we've faced so far has been bigger than we are."

The Tigers' top weapon is 5-foot-9 junior Alden Yergey, a high-scoring point guard who can go off for 30 points. Yergey has committed to play for Siena College (N.Y.), a NCAA Division I program in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.

Her backcourt running mate and fellow captain is 5-7 junior Cara Vollmer, an attention-attracting scoring threat as well.

Sophomore forward Liz Rice, at 5-9, is the Tigers' primary rebounder. Freshman guards Macie Mayes and Brookelynn Miller have forced their ways into the starting lineup because of their advanced basketball IQs.

"Basically, I have five guards out there," Baltimore said. "I think



Brentsville's dynamic attack is led by junior Alden Yergey, a 5-foot-9 guard who can light up the scoreboard. The Siena College-bound co-captain has helped the Tigers open 8-1.

that's a key to this year. Even though there's a lack of height, our girls can handle the basketball."

Yergey and Vollmer are looked to as "leaders by example on and off the court," while Mayes and Miller are rapidly getting used to the varsity game.

"Talking with my coaches, we agreed they should be starting," the coach said. "Very proud of both of them and what they've done so far."

Baltimore, who coached at the college level for eight seasons, said he likes this group of Tigers.

"They're a fun bunch to be around, fun bunch to coach. We just have to keep working and do the best we can, and things will go our way."

Facing the Northwestern District

Coming off a three-year stretch during which Brentsville made the state tournament twice and regionals three times, the Tigers aren't strangers to winning.

But with a new crop of talent

coming together for this season, Baltimore felt it was time for some challenges. He scheduled scrimmages against Battlefield and Unity Reed, then played a non-conference slate against some of the most populous schools in Prince William.

"I wanted to test us because when we face some of those teams in our conference, we have some very, very good teams, my goodness."

January will put Brentsville through a gauntlet of tough Northwestern District foes, highlighted by the Jan. 21 showdown at home against defending state champion Meridian.

"And they got everybody back," Baltimore said.

Before that comes a contest with Class 4 Northwestern District member Kettle Run, plus a Jan. 12 rematch against Fauquier, another Class 4 Northwestern team. On Jan. 14, the district schedule begins with a home game vs. Skyline.

See BRENTSVILLE, page 12

COLGAN HIRES NATE STAPLES AS ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

Former Potomac athlete and long-time coach embracing role as administrator

By Jason S. Rufner
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

On Dec. 17, Nathan Staples was announced as Colgan High's director of student activities, making him the second in school history after Dave Huckestein, who retired after guiding the department through its first six years.

A former Potomac High multi-sport athlete who graduated in 2001, Staples played NCAA Division I football at Norfolk State – nearly becoming a head football coach first.

In 2008 he coached defensive backs and running backs at Freedom-Woodbridge, then was an assistant for the Eagles' baseball, indoor track, and outdoor track programs.

In 2014 he moved to Forest Park to coach defensive backs and offensive linemen. The following year he interviewed for the head job at Freedom, which went to Darryl Overton.



Nathan Staples

THE STAPLES FILE

- Hometown:** Triangle
- Alma mater:** 2001 Potomac High graduate
- Undergrad:** 2007 Norfolk State graduate
- Master's degree:** Has two degrees from University of Phoenix and is pursuing PhD

"I'll never forget one of the comments from (Freedom activities director) Steve Bryson, who was one of my football coaches in high school," Staples recalled. "They said they knew I was going to be an administrator, not a coach."

Even at age 13, Staples said he was drawn to the administration side. "Outside of my father, who was in the Marines, those are upstanding people who I wanted to emulate," Staples said. "They were my influences."

Athlete first

After playing baseball, lacrosse, and football, and running track at Potomac High, Staples went to Division II Shepherd University (W.Va.) to play defensive back. When a back injury derailed his development, he took two years off from the field.

He considered following his father into the military, but opted to walk-on to the Norfolk State football team, earning a spot on special teams for two seasons. "It was just the love of the game," he said. "I felt like football was taken away, so I wanted to challenge myself and see if I could play at the Division I level."

Waiting to be activities director

After he didn't get the Freedom football job that went to Overton around 2015, Staples kept coaching at Forest Park, eventually becoming defensive coordinator. He also began studying for a

New Colgan football coach named soon

Colgan High's new football coach is expected to be named before the end of January.

Activities director Nathan Staples says there are 25 applicants with interviews scheduled immediately with Principal Tim Healey.

