



# ROCKET GAMEDAY

**Neenah (12-8) vs. Appleton West (10-10)**

**February 17, 2017 - 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
<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>W 79-47</b>
Jan. 31	at Oshkosh West	W 68-53
Feb. 3	at Fond du Lac	W 60-54
<b>Feb. 7</b>	<b>Hortonville</b>	<b>W 52-47</b>
<b>Feb. 9</b>	<b>Oshkosh North</b>	<b>L 49-62</b>
Feb. 11	at Appleton West	W 77-76 2ot
Feb. 14	at Appleton North	W 72-53
<b>Feb. 17</b>	<b>Appleton West</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
Feb. 23	at Kimberly	7:30 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 Appleton West 62-35.
- ▶ Neenah leads the WIAA post season series with Appleton West 3-2. The Terrors won the first 2 (1967 Regional and 1970 WIAA State Title game) and the Rockets have won the last 3 (1972 & 1993 Regional, 1974 Regional Final).
- ▶ The longest Neenah regular season win streak in the series is 6 games (1974-1976 and 1996-1998).
- ▶ The longest Appleton West regular season win streak in the series is 4 games (2002-2003).
- ▶ Neenah's largest margin of victory (40 points) was in 1998 by the score of 71-31.
- ▶ Neenah's largest margin of defeat (27 points) was in 1993 by the score of 80-53.
- ▶ In the 102 total games that Neenah and Appleton West have played since 1965-66, only four games have gone to overtime. One was last Saturday's double overtime thriller. Another was a four-overtime battle between the Rockets and Terrors in the 2001-02 FVA conference opener when the Terrors prevailed 68-66 at the Dick Emanuel Gymnasium.

## Around the FVA

	Conf.		Overall		Friday, Feb. 17 Games
	W	L	W	L	Appleton West at Neenah
Oshkosh North	15	0	19	0	Kimberly at Hortonville
Kimberly	13	2	17	2	Appleton East at Fond du Lac
Kaukauna	10	6	12	8	Kaukauna at Oshkosh West
Fond du Lac	10	6	12	8	Oshkosh North at Appleton North
<b>Neenah</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	
Appleton West	7	9	10	10	<b>Monday, Feb. 20 Game</b>
Oshkosh West	6	10	6	14	Appleton North at Menasha
Hortonville	5	11	6	13	
Appleton East	3	12	5	14	<b>Tuesday, Feb. 21 Games</b>
Appleton North	1	16	3	17	Appleton West at Appleton East
					Kimberly at Oshkosh North



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

## Tale of the Tape

(Conf. Only)	Neenah	App. West
Scoring Average	62.6	62.6
Scoring Defense	62.1	67.3
Scoring Margin	+0.5	-4.7
Field Goal Pct.	46.9	44.4
3pt Field Goal Pct.	39.8	29.2
Free Throw Pct.	73.2	64.0
Field Goal Pct. Def.	47.7	43.8
Rebounds/Game	24.7	30.4
Assists/Game	12.1	15.2
Turnovers/Game	12.8	13.1
Steals/Game	6.4	4.9
Blocks/Game	1.3	3.6
<b>All-Time History:</b>		
FVA Record	486-270	372-384
FVA Win Pct.	.642	.493
FVA Titles	13	3

## 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**



# Tonight's Matchup



Tonight the Rockets welcome head coach Brennan Hussey and his Appleton West Terrors to the friendly confines of the Ron Einerson Fieldhouse for the regular season home finale. After tonight, Neenah will conclude the 2016-17 regular season next Thursday when it travels to Kimberly to face the Papermakers. This Sunday, the Rockets will learn their seed in their 16-team WIAA sectional. The WIAA tournament will begin on Friday, March 3.

The 2016-17 season has been an interesting adventure for the Appleton West basketball program. The Terrors have had some impressive wins over teams like Bay Port and defending Division 2 state champion Kaukauna. They have also experienced some odd losses to Oshkosh West and Hortonville. However, make no mistake about it, this Terror team is tall, athletic and talented. The Rockets got a firsthand look at that athleticism and skill last Saturday night when Big Red survived a double overtime battle against the Terrors 77-76 in a game that had more drama, twists and turns than a CBS Sunday night movie. The Terrors are led in scoring by the Mahoney brothers. Big brother Jack (#0) is a 6'7" senior forward who averages 14 points per game. Younger brother Will (#21) is a 6'0" sophomore guard who also averages 14 points per game. Appleton West also has three other perimeter players than can score in (#3) junior Pinder Singh, (#30) junior Blake Pahlow, and (#15) senior Carter Bell. Don't forget, the Terrors also have senior big man (#33) Joey Reader in the post. All four of these players average between 7-10 points per game for the Terrors.

The Rockets went 2-0 since their last home game eight days ago. As mentioned above, the Men of Rabas defeated the Terrors last Saturday night in double overtime 77-76. On Tuesday night, Neenah traveled to Appleton North and defeated the Lightning 72-53. The Rockets overcame a pathetic first half performance of basketball before putting away the Lightning in the second half. The Big Red Machine went on a 17-2 spurt midway through the second half to take control of the game and eliminate any potential possibility of an upset. As the Rockets have done a number of times throughout the season, Neenah was solid from the charity stripe, connecting on 28 of 35 attempts Tuesday night in Appleton.

