



ROCKET GAMEDAY

Neenah (1-4) vs. Oshkosh West (3-3)

December 22, 2016 - 7:30 p.m.

Ron Einerson Fieldhouse



2016-17 Schedule

Nov. 26	at Monona Grove	W 56-50
Dec. 2	at Appleton East	L 43-46
Dec. 8	Kaukauna	L 72-92
Dec. 10	at Wausau East	L 51-71
Dec. 20	Fond du Lac	L 61-64
Dec. 22	Oshkosh West	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 27	*vs. Superior	8:40 p.m.
Jan. 3	at Hortonville	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 6	at Oshkosh North	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 10	at Kaukauna	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 13	Appleton North	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 17	at Appleton West	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 21	Kimberly	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 24	Appleton East	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 28	Milwaukee Marshall	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 31	at Oshkosh West	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 3	at Fond du Lac	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 7	Hortonville	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 9	Oshkosh North	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 14	at Appleton North	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 17	Appleton West	7:30 p.m.
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 leads the regular season series with Oshkosh West 65-31.
- ▶ Neenah leads the postseason series with Oshkosh West 15-4.
- ▶ The only school that Neenah has played more often than Oshkosh West in the WIAA Tournament series is Menasha (20 times). The Rockets are 16-4 against the Bluejays (since 1965-66).
- ▶ The longest Neenah regular season win streak in the series is 23 games (1977-1988).
- ▶ The longest Oshkosh West regular season win streak in the series is 8 games (2003-2007).
- ▶ Neenah's largest margin of victory (39 points) was in 1984 by the score of 81-42.
- ▶ Neenah's largest margin of defeat (24 points) was in 2001 by the score of 64-40.
- ▶ In the 115 total games that Neenah and Oshkosh West have played since 1965-66, only 9 games have ended up going to overtime. Oddly, 4 of those games happened between the 1984-85 and 1985-86 seasons, and 3 others happened between 2006-07 and 2007-08.

Around the FVA

	Conf.		Overall		Thursday, Dec. 22 Games
	W	L	W	L	
Oshkosh North	3	0	5	0	Oshkosh West at Neenah
Kimberly	3	0	4	0	Bay Port at Kimberly
Oshkosh West	3	0	3	2	Fond du Lac at Menasha
Kaukauna	2	1	2	1	Appleton North at Kaukauna
Appleton East	2	1	3	3	Tuesday, Dec. 27 Games
Appleton West	1	2	3	2	Neenah vs. Superior (at Green Bay)
Fond du Lac	1	2	2	3	Appleton West at DeForest
Appleton North	0	3	2	4	Wednesday, Dec. 28 Games
Neenah	0	3	1	4	Appleton West at De Forest Tournament
Hortonville	0	3	0	3	Appleton East vs. Superior (at Green Bay)
					Kimberly vs. Milw. Marquette (at Mequon)
					Kaukauna vs. L.C. Central (at Mequon)
					Osh. North vs. Arrowhead (at Mequon)

FVA Follow the FVA at:
fvasports.net

Tale of the Tape

(Conf. Only)	Neenah	Osh. West
Scoring Average	58.7	73.5
Scoring Defense	66.3	67.0
Scoring Margin	-7.6	+6.5
Field Goal Pct.	50.4	50.5
3pt Field Goal Pct.	38.5	44.4
Free Throw Pct.	76.7	86.0
Field Goal Pct. Def.	50.0	47.7
Rebounds/Game	23.7	28.0
Assists/Game	13.3	25.0
Turnovers/Game	18.7	11.0
Steals/Game	5.0	4.0
Blocks/Game	1.3	0.5

All-Time History:

FVA Record	477-266	374-369
FVA Win Pct.	.643	.503
FVA Titles	13	8

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.

