



# ROCKET GAMEDAY

**Neenah (6-7) vs. Milw. Marshall (3-8)**

**January 28, 2017 - 4:30 p.m.**

**Ron Einerson Fieldhouse**



## 2016-17 Schedule

Nov. 26	at Monona Grove	W 56-50
Dec. 2	at Appleton East	L 43-46
<b>Dec. 8</b>	<b>Kaukauna</b>	<b>L 72-92</b>
Dec. 10	at Wausau East	L 51-71
<b>Dec. 20</b>	<b>Fond du Lac</b>	<b>L 61-64</b>
<b>Dec. 22</b>	<b>Oshkosh West</b>	<b>W 63-60 ot</b>
Dec. 27	*vs. Superior	W 47-35
Jan. 3	at Hortonville	W 59-40
Jan. 6	at Oshkosh North	L 49-76
<b>Jan. 13</b>	<b>Appleton North</b>	<b>W 91-57</b>
Jan. 19	at Kaukauna	L 62-89
<b>Jan. 21</b>	<b>Kimberly</b>	<b>L 56-61</b>
<b>Jan. 24</b>	<b>Appleton East</b>	<b>W 68-63</b>
<b>Jan. 28</b>	<b>Milwaukee Marshall</b>	<b>4:30 p.m.</b>
Jan. 31	at Oshkosh West	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 3	at Fond du Lac	7:30 p.m.
<b>Feb. 7</b>	<b>Hortonville</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Feb. 9</b>	<b>Oshkosh North</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
Feb. 11	at Appleton West	7 p.m.
Feb. 14	at Appleton North	7:30 p.m.
<b>Feb. 17</b>	<b>Appleton West</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
Feb. 23	at Kimberly	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 28	WIAA Regional	7 p.m.
Mar. 3	WIAA Regional	7 p.m.
Mar. 4	WIAA Regional	7 p.m.
Mar. 9	WIAA Sectional (A. North)	7 p.m.
Mar. 11	WIAA Sectional (Marshfield)	TBA
Mar. 17-18	WIAA State (Madison)	TBA

\* - Game played at UW-Green Bay Kress Center

## Series History

► Neenah has extensive history of playing schools from the Milwaukee City Conference over the past 50 years. Listed below are the 10 schools the Rockets have played since the 1968 season, compiling a 16-7 record.

- **Milwaukee Custer** 2-0 (1975 & 1976)
- **Milwaukee Hamilton** 5-1 (1980, 1981, 1982, 1990, 1991, & 1972 WIAA State Title game)
- **Milwaukee Lincoln** 2-2 (1976, 1977, 1978, 1979)
- **Milwaukee Madison** 0-1 (1982)
- **Milwaukee Marshall** 2-0 (1983 & 1975 WIAA State Title game)
- **Milwaukee Pulaski** 1-0 (1988 WIAA State Semifinal)
- **Milwaukee Riverside** 1-0 (2014)
- **Milwaukee South** 1-0 (2012)
- **Milwaukee Tech** 1-1 (2006 & 1971 WIAA State Quarterfinal)
- **Milwaukee Vincent** 1-2 (1983, 1984, 2000 WIAA State Quarterfinal)

## Around the FVA

	Conf.		Overall		Saturday, Jan. 28 Games
	W	L	W	L	Milwaukee Marshall at Neenah Kaukauna vs. Minneapolis DeLaSalle
Oshkosh North	9	0	13	0	
Kimberly	8	0	12	0	
Fond du Lac	6	3	8	5	<b>Tuesday, Jan. 31 Games</b>
Kaukauna	6	4	8	5	<b>Neenah at Oshkosh West</b>
Appleton West	5	4	8	5	Oshkosh North at Kimberly
Oshkosh West	4	5	4	8	Fond du Lac at Hortonville
<b>Neenah</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	Appleton North at Kaukauna
Appleton East	2	6	4	8	Appleton East at Appleton West
Hortonville	2	7	3	9	<b>Thursday, Feb. 2 Game</b>
Appleton North	0	11	2	12	Oshkosh West at Kaukauna



