

VARSITY ROSTERS

NEENAH Rockets

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-point	3-point	Free throws	Fouls
1	James Weiland	F	6-2	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Mason Flees	G	6-1	Sr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
4	Roan Koeper	C	6-9	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Luke Jung	F	6-3	Sr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
10	Aviv Pradhananga	G	5-11	Sr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Nick Schultz	G	6-0	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
12	Cole Schaefer	F	6-4	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Amani Meyer	G	5-10	Sr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
14	Joey Daun	G	6-1	Sr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
20	Trey White	G	5-10	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Cal Juckem	F	6-2	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
24	Xavier Bezares	G	6-0	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
25	Benjy Bell	G	6-3	Sr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
30	Carter Burns	G	5-10	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
31	Nyok Ryak	F	6-2	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
33	Drew Dunning	C	6-8	Sr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345

Head Coach: Lee Rabas (10th season, 179-67 at Neenah, 282-123 overall)
Assistant Coaches: Al Krueger, Ron Billman, Mike Johnson and Matt Kinderman
Program Assistants: Jon Braeger, Kyle Schuh, Trent Persinger and Phil Tanvas

HORTONVILLE Polar Bears

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-point	3-point	Free throws	Fouls
1	Riley Mueller	G	6-1	Sr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
2	Ethan Joling	G	6-7	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Kaden Kreski	F	6-4	Sr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Elliot Vedder	G	6-4	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
10	Blake Eidahl	F	6-2	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Levi Wilson	G	5-11	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
12	Carsen Kolberg	G	6-2	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Brayden Kluess	F	6-3	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
14	Max Chan	G	6-1	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
15	Alden Rogers	G	6-1	Sr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Aiden Sweeney	G	5-11	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	Brooks Marman	G	6-0	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Reese Ahrens	G	6-0	Jr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
24	Owen Sipes	F	6-7	Sr.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345

Head Coach: Matt Hintz (13th season, 165-139 at Hortonville, 234-184 overall)
Assistant Coaches: Scott Swanson and Tom Kolosso

JUNIOR VARSITY ROSTERS

NEENAH Rockets

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	2-point	3-point	Free throws	Fouls
2	Gavin Keepers	G	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Matthias Charles	G	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
4	Daeman Logterman	G	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Chase Nitz	G	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
10	Kolton Fleege	F	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Dylan McNamara	F	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Tyler Clark	G	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
14	Henry Farrell	F	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
20	Cooper Sieck	F	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Ashton Van Beek	F	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	Dawson Oberer	C	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
24	Harrison Gerdin	G	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
25	Jackson Rindt	F	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
31	Colin Martin	F	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
34	Jacob Jungwirth	C	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345

Head Coach: Trey Buchberger
Assistant Coaches: Alex Madden and Logan Malueg

HORTONVILLE Polar Bears

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-point	3-point	Free throws	Fouls
1	Nathan Tousey	G	5-10	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
2	Jaden Van Handel	G	6-0	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Griffin Heckert	G	6-1	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
4	Donovan Johnson	F	6-0	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Spencer Lund	G	6-0	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
10	Noah Rindt	G	5-7	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
12	Reid Van Epps	G	5-8	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
14	Evan Hooks	G	6-0	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
15	Lawson Sipes	G	6-2	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
20	Ayden VanDenElzen	G	6-0	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	Roman Glad	F	6-2	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Brody Kante	G	5-7	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
24	Bennett Leiteritz	F	6-4	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345
30	Colton Triplett	F	6-2	So.	22222222	333333	1111111111	12345

Head Coach: Nate Van Handel

FRESHMAN ROSTERS

NEENAH

No.	Name	Pos.
2	Summitt Abel	F
3	Austin Ziebell	G
4	Ian McAvoy	G
5	Jonah Rivet	G
11	Jeremy Bruder	G
12	Levi Steckling	G
15	Charlie Perry	F
20	Christian Flees	G
22	Deaken Rittner	G
24	Elliot Devlin	F
25	Brock Koepke	F
31	Cole Niemuth	G