"Dr. Healey, a few other trusted staff members, and I have narrowed down who we would like to bring in. We are hoping to have someone named by mid- to late January. This will allow them to get in the school, meet the kids and get their off-season program rolling," Staples said.

master's degree in educational leadership.

In 2018 Staples moved to Colgan as a teacher on special assignment, serving in that role for two years. After a year in the Virginia Beach system, he came back to Colgan in 2021 to be an administrative intern, prepping for the activities director gig.

Now the job is his.

"I had a lot of people in my past who saw me being successful in this position, seeing something in me that I didn't even see in myself," Staples said.

Lots to do

In addition to overseeing the Sharks' athletic programs, Staples is responsible for the school's clubs and other activities, such as the Center of Fine & Performing Arts.

"I carry my work cell phone with me at all times now," he said. "I've got so many calls and text messages and emails, all the back-and-forth with the coaches, referees, people working events. There's a lot of things to consider."

"We have a standard of excellence," he said. "We put in the time and effort to make sure our students know that they're being treated with the best we have to offer."

Tigers begin district play Jan. 14

BRENTSVILLE, from page 11

"Skyline's one of the top teams in our conference. Kettle Run plays us tough. Fauquier has four seniors starting and a couple scholarship players. They're big," Baltimore said. "If we're fortunate to make it to regionals and beyond, we're going to be facing some very physical teams."

"It's only going to get more difficult. These games can go either way," the veteran coach said. "We're going to have to fight every possession. We're going to have to continue to get better, each and every day."

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MANASSAS PARK GIRLS HOOPS ENDS 56-GAME LOSS STREAK

Freshman Da'Nayah Cuthbertson scored 12 points as the Manassas Park girls basketball team defeated Annandale 30-20 on Monday to end a 56-game losing streak. Manassas Park won again Tuesday, downing Park View 31-25.

SPORTS

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STICKING TOGETHER

PHOTOS BY ELI CORY

The newly-formed Gainesville/Patriot High ice hockey team features 11 players from Gainesville and 10 from Patriot. They're 2-3-1 with four games left.

Gainesville, Patriot High join forces in Northern Virginia School Hockey League

By Jason S. Rufner
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

They compete against each other as Cedar Run District rivals in all sports, but in ice hockey the Patriot Pioneers and Gainesville Cardinals are teammates.

Call them the Cardineers.

They merged out of convenience. As a newly opened school for this academic year, Gainesville is getting its feet wet in club ice hockey.

More established Patriot teamed with Rappahannock last year to go 6-4-0 and win a title in the Northern Virginia School Hockey League (NVSHL).

Open to varsity, junior varsity and middle school club-based teams, the NVSHL does a remarkable service bringing hundreds of players together to compete at local rinks.

There are 22 teams in the varsity division, including 12 stocked by at least 15 players from a single school, like the current league-leading Battlefield Bobcats (6-0-0).

The other 10 teams combine players from two schools into one squad, like Gainesville/Patriot, which has a record of 2-3-1 with four games left.

For the playoffs the combo teams and one-school teams go into their own brackets.

Joining forces

Gainesville/Patriot so-head coaches Keith Owen and Chuck Robinson hope two complete programs emerge from this year's combo club.

"With the opening of Gainesville this year and many of these kids having played middle school hockey together, it only made sense to combine the programs in order to keep hockey going at Patriot and start the spread of the hockey bug at Gainesville," they said via email.

"There will likely be a time when the programs need to split."

Of the 21-player roster, 11 attend Gainesville and 10 hail from Patriot. Owen's son Keiran goes



Ryan Carlton (left) and Gainesville/Patriot next play Jan. 21 vs. Madison in Reston.

Gainesville/Patriot hockey fast facts

- Record: 2-3-1
- Players from Gainesville High: 10
- Players from Patriot: 11
- Co-head coaches: Keith Owen, Chuck Robinson
- Assistant coaches: 6
- Next game: Jan. 21 vs. Madison in Reston
- Next home game: Jan. 28 vs. Oakton in Haymarket

to Patriot, while Robinson's son Brendan is a Gainesville student.

But on the ice, they all wear red and blue.

Rising stars

The top three scorers in the NVSHL's five-team Patrick Division are on the Gainesville/Patriot team.

Jacob Wolfrey, a Patriot junior, leads the division and is tied for ninth in the league with eight goals to go along with four assists. Brendan Robinson has authored seven goals and three assists, while Ben Barrett is third in the Patrick with five goals and fourth with nine total points.