THE DA CARE
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Athletic Training Services for all NJSD athletics are provided by:

**Heidi Neustifter
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Tonight's Matchup



Tonight the Rockets welcome head coach Michael Johnson and his Oshkosh West Wildcats to the friendly confines of the Ron Einerson Fieldhouse. This game is the scheduled make up from last Friday's postponement. Coach Johnson is in his second year of leadership and currently has his very young ball club off to a perfect 3-0 start so far in the FVA this season. The Wildcats might be the surprise of the FVA right now with early season victories over the Fond du Lac Cardinals (68-61) Appleton North Lightning (72-60) and the Hortonville Polar Bears (79-73). Oshkosh West returns four starters (Ben Kohl, Tony Lancaste, Derek Kroll, Grant Abraham) from last year's ball club that finished 5-13 in the FVA (8th place) and 9-15 overall. As previously mentioned the Wildcats are a very young team that only has two seniors on the entire 14-man roster. Oshkosh West enters tonight's game with a balanced scoring attack. The Wildcats have four players averaging at least 8 points a game in Lancaste (8.0), Kohl (11.0), Kroll (14.0), and their only senior starter Abraham (19.0).

The Rockets return to the hardwood just 48 hours after losing a tough one to the Fond du Lac Cardinals on Tuesday night 64-61. In that game the severely undermanned Rockets (missing 4 players) extended their four-point halftime lead (32-28) to double digits in the second half. Unfortunately for the Red and White, Fond du Lac had too much size, strength, overall athletic ability, and basketball talent as they made barely enough plays to hold off the Rockets and record their first win of the FVA season. Therefore, the Rockets host the Wildcats tonight looking to snap their current four-game losing streak and also hoping to avoid their first 0-4 start in the FVA since the 2010-11 season when Neenah started 0-6.

Tonight's game will be the last home game for three weeks for the Rockets. Neenah will once again travel to the Kress Center on the campus of UWGB to participate in their annual holiday tournament. Next Tuesday, December 27, Neenah will face Superior in a rematch from last year's WIAA regional final that went to overtime. After that game, the Rockets will play three consecutive FVA foes on the road in Hortonville, Oshkosh North and Kaukauna before they return home on January 13 to face Appleton North. To all basketball fans, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Turning Back the Clock

Tonight we are going back 30 years to the 1987 WIAA Regional semifinal at Oshkosh West High School between the FVA conference champion Neenah Rockets and the fifth place Oshkosh West Indians. The winner of the game would advance to the WIAA regional final on Saturday night at Oshkosh West to face either Oshkosh North or Menasha. The Rockets entered the game ranked fourth by the Associated Press and owned an 18-2 overall record (13-1 FVA). The Indians were 7-13 (5-9 FVA). The regular season had been a success for the Big Red Machine. The "experts" thought Neenah would take a step back in 1987. To quote the 1987 Wisconsin Basketball Yearbook, "with only two returning lettermen, neither of which scored more than 42 points last season, the Rockets seem headed for the FVA's second division." What few outside Neenah knew, was how talented the junior class was. The Red and White started the year 8-0 and was ranked No. 1 in the state until they lost to highly-ranked Brookfield East during the Christmas holiday. Neenah had beaten the Indians twice during the regular season.

The regular season game at Oshkosh West was a close battle (Neenah won 59-51) while the return match up at Neenah during the final weekend of the season was a blowout (Neenah won 85-60). It marked the 13th time that Neenah and Oshkosh West had faced off in WIAA regional competition during a 21-year span from 1966-1987. Neenah was a perfect 12-0 against the Indians in those games. In fact the Rockets had not lost a game to the Indians in either the regular season or postseason since 1977. The Rockets were led by a trio of all conference junior stars in Jerry Curtin (1st team), Craig Donaldson (1st team), and Paul Valentine (2nd team). The Indians had their own duo of all-conference stars in seniors Dave Hauser (1st team, Co-FVA Player of the Year) and Jon Weber (honorable mention).

Neenah jumped out to an early lead, twice building up advantages of 10 points in the first quarter. After eight minutes of action, Neenah led 20-12. The Indians rallied in the second quarter to tie the game at 25-25 when sophomore Jason Jungwirth scored on a fast break basket. Neenah then scored six consecutive points, two each on free throws by Valentine and senior Jim Lauson, and a basket by senior reserve guard Greg Patovisti. The Rockets took a 35-31 lead into the intermission.