Coaches: Marc Goodman, Jamyle Brantley, Ryan Komp and Ian Olszewski

HORTONVILLE

No.	Name	Pos.
1	Lucas Olive	G
2	Tino Carrasco	F
4	Owen Dontje	G
5	Gavin Triplett	G
10	Ethan Gonzalez	G
11	Evan Thompson	G
12	Ryder McClone	F
13	Mason Bartelt	G
15	Anthony Zanon	F
20	Carson Mattson	G
21	Devin Rohde	G
23	Charlie Pahtzlaff	F
30	Jace Gassner	G
32	Ayden Kruzicki	G

Coaches: Myles Parker and Darren Prusinski

2024-25 Neenah Schedule			
11/27	at Brookfield East	L	46-56
12/6	Kimberly	W	72-58
12/13	at Fond du Lac	L	57-58
12/17	Kaukauna	W	66-56
12/20	at Appleton East	W	53-29
12/21	Kenosha Indian Trail	W	80-43
12/28	at Hudson	W	55-52
1/3	Oshkosh North	W	51-44
1/7	Hortonville	7:30 p.m.	
1/10	at Appleton West	7:30 p.m.	
1/14	Oshkosh West	7:30 p.m.	
1/17	at Appleton North	7:30 p.m.	
1/21	Marshfield	7:30 p.m.	
1/24	at Kimberly	7:45 p.m.	
1/28	Fond du Lac	7:30 p.m.	
1/31	at Kaukauna	7:30 p.m.	
2/4	Appleton East	7:30 p.m.	
2/7	at Oshkosh North	7:30 p.m.	
2/8	Wisconsin Lutheran	6 p.m.	
2/14	at Hortonville	7:30 p.m.	
2/15	Wisconsin Rapids	6 p.m.	
2/18	Appleton West	7:30 p.m.	
2/21	at Oshkosh West	7:30 p.m.	
2/27	Appleton North	7:30 p.m.	
3/7	WIAA Regional	7 p.m.	
3/8	WIAA Regional	7 p.m.	
3/13	WIAA Sectional (site TBA)	7 p.m.	
3/15	WIAA Sectional (at Wis. Rapids)	TBA	
3/21-22	WIAA State (at Madison)	TBA	



	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Appleton North	4	1	7	2
Neenah	4	1	6	2
Kaukauna	4	1	6	2
Fond du Lac	4	1	6	4
Hortonville	3	2	6	2
Oshkosh North	2	3	5	5
Kimberly	2	3	4	4
Oshkosh West	1	4	3	6
Appleton East	1	4	3	7
Appleton West	0	5	1	7

Today's Games
Hortonville at Neenah
 Appleton North at Fond du Lac
 Kimberly at Oshkosh North
 Oshkosh West at Kaukauna
 Appleton East at Appleton West

Friday's Games
Neenah at Appleton West
 Fond du Lac at Kimberly
 Oshkosh North at Hortonville
 Appleton East at Oshkosh West
 Kaukauna at Appleton North

TONIGHT’S Matchup

Good evening basketball fans. Tonight the Rockets roll out the welcome mat for head coach Matt Hintz and his Hortonville Polar Bears. Coach Hintz is in his 13th year of leadership of the Polar Bear program and brings a talented and very dangerous ball club to face the Rockets.

Hortonville returns three starters and some other key players from last year’s team that finished 15-11 overall (9-9 in the FVA) and gave the Rockets a real battle in the WIAA regional final last March. Currently, the Polar Bears are 6-2 on the season. They have defeated Oshkosh Lourdes Academy (85-40), Fort Atkinson (70-67), Appleton North (56-54), Kimberly (76-67), Pulaski (78-59) and Appleton East (67-58). Their two defeats were both in conference action to Fond du Lac (76-46) and Kaukauna (81-73).