Tonight is a special night at Neenah since it is the final time that eight young men will wear their Neenah jersey for a regular season home game. The Class of 2017 is the largest senior class at Neenah since nine seniors graduated off of the 2000 sectional champion team. These players are Josh Mericle, Joe Jung, A.J. Dehn, Sam Borchers, Jordan Mascal, Zavier Sims, Anthony Bartman, and Greg Lenhart. Please give these young men a nice round of applause tonight for their contributions to the Neenah basketball program. There was very little expected from this team from media preseason predictions. This team overcame injuries and other issues to post at least a .500 record in the FVA (with two games to go) and turned out to be the most surprising team in the conference this year. Congratulations to Coach Rabas, his staff and the 2017 Neenah basketball team on their performance during the regular season.



## Turning Back the Clock

Tonight we are going back 17 years to the 2000 season for a regular season game between Neenah and Appleton West. On Saturday night, February 19, 2000, Appleton West recognized its 1970 WIAA state champion basketball team, and also named its gymnasium after former head coach Dick Emanuel. Since Appleton West had defeated Neenah in the 1970 title game, the Rockets were the lucky opponent on this evening of commemoration for the Terrors. Just in case anyone from Neenah had forgotten the score of the 1970 title game, Appleton West left the score (58-57) on the scoreboard for the entire pregame recognition ceremony.

The 2000 Rockets were led by first year head coach Scott Anderson. He had a core of three senior stars that were back together for their third year of varsity basketball (Sam Oatman, Aaron Shaw and Derek Huebner). The Rockets entered the game at 12-4 in the FVA and 14-4 overall which was good for third place in the FVA (trailing only state ranked powers Oshkosh West and Fond du Lac). The Terrors fed off the emotion of the evening and a sellout crowd and took a 19-15 lead after eight minutes of action. Tim Haack led the charge for Appleton West scoring six of his 16 total points in the first quarter. Appleton West maintained the momentum in the second quarter as it outpaced the Rockets by two points (17-15) to take a 36-30 lead into the half. Terror Justin VanderWyst scored eight of his team-high 22 points in the second quarter for the blue and orange. Neenah began to take command in the third quarter behind 10 points from Shaw (first-team all-FVA) and eight points from Oatman (first-team all-FVA).

The Rocket defense held Appleton West to only 12 points in the third quarter and built a 50-48 lead after 24 minutes of action. Big Red continued to pull away from the Terrors in the fourth quarter. The key to the Neenah second half performance was Huebner (third-team all-FVA). The 6'5" senior wide body was a dominant presence in the post scoring 10 of his 17 total points for the night in the final quarter against future Wisconsin Badger Brian Butch. The Rockets converted their free throws late in the game and marched out of Appleton with a hard fought 73-64 victory over a gamed Terror squad. Neenah was led in scoring by their big three guns of Shaw (28 points), Huebner (17 points) and Oatman (16 points). The Rockets continued to play solid basketball and finished the regular season 14-4 in the FVA and 16-4 overall. In the WIAA tournament they destroyed SPASH in a regional final (69-51), outlasted Wisconsin Rapids in the sectional semifinal (52-38) and defeated Fond du Lac in overtime (53-50) to earn their first trip to Madison since 1988.

Since tonight is the regular season home finale, this story wraps up another year of "Turning Back the Clock." We hope you've enjoyed the weekly trip down memory lane. Until next November, NEENAH WITH PRIDE



# Neenah Rockets

**12-8 Overall, 9-7 Fox Valley Association**

**Head Coach:** Lee Rabas (2nd season, 25-19 at Neenah, 128-75 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

# Appleton West Terrors



**10-10 Overall, 7-9 Fox Valley Association**

**Head Coach:** Brennan Hussey (10th season, 121-112 overall)

**Assistant Coaches:** Steve Reader, Justin Wettstein, Adam Mentzel

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
0	Jack Mahoney	F	6-7	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Pinder Singh	G	6-0	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Alec Goffard	G	6-2	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Griffin Milliren	G	6-3	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Seth Kurkowski	F	6-5	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
15	Carter Bell	G	6-4	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Will Mahoney	G	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	Shane Nelson	G	6-2	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Melvin Harris	G	5-11	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
25	Kevin Pritzl	G	6-3	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
30	Blake Pahlow	G	6-1	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
32	Eli Hartjes	F	6-4	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
33	Joey Reader	F	6-6	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
35	Josh Pitz	F	6-4	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
43	Ryan Schmit	F	6-9	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

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

## Appleton West Terrors

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
1	Bubba Thompson	G	6-1	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
2	Taj Thao	G	5-4	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Eli Vogel	G	5-11	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
4	JD Herring	F	5-11	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
20	Cody Nichols	G/F	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Colin Murray	G	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	Brandon Schisel	F	6-2	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
31	Charlie Duimstra	F	5-11	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
33	Sam Pitz	F	6-2	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
41	Spencer Mellberg	F	6-2	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345

Head Coach: Jim Pitz

Assistant Coaches: Bob Duimstra and George Davis

# 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 Veese	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

## Appleton West Terrors

No.	Player	Ht.	Yr.
0	Dajarie Chester	5-8	Fr.
5	Carson Hacker	6-3	Fr.
12	Bryce Sweeney	5-9	Fr.
14	Brandon Sweeney	5-9	Fr.
15	Jack Porter	5-8	Fr.
23	George Baggett	5-8	Fr.
24	Jahfed Campbell	5-11	Fr.
30	Jadin Reese	5-9	Fr.
32	Kaden Krueger	5-10	Fr.
35	Eli Gast	5-9	Fr.
40	Ben Pritzi	6-1	Fr.
42	Jordan Schultz	6-1	Fr.
44	Chance Rabas	6-2	Fr.
55	Tyler Tetzke	5-10	Fr.

Coach: Shayne Porter