**Follow the FVA at:**  
**[fvasports.net](http://fvasports.net)**

## Tale of the Tape

(Conf. Only)	Neenah	Mil. Mar.
Scoring Average	62.4	56.5
Scoring Defense	64.8	59.8
Scoring Margin	-2.4	-3.3
Field Goal Pct.	47.7	-
3pt Field Goal Pct.	41.8	-
Free Throw Pct.	69.7	-
Field Goal Pct. Def.	49.1	-
Rebounds/Game	24.7	-
Assists/Game	12.8	-
Turnovers/Game	15.0	-
Steals/Game	6.5	-
Blocks/Game	1.4	-
<b>All-Time History:</b>		
FVA Record	481-269	-
FVA Win Pct.	.641	-
FVA Titles	13	-

## Neenah Fight Song

Go, Neenah, win this game;  
 Keep your spotless fame.  
 We will cheer you all the while,  
 As you fight and fight.  
 RAH, RAH, RAH!  
 We'll cheer 'til the echoes loud resound,  
 For our joys are all profound;  
 Then we'll sing to Alma Mater.  
 Neenah High!

### Neenah Boys Basketball Booster Club Mission Statement:

To advance the boys basketball program of the NJSD with moral, physical and financial assistance.



**Athletic Training Services for all NJSD athletics are provided by:**  
**Heidi Neustifter**  
 and  
**Theda Care Orthopedics Plus**



# Today's Matchup



The Rockets conclude their three-game homestand this afternoon as they step out of FVA conference action for the final time this regular season when they welcome the Eagles of Milwaukee Marshall. The Eagles are coached by Warren McCloud (2nd season) and enter today's game 3-8 (excluding Friday's game at the Bradley Center against Milwaukee Hamilton). Milwaukee Marshall has defeated West Bend West (69-61), Milwaukee Tech (73-65) and Kettle Moraine (60-56) for its three wins this year. Coach McCloud only returns two starters from an Eagle ballclub that went 6-6 in the Milwaukee City Conference and 17-8 overall last season. Those two players are senior forward (6'4") #10 Tommie Harbin and junior guard (5'11") #1 Isaiah McCloud. Harbin, who sustained an injury during this past offseason, was all-conference last year and leads the Eagles in scoring this season at 18 points per game. McCloud averages 10 points per game, and is the leader on the team in three-point field goals made this season. Two other Eagles to keep an eye on today are junior forward Kordell Ellis and senior guard Sir Collier. Both Ellis and Collier are averaging double digits in points for Coach McCloud's Eagles.

The Rockets return to the hardwood after defeating conference rival Appleton East 68-63 last Tuesday night in front of a small crowd consisting of friends and family members. The two teams combined for 20 made three-point field goals (Neenah 11-for-16, Appleton East 9-for-17) in a very competitive game where the lead changed hands numerous times during the 36 minutes of action. Ultimately, the Rockets found a way to win and made their free throws during the final 30 seconds of the game which provided the final five-point winning margin.

Today's game is another big test for the Rockets before they travel to enemy territory next week to face the Oshkosh West Wildcats (Tuesday, January 31) and Fond du Lac Cardinals (Friday, February 3). With the regular season over in less than a month, and the WIAA seeding meeting coming up in a few weeks, today's game provides the Red and White another opportunity to pick up a valuable non-conference win over a talented and athletic team from the Milwaukee City Conference. With a win, the Rockets would finish their non-conference record at 3-1 and move their overall record back to .500 at 7-7.



## Turning Back the Clock

Tonight we are going back 42 years to a very special time in the history of Neenah basketball. However, before we review the 1975 WIAA State title game, let's first discuss how the Rockets got to Madison in 1975. The Rockets returned two starters from their 1974 squad that finished 19-4 and lost in the WIAA quarterfinals to Green Bay Southwest 61-59. Those two players were seniors Wayne Kreklow (first-team all-FVA, FVA Player of the Year) and Paul Perry (first-team all-FVA). Both of them would become co-captains and leaders on a team that would bring the gold ball back to Neenah for the first time since 1930.