Coach Einerson's Rockets kept the pressure on the Indians in the third quarter by knocking down 8 of their 14 shot attempts. Neenah expanded its lead to a game high 13 late in the third quarter when junior guard Greg Berven sank a 15-foot jumper. The Indians made one final run at the Mighty Rockets in the fourth quarter. Spurred on by a game high 21 points by Hauser, Oshkosh West cut the Neenah advantage to six (58-52) with only 2:21 left in regulation. However Curtin answered with a three-point play to extend the Neenah lead to nine. From there, Neenah made its free throws (Neenah made 17-of-22 for the game) and closed out the Indians 67-54. Curtin led Neenah with 19 points (including seven in the fourth quarter), while Berven added 16 and Valentine added 12.

One night later, it would be a jump shot at the top of the key with four seconds left by Curtin that would propel the Rockets to another WIAA regional title, this time over the Spartans of Oshkosh North 52-49. However, we will save that fantastic story for another game! Until Friday, January 13 when we welcome the Lightning of Appleton North, NEENAH WITH PRIDE!



Neenah Rockets

1-4 Overall, 0-3 Fox Valley Association

Head Coach: Lee Rabas (2nd season, 14-15 at Neenah, 117-71 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

Oshkosh West Wildcats



3-3 Overall, 3-0 Fox Valley Association

Head Coach: Mike Johnson (2nd season, 12-18 overall)

Assistant Coaches: Dan Spanbauer and Matt Boyce

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
3	Ben Kohl	G	6-0	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
4	Seth Lowe	G	5-11	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Bryce Koch	G	5-8	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
10	Drew Slife	F	5-8	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
12	Noah Steinhilber	G/F	6-2	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
14	Tony Lancaste	F	6-3	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
20	AJ Ambroso	G	5-11	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	Andrew Thiele	G	5-10	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
24	Grant Abraham	G	6-3	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
30	Dylan Wright	F	6-1	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
32	Luke Haasl	F	6-8	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
40	Jacob Zentner	F	6-3	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
42	Derek Kroll	F	6-5	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
44	Tyler Whiteley	F	6-2	Jr.	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 - Coaches: Christian Schnell and Ron Billman

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

Oshkosh West Wildcats - Coaches: Bryan Gregory and Doug Whiteley

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
4	Austin Ziemer	F			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Alex Grey	G			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
10	Joe Rebholz	G			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
12	Carson Leske	G			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
14	Aaron Peck	G			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
20	Riley Frey	G			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	Jack Lautenschlager	F			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
24	Riley Saginak	G			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
30	Danny Rucinski	F			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
32	Reid Oleson	F			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
34	Isaiah Kader	G			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
40	Karter Thomas	G			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
42	Scott Weber	F			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
44	Ryan Rueger	F			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
50	Ryan Schleis	G			2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345

Freshmen

Neenah Rockets

No.	Player	Ht.	Yr.
2	Davis Greene	5-11	Fr.
3	Michael Monroe	5-6	Fr.
4	Cole Schultz	5-7	Fr.
5	Dylan Anderson	5-11	Fr.
11	Rex Bayer	5-8	Fr.
13	Kameron Kellogg	5-7	Fr.
15	Evan Webster	5-8	Fr.
21	Brandon Koga	6-0	Fr.
23	Bryce Henderson	5-10	Fr.
25	Garrett Luepke	6-0	Fr.
31	Dom Veaser	5-8	Fr.
33	Sam Jung	5-10	Fr.
35	Hayden Schoultz	5-11	Fr.
43	Jacob Kaszuba	6-0	Fr.
45	Josh Brazee	6-1	Fr.

Coaches: Marc Goodman, Todd Mueske & Rich Frost

Oshkosh West Wildcats

No.	Player	Ht.	Yr.
4	Brady Meyer		
5	Joe Pfeilstifter		
10	Tyler Binner		
12	Bryce Schneider		
14	Michael Lor		
20	Sam Troudt		
24	Ian Steward		
30	Caleb Fuller		
32	Owen Phillips		
34	Vaughn Kerrigan		
40	Jagger Freiberg		
42	Noah Alford		
44	Bennett Whiteley		
50/52	Jacob Shefchik		
54	Clark Dutcher		

Coach: Craig Clark