"Each brings a high level of skill to the team,

with all three having the ability to make big plays anytime they are on the ice," the coaches said. "All three players are well-rounded kids with a passion and drive for the game, all three are great kids on and off the ice and will be mainstays throughout their high school playing days."

With his size, speed, and vision, Wolfrey attracts opposing defenses' attention. Barrett, a Patriot junior and alternate captain, is "an extremely explosive player with or without the puck."

Robinson, a Gainesville freshman with a four-goal game to his credit, has "a knack for burying pucks in the net."

A crop of sophomores and freshmen, led by Ryan Carlton, Jayden So, and Declan Dupre, add depth to the squad's first two lines. Those three have combined for five goals and six assists.

"With the core of young players we have, our future looks extremely bright," the coaches said.

The defense is led by Patriot senior and captain Brady Sullivan, who "brings unmatched energy and an outstanding compete level." From the blue line, Sullivan has collected three goals and four points.

He's flanked by Nate Patterson, a steady stay-at-home defenseman and the team's only other senior. Gainesville sophomore Amadeo Pivonka is a "physical presence," while junior Tyler Couch and sophomore Tyler Sanitra are experienced blue-liners.

See **ICE HOCKEY**, page 13

Gainesville/Patriot roster

Jacob Wolfrey
Brendan Robinson
Ben Barrett
Brady Sullivan
Jayden So
Ryan Carlton
Declan Dupre
Kieran Owen
Thomas Cory
Coleton McCants
Matt Del Vacchio
Amadeo Pivonka
Ethan Mirabile
Brennen Lettman
Tyler Sanitra
Nathan Patterson
Michael Kolias
Tyler Couch
Sam Johnson
GOALIES: Nick Erickson, Taylor Wilkerson



Thomas Cory (left) is one of the team's assist leaders with three.



Ben Barrett (right) is third on the team in scoring with nine points. Also pictured is goalie Nick Erickson.



PHOTOS BY ELI CORY

Brendan Robinson (above) is Gainesville/Patriot's No. 2 leading scorer with 10 points.

Wolfrey, Robinson, Barrett are top scorers

ICE HOCKEY, from page 12

Brennan Lettman, Thomas Cory, Keiran Owen, and Ethan Mirabile are capable two-way players. Owen paces that group with a goal and two assists.

A trio of freshman goalies tends net for Gainesville/Patriot, led by Taylor Wilkerson, who also plays for the Washington Pride girls' program.

"She makes playing goal seem effortless," the coaches said.

Nick Erickson and Matt Del Vacchio, both Gainesville stu-

dents, spell Wilkerson in the net.

Looking ahead

With four regular-season games remaining, Gainesville/Patriot (2-3-1) needs to win out to make the NVSHL's provisional playoffs.

The coaches believe a playoff spot is still within the team's grasp.

"Having only two seniors, three juniors, and the remaining players being sophomores and freshmen, the NVSHL should get used to seeing Gainesville/Patriot in the playoffs," Owen and Robinson said.



Jacob Wolfrey (No. 15) has eight goals and four assists and leads the team in scoring with 12 points.

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF PETITION FOR REVISION OF A RATE ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE, DESIGNATED RIDER RPS, BY VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY CASE NO. PUR-2021-00282

•Virginia Electric and Power Company ("Dominion") has applied for revision of a rate adjustment clause, designated Rider RPS, to recover costs related to compliance with the mandatory renewable energy portfolio standard program established in the Virginia Clean Economy Act.

•Dominion requests approval of a revenue requirement of \$140,414,000 for Rider RPS for the rate year beginning September 1, 2022, through August 31, 2023. According to Dominion, this amount would increase a typical residential customer's bill using 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity per month by approximately \$1.64.

•A Hearing Examiner appointed by the State Corporation Commission will hold a telephonic hearing in this case on April 12, 2021, at 10 a.m., for the receipt of public witness testimony.

•An evidentiary hearing will be held on April 13, 2021, at 10 a.m., either in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or by electronic means. Further details on this hearing will be provided by subsequent Commission Order or Hearing Examiner's Ruling.

•Further information about this case is available on the Commission website at: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

On December 6, 2021, Virginia Electric and Power Company ("Dominion" or "Company") filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") a petition ("Petition") for revision of a rate adjustment clause, designated Rider RPS, pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 5 d of the Code of Virginia ("Code") and the directive contained in Ordering Paragraph (5) of the Final Order issued by the Commission on July 1, 2021, in Case No. PUR-2020-00170. Through its Petition, Dominion seeks to recover projected and actual costs related to compliance with the mandatory renewable energy portfolio standard program ("RPS Program") established in the Virginia Clean Economy Act ("VCEA").