Offensive firepower is in no shortage this season in the Hortonville basketball program as they have a perimeter driven trio all averaging over 15 points a game. Senior guard Riley Mueller (#1, 6’1”) leads the Polar Bears in scoring at 18.1 ppg. Right behind Mueller is talented junior guard Ethan Joling (#2, 6’7”), who is averaging 17 ppg. Next is senior guard Alden Rogers (#15, 6’1”), who is averaging 15.4 ppg. So you can see how the Polar Bears have scored 70 or more points in five of their eight games this season. For the Rockets to earn a victory tonight over the Polar Bears it will be vital that they keep an eye on these three players and also do a solid job defending the three-point shot.

The Rockets are currently enjoying a five-game winning streak. Last Friday night, the Rocket defense held an opponent under 53 points for the fourth consecutive game as they defeated Xzavion Mitchell and the Oshkosh North Spartans 51-44 at Neenah High School. Neenah got off to a quick start and led the Spartans 11-4 eight minutes into the game.

The Rockets maintained a slim one-point lead at halftime (19-18). Oshkosh North started the second half on a 6-2 spurt and took a 24-21 lead two minutes into the half. Following a spirited Coach Rabas timeout, the Rockets recovered and once again established a lead they were able to maintain for the remainder of the game. The tough, gritty win kept the Rockets in a first place tie at 4-1 with Appleton North, Kaukauna and Fond du Lac while sending the Spartans to their fifth loss of the season.

Tonight will be the first of four consecutive weeks where the Rockets will have the unusual schedule of playing at home on Tuesday night and playing on the road on Friday night. Next Tuesday the Rockets will host Oshkosh West.

On January 21, the Rockets will step out of conference when they host Marshfield in a rematch of last year’s memorable sectional final battle, which the Big Red won 52-48. On January 28, the Rockets will welcome Fond du Lac to Neenah. Conversely, the Rockets will travel to Appleton West, Appleton North, Kimberly and Kaukauna the next four Friday nights.



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Tale of the Tape	Neenah	Hortonville
Scoring Average	60.0	68.9
Scoring Defense	49.5	62.8
Scoring Margin	+10.5	+6.1
Field Goal Pct.	49.2	52.6
3pt Field Goal Pct.	39.4	38.6
Free Throw Pct.	69.6	64.2
Field Goal Pct. Def.	45.5	45.1
Rebounds/Game	27.8	27.9
Assists/Game	12.1	13.5
Turnovers/Game	10.0	15.2
Steals/Game	5.8	10.5
Blocks/Game	2.1	2.1
All-Time History:		
FVA Record	585-303	85-99
FVA Win Pct.	.659	.462
FVA Titles	15	0

ROCKET Tradition

In the first 54 years of the FVA, nine different schools have had an FVA player of the year award recipient. Neenah leads the conference with 12 player of the year recipients, followed by Oshkosh North (11), Kaukauna and Oshkosh West (8), Fond du Lac and Kimberly (7), Appleton West (6), Appleton East (4), and Menasha (2). The reason the total number adds up to more than 54 is because there were a number of times where there were co-players of the year selected by the FVA head coaches. Tonight we are going to look back on all 12 Neenah Rockets that won the conference player of the year award.

Rick Matson was the player of the year in 1971 as he led the Rockets to a 25-1 overall record (third place finish at the state tournament) while leading the FVA in free throw percentage (82%) and field goal percentage (59%) while averaging 19 points and 10 rebounds per game. Matson was also named first team all-state by the Associated Press. One year later, Jim Crist was the FVA player of the year helping the Rockets to a 23-3 overall record and a second place finish at the state basketball tournament. Crist led the Rockets in scoring in 1972, averaging 16 points per game and was known as a tremendous competitor who was smart and also terrific rebounder considering he was only 6’1”.