The Rockets began the season 4-2. Their first loss was to a Dick Bennett-coached Eau Claire Memorial squad 60-51. A few games later the Rockets were tripped up by Oshkosh West in overtime 62-60. Following a four-game winning streak, Neenah lost to Kimberly 61-56. This was the final time Big Red would leave the court on the wrong side of the scoreboard in 1975. The Rockets ended their season on a tear, avenging both FVA conference losses by beating Oshkosh West 75-54 and blitzing Kimberly 80-52. Neenah finished the regular season as FVA conference champions with a 12-2 mark in league play and overall record of 15-3. In WIAA Regional action, Neenah beat New London 62-38, and then survived a battle with FVA rival Oshkosh West 67-64 in front of a sold-out Armstrong Fieldhouse.

The Rockets' next game would be a tussle as well. In perhaps the most memorable WIAA sectional game ever played at the sold-out Kolf Sports Center, Neenah found a way to defeat Sheboygan North (coached by Mike Curtin, father of future Rocket, second all-time leading scorer, Jerry Curtin) in overtime 68-64. The Rockets blew an 11-point fourth quarter lead and found themselves down three with four seconds to go. Perry went to the free throw line and made the first attempt. He intentionally missed the second attempt and managed to get a jump ball called with Sheboygan North player Stu Hopfensperger (brother of future Rocket head coach Tim Hopfensperger). Perry won the jump and tipped the ball to Kreklow who buried a 23-foot jumper at the buzzer to get the game to overtime as pandemonium broke out with Neenah Rocket fans celebrating and Sheboygan North fans fearing what was next. Neenah won 68-64 in overtime and then came back less than 24 hours later to defeat Fond du Lac 61-55 to earn its sixth trip to state in seven years.

In Madison, at the WIAA state quarterfinals, Neenah jumped out on Pulaski 35-15 and coasted to a 65-54 victory. The Rockets did the exact same thing the next night when they led Racine Horlick 31-13 at the end of the first quarter. Horlick fought for the next three quarters and came within three points, but couldn't stop Neenah when it mattered most and lost 77-72. Kreklow put on a scoring display with a game high 28. Senior Rick Rank contributed 19 for Big Red.

With the win, Neenah advanced to its fourth state title game since 1969. Neenah faced Milwaukee Marshall who had upset Janesville Craig 59-57 with a basket at the buzzer. While the state media had nothing better to do than discuss how Neenah was "jinxed" in state title games and the potential of the Rockets being a "bridesmaid" again, Coach Einerson and his team were focused on preparation and execution. Marshall scored first in the game and led 4-2 and 6-4, which was the only time the Rockets trailed in 12 quarters of state tournament action in 1975. Senior Marty Suechting gave Neenah a lead at 8-6 with a lay-up down the lane. The Rockets would never trail again. Consecutive baskets by Kreklow, Perry and Rank gave the Rockets an 18-10 lead after the first quarter.

*continued on page 4*



# Neenah Rockets

6-7 Overall, 4-6 Fox Valley Association

Head Coach: Lee Rabas (2nd season, 19-18 at Neenah, 122-74 overall)

Assistant Coaches: Al Krueger, Randy Ropella, Gage Moede

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
2	Josh Mericle	G	6-1	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Joe Jung	G	6-0	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	A.J. Dehn	G	5-11	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Chance Pronschinske	G	5-11	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
12	Sam Borchers	G	5-11	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Rayce Prosser	G	6-0	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
15	Matthew Pavletich	F	6-1	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Logan Morrow	F	6-3	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Jordan Mascal	F	6-4	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
25	Zavier Sims	F	6-4	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
31	Anthony Bartman	C	6-5	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
33	Peter Herberg	F	6-3	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
45	Greg Lenhart	F	6-0	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345