Pursuant to Code § 56-585.5 C, Dominion is required to participate in an RPS Program that establishes annual goals for the sale of renewable energy to all retail customers in the Company's service territory, with certain limited exceptions. To comply with the RPS Program, Dominion must procure and retire renewable energy certificates ("RECs") originating from qualifying sources. The RPS Program requirements "shall be a percentage of the total electric energy sold in the previous calendar year" and must be implemented in accordance with the schedule set forth in Code § 56-585.5 C. The statute permits Dominion to apply renewable energy sales achieved or RECs acquired in excess of the sales requirement for a specific year's RPS Program to the sales requirements for certain future years. Code § 56-585.5 C further provides that, to the extent Dominion procures RECs for RPS Program compliance from resources it does not own, the Company shall be entitled to recover the costs of such RECs pursuant to Code §§ 56-249.6 or 56-585.1 A 5 d.

Code § 56-585.1 A 5 d, as amended by the VCEA, provides that a utility may petition the Commission for approval of one or more rate adjustment clauses for the timely and current recovery from customers of:

[p]rojected and actual costs of compliance with renewable energy portfolio standard requirements pursuant to § 56-585.5 that are not recoverable under subdivision 6. The Commission shall approve such a petition allowing the recovery of such costs incurred as required by § 56-585.5, provided that the Commission does not otherwise find such costs were unreasonably or imprudently incurred . . .

In its Petition, Dominion states that it will meet the annual requirements of the RPS Program through the retirement of RECs that will be sourced from a combination of RECs generated from Company-owned renewable energy facilities, RECs generated from renewable energy facilities owned by an entity other than the utility with which the Company has entered into a power purchase agreement, long-term REC only contracts, and market purchases.

To determine the total cost of RECs to be recovered through Rider RPS, the Company states it first determined its projected RPS Program requirements for 2022, and then used those projections to determine the estimated volume of RECs needed during the rate year of September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2023 ("Rate Year"). The Company asserts it then determined the projected volume of RECs that the Company would need to utilize from its bank or purchase from the market. For any RECs the Company would need to purchase or utilize from the bank, the Company states it multiplied the volume of RECs by a weighted average price in order to determine the cost of the gross purchases and banked RECs needed for the Rate Year. The Company expects to need approximately 8.2 million RECs during the Rate Year, approximately 82,000 of which must come from distributed energy resources. According to the Company, once it determined the total costs of RECs to be recovered in this proceeding, it applied a Virginia jurisdictional allocation factor of 84.9094%.

In this proceeding, the Company seeks approval of a total revenue requirement of \$140,414,000 for the Rate Year.

If the proposed Rider RPS for the Rate Year is approved, the impact on customer bills would depend on the customer's rate schedule and usage. According to Dominion, implementation of its proposed Rider RPS on September 1, 2022, would increase the bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kWh of electricity per month by approximately \$1.64.

Interested persons are encouraged to review the Petition and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may apportion revenues among customer classes and/or design rates in a manner differing from that shown in the Petition and supporting documents and thus may adopt rates that differ from those appearing in the Company's Petition and supporting documents.

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter shall be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"). Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and the Commission's Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Please refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing or subsequent Hearing Examiner's Ruling for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing in this proceeding that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on Dominion's Petition. On April 12, 2022, at 10 a.m., the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing, with no witness present in the Commission's courtroom, for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before April 8, 2022, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting; (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.

On April 13, 2022, at 10 a.m., either in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or by electronic means, the Commission will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence related to the Petition from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff. Further details on this hearing will be provided by subsequent Commission Order or Hearing Examiner's Ruling.

An electronic copy of the Company's Petition may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Elaine S. Ryan, Esquire, McGuireWoods LLP, Gateway Plaza, 800 East Canal Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or eryan@mcguirewoods.com.

On or before February 16, 2022, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00282. For additional information about participation as a respondent, any person or entity should obtain a copy of the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing.

On or before March 2, 2022, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on the Staff, the Company, and all other respondents simultaneous with its filing. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Rules of Practice, as modified herein, including, but not limited to: 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR 2021-00282.

On or before April 6, 2022, any interested person may submit comments on the Petition by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/cascomments/Submit-Public-Comments. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments with the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. All such comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00282.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Rules of Practice.