In 1975, Wayne Kreklow was not only the FVA player of the year, but also the state of Wisconsin’s player of the year. Kreklow spearheaded a Rocket team to their first boys’ WIAA basketball state title since 1930 with a 64-55 victory over Milwaukee Marshall. Kreklow led the FVA in scoring at 19 points per game and graduated as Neenah’s all-time leading scorer with 916 points. In 1976, Todd Herreid led the FVA in both scoring (18.5 ppg) and rebounding (10.5 rpg) as he was named conference player of the year while leading the Rockets to another FVA conference title and trip to the WIAA state tournament.

Two years later in 1978, Neenah big man Tim Skalmoski shared the FVA player of the year award with Kaukauna’s Gregg Jensen. Skalmoski led the Rockets in scoring (19.4 ppg) and led the conference in rebounding (14.5 rpg), while leading the Rockets on a memorable 26-0 undefeated season that climaxed at the state tournament with a 58-49 victory over Beloit. This was Neenah’s second state title within a four-year window. Skalmoski was also named first team all-state by the Associated Press.

Neenah closed out the 1970’s with another player of the year when Mike Kreklow earned the award in 1979. During Kreklow’s senior year, Neenah won its fifth straight FVA title, finishing 14-2 in league play. Kreklow was a dominant star that led the FVA in scoring (24.7 ppg), free throw percentage (82%), field goal percentage (60%) and rebounding (9.4 rpg). Kreklow was also named first-team all-state by the Associated Press. In total, the Rockets had six FVA player of the year recipients in the 1970’s.

Two years later Jeff Dehn was the co-FVA player of the year (sharing the award with Linus Vander Wyst from Appleton West). Dehn led the conference in scoring (17 ppg) while leading the Rockets to another FVA conference title and overall record of 19-3. At the end of the 1980’s, Kevin Rule was co-player of the year with Peter Franck from Appleton East. Rule led Neenah to the sectional final in 1989, averaging 18 points and 10 boards per game.

In 2014, two Rockets shared the conference player of the year award in senior Adam Pohlman and junior Matt Heldt. These two led Neenah to a conference title and state runner-up finish with an overall record of 26-2. One year later, Heldt became the only Rocket to ever win the award in consecutive seasons. Heldt graduated as Neenah’s all-time leading scorer with 1,303 points. Five years later in 2020, senior Max Klesmit was the FVA player of the year. Klesmit surpassed Heldt as the program’s all-time leading scorer with 1,640 career points and also has the highest scoring per game average in program history at 19.8 points per game. He set a program record in 2019 with 661 points in a season when he led the Rockets to the state tournament. His senior year, the Rockets were 23-2 and preparing to defeat Kimberly in a sectional final when the season was unfortunately stopped due to the Covid pandemic.

Until Tuesday, January 14, when we welcome the Wildcats of Oshkosh West, NEENAH WITH PRIDE!

SERIES History

- ◆ Hortonville joined the FVA in the 2014-15 season when Menasha left for the Bay Conference
- ◆ The first regular season game between Neenah and Hortonville occurred January 9, 2015 at Hortonville.
- ◆ Neenah leads the FVA regular season series 17-3.
- ◆ The longest Neenah regular season win streak in the series is 11 games (2018-2023)
- ◆ The longest Hortonville regular season win streak in the series is one game (2016, 2018, 2024).
- ◆ Neenah's largest margin of victory (30 points) happened on February 1, 2022 when the Rockets defeated the Polar Bears 66-36 inside the Ron Einerson Fieldhouse.
- ◆ Neenah’s largest margin of defeat (12 points) happened in 2016 when the Rockets lost in Hortonville 67-55.
- ◆ Neenah leads the postseason series with Hortonville 2-0. The Rockets defeated the Polar Bears 51-35 in the 2005 WIAA regional semifinal and 64-58 in last year’s WIAA regional final.



NEENAH vs. HORTONVILLE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025
NEENAH HIGH SCHOOL

NEENAH TRADITION

31 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, 2021, 2022

4 State Championships:

1930, 1975, 1978, 2022

7 State Runners-Up:

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

30 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, 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024

Neenah Boys Basketball Booster Club Mission Statement:

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