# Milwaukee Marshall Eagles



3-8 Overall, 1-3 Milwaukee City Conference

Head Coach: Warren McCloud (2nd season, 20-16 overall)

Assistant Coach: Ryan Jansen

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
0	Zivon Clayborne	G	-	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
1	Isaiah McCloud	G	-	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
2	Ka-ron McClain	G	-	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Dennis Brown	G/F	-	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Kameion Campbell	G	-	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
10	Tommie Harbin	F	-	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Jerome Caldwell	F	-	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
12	Kordell Ellis	F	-	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Kerryon Taylor	C	-	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	Jason Rhynes	F	-	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Sir Collier	G	-	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
32	Lavoris Fleming	C	-	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345



## Rocket Tradition

### 29 Conference Championships:

1928, 1929, 1930, 1932, 1939, 1940, 1943, 1945, 1946, 1949, 1951, 1961, 1962, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1971, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1981, 1982, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1998, 2014

### 3 State Championships:

1930, 1975, 1978

### 7 State Runner Ups:

1920, 1939, 1969, 1970, 1972, 1988, 2014

### 26 State Tournament Appearances:

1920, 1925, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1939, 1940, 1942, 1947, 1952, 1966, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1988, 2000, 2010, 2014

# Junior Varsity

## Neenah Rockets

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
2	Sam Dietrich	G	5-11	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
4	Peyton Mellenthin	G	5-10	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Hayden Jones	G	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Grayson Schroeder	G	5-11	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Jack Van Dyke	G	6-5	Fr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
15	Dan Craig	G	5-8	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Mason Morrow	G	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Max Klesmit	G	6-1	Fr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
25	Tim Nault	F	6-1	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
33	Marcus Hickey	F	6-2	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
35	Logan Eiden	F	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
41	Andy Jensen	F	6-1	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
43	Tyrese Taylor	C	6-4	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
	Ethan Parker	F	6-3	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345

Head Coach: Christian Schnell      Assistant Coach: Ron Billman

## Milwaukee Marshall Eagles

No.	Player	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
1	Matee Waheed-Baaqee	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
2	Jaylon Washington	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Dane Haggins	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
4	Kenny McNealey	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
10	Mykael Hill	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
12	Xavier Fitzpatrick	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
20	Kywon Stewart	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	John Henning	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Taivon Tye	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
24	Jaylon Turner	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
32	Alexander Walters	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
34	Harvell Harris	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
42	Arieon Robinson	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
44	Javon Taylor	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345

Head Coach: Will Seward      Assistant Coach: George Gregory

## Turning Back the Clock, cont.

From page 2

Following a delay because the lights went out in "The Barn," Neenah extended its lead to 24-14. Then, Kreklow fell to the floor in agony and headed to the locker room with an injury. Marshall took advantage and cut the Neenah lead to 26-22 at the half. Kreklow returned in the third quarter and so did the Rocket offense. Baskets by Kreklow, Perry and junior Todd Herreid (honorable mention all-FVA) spurred the Rockets to a 43-36 lead after three quarters. Neenah maintained control in the fourth quarter and connected on 11-for-16 from the charity stripe to go up by as much as 14 points (55-41). To the joy of the Neenah players, coaches and most of the 12,204 in attendance that night, the Rockets were state champions by the score of 64-55.

Kreklow's gutty performance was symbolic of this 1975 team that was a cohesive, tight knit group, which consistently exhibited solid team play and support for each other. Kreklow's basketball career was far from over. He would star at Drake University (scored 1471 career points) and later win a NBA title with the Boston Celtics. For Coach Einerson and the Rockets, they finally reached the mountain top. The following day at the welcome home celebration in the Armstrong field house, in front of an estimated overflow crowd of 5000 people that used every available bleacher spot and every square inch of floor space, Coach Einerson and his team took time to thank everyone in the Neenah community for the role they played in helping the Rockets achieve their goal of returning the gold ball back home to Neenah.

Until Tuesday, February 7, when we welcome the Polar Bears of Hortonville, NEENAH WITH PRIDE!