The Company's Petition, the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, and other documents filed in the case may be viewed at: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

ADALIA COLEMAN IS AN NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPION

Former Kettle Run High track star Adalia Coleman is NCAA Division III's fastest woman. The Bridgewater College sophomore won the 60-meter dash in 7.61 seconds on the final day of the 2022 NCAA D-III Indoor Track & Field National Championships Saturday in Winston-Salem, N.C.

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SPORTS

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'THERE'S NO REASON TO HANG OUR HEADS'

Osborn Park girls fall in final to Madison, 38-29, to repeat as Class 6 runner-up

By Jason S. Rufner
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Two minutes into the fourth quarter March 11, the large throng dressed in Osborn Park blue and yellow roared to the rafters of the Siegel Center in downtown Richmond.

They were cheering because their Yellow Jackets had just scored five fast points – on a Hailey Kellogg three-pointer and a Kacey Kelly steal and layup – to cut James Madison's lead to 10.

The OP fans got louder when freshman Alex Brown sank two free throws to draw the Jackets within eight of the defending champion Warhawks.

But the margin got no narrower, and for the second year in a row Osborn Park fell to Madison in the Class 6 girls basketball state final, losing 38-29.

"I'm proud," were the first words head coach Chrissy Kelly said in the post-final press conference.

"We got here last year, graduated a ton, and this group of nine kids made the decision that losing what we lost would fuel us to be even better. Having 99 percent turnover and to get back here on this stage to decide when our last practice would be? There's no reason to hang heads."

Osborn Park (26-2) ends the campaign repeating as Cedar Run champions of the regular season and tournament, as well as Region 6B champs and Class 6 state runners-up.

Kelly was named Coach of the Year and Kellogg Player of the Year for Region 6B. Alana Powell, a junior, was picked as an all-region first-team guard.

Both of OP's losses came to Madison, the first in a 53-35 decision Dec. 30. The Warhawks feature eight seniors on a 13-player roster, including several signed to play collegiately.

"OP is very well-coached and plays a good game," Madison head coach Kirsten Stone said.



PHOTOS BY DOUG STRUOD

Junior Alana Powell powers to the hoop. Despite falling for the second straight year in the final to James Madison (Vienna), Osborn Park enjoyed a spectacular season, going 26-2.

Final recap

The Yellow Jackets went out front early on jumpers by Powell and Kellogg, but the Warhawks caught up and used superior size to grab offensive rebounds.

Madison out-rebounded OP 32-26 for the game. "They had 10 offensive rebounds in the first half and those came at critical moments," Kelly said.

Down by 12 after three quarters and 15 with less than seven minutes to go, Osborn Park mounted a comeback spurred by Kellogg and Powell, edging within eight.

"When you get to this level, when you get to this moment, playing with a sense of urgency isn't in the fourth quarter. It's from the very get," Kelly said. "I believe that in the first half we were still trying to figure out if we should really be here. Then it was like, boom, yes, we should be here."



Sophomore Angelina Yann (No. 30) is one of six returnees next year.

Another banner year for Osborn Park girls basketball

- Class 6 runners-up
- Region 6B champions
- Cedar Run District champions (regular season and tournament)
- Record: 26-2
- Average margin of victory: 37.0
- Consecutive region titles: 2
- Consecutive district titles: 5

Madison 38, Osborn Park 29

OP: Kellogg 15, Powell 5, Brown 4, Kelly 4, Wolfe-Pullen 1

M: G. Arnolie 11, Chapman 10, Link 8, Griepentrog 3, A. Arnolie 2, Kohler 2, K. Koshuta 2

Halftime: Madison 15-8

Free throws: OP 5-of-8, M 6-of-10. 3-pointers: OP 2-of-14, M 2-of-10

The final margin was nine, well below Madison's average margin-of-victory of 28.7 points.

School spirit

The vociferous support of the OP fans didn't go unnoticed by the players.

"Seeing the entire school so excited for us, having almost the entire stands behind the basket full of students, I think it's awesome knowing we were able to be a part of that," Kellogg said.

"You can feel their excitement," Powell said. "It's awesome that all those people showed up today."

Osborn Park graduates three off its nine-player roster, including Kellogg, guard Kacey Kelly, and forward Chloe Wolfe-Pullen.

"I'm not sad because we lost," Kelly said. "I'm sad because we don't have practice together Monday. I'm sad because I love this group. They're just phenomenal."



Sharpshooting senior Hailey Kellogg (left) led the Yellow Jackets with 15 points in the final. She was the Class 6 Region B Player of the Year and Chrissy Kelly (far right) was Region B Coach of the Year. "I'm proud," said Kelly, who has built a powerhouse in Manassas.