



# ROCKET GAMEDAY

**Neenah (8-5) vs. Kimberly (9-5)**

**January 29, 2016 - 7:15 p.m.**

**Ron Einerson Fieldhouse**



## 2015-16 Schedule

Dec. 1	at Bay Port	L 66-67 ot
<b>Dec. 4</b>	<b>Appleton West</b>	<b>W 62-48</b>
Dec. 10	at Kimberly	W 62-59
<b>Dec. 18</b>	<b>Oshkosh North</b>	<b>L 47-83</b>
<b>Dec. 22</b>	<b>Fond du Lac</b>	<b>W 72-64</b>
Dec. 28	*vs. Madison East	L 44-62
Dec. 29	*vs. Slinger	W 61-52
Jan. 5	at Appleton East	W 54-52
<b>Jan. 8</b>	<b>Hortonville</b>	<b>W 67-60</b>
<b>Jan. 15</b>	<b>Oshkosh West</b>	<b>W 65-53</b>
<b>Jan. 19</b>	<b>Appleton North</b>	<b>W 63-49</b>
Jan. 22	at Kaukauna	L 58-78
Jan. 26	at Appleton West	L 56-76
<b>Jan. 29</b>	<b>Kimberly</b>	<b>7:15 p.m.</b>
Feb. 2	at Oshkosh North	7:15 p.m.
Feb. 5	at Fond du Lac	7:15 p.m.
<b>Feb. 9</b>	<b>Appleton East</b>	<b>7:15 p.m.</b>
Feb. 11	at Hortonville	7:15 p.m.
<b>Feb. 13</b>	<b>Wausau East</b>	<b>7:15 p.m.</b>
Feb. 16	at Oshkosh West	7:15 p.m.
Feb. 19	at Appleton North	7:15 p.m.
<b>Feb. 23</b>	<b>Kaukauna</b>	<b>7:15 p.m.</b>
Mar. 6	WIAA Regional	7 p.m.
Mar. 7	WIAA Regional	7 p.m.
Mar. 12	WIAA Sectional (Osh. North)	7 p.m.
Mar. 14	WIAA Sectional (Marshfield)	TBA
Mar. 20-21	WIAA State (at Madison)	TBA

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

## Series History

- ▶ Neenah leads the regular season series with Kimberly 56-37.
- ▶ Neenah leads the WIAA post season series with Kimberly 2-0 (1974 Sectional Final, 1981 Sectional Semifinal)
- ▶ The longest Neenah regular season win streak in the series is 7 games (1977-1980 & 1997-2000).
- ▶ The longest Kimberly regular season win streak in the series is 4 games (1994-1996).
- ▶ Neenah's largest margin of victory (30 points) was in 1992 by the score of 68-38.
- ▶ Neenah's largest margin of defeat (23 points) was in 1986 by the score of 65-42.
- ▶ In the 95 total games that Neenah and Kimberly have played since 1967-68, only six games have gone to overtime. Four of them happened in consecutive years between 2001-2004.
- ▶ Neenah and Kimberly dominated the FVA in the 1970's. Kimberly won the title in 1972, 1973 and 1974. Neenah won the title in 1971, 1975, 1976, 1978 and 1979. Neenah and Kimberly tied for the FVA crown in 1977.

## Around the FVA

	Conf.		Overall		Friday, Jan. 29 Games
	W	L	W	L	
Kaukauna	9	1	13	1	<b>Kimberly at Neenah</b>
Appleton West	7	3	10	4	Appleton West at Appleton East
Hortonville	7	3	10	4	Kaukauna at Hortonville
<b>Neenah</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	Oshkosh North at Fond du Lac
Oshkosh North	6	4	10	4	Appleton North at Oshkosh West
Kimberly	6	4	9	5	<b>Saturday, Jan. 30 Game</b>
Oshkosh West	3	7	6	8	Fond du Lac at West Bend West
Fond du Lac	3	7	5	8	<b>Tuesday, Feb. 2 Games</b>
Appleton East	2	8	5	9	Neenah at Oshkosh North
Appleton North	0	10	2	12	Kimberly at Appleton East
					Appleton West at Hortonville
					Appleton North at Fond du Lac
					Oshkosh West at Kaukauna



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

## Tale of the Tape

(Conf. Only)	Neenah	Kimberly
Scoring Average	60.6	63.5
Scoring Defense	62.2	59.2
Scoring Margin	-1.6	+4.3
Field Goal Pct.	45.2	47.5
3pt Field Goal Pct.	33.9	29.2
Free Throw Pct.	70.3	70.1
Field Goal Pct. Def.	45.2	43.1
Rebounds/Game	24.8	28.7
Assists/Game	10.2	13.6
Turnovers/Game	12.4	11.0
Steals/Game	6.8	4.0
Blocks/Game	1.6	1.4
<b>All-Time History:</b>		
FVA Record	474-258	422-310
FVA Win Pct.	.648	.577
FVA Titles	13	6

## 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 8-5 Neenah Rockets return home to the Ron Einerson Fieldhouse for the first time in ten days to play the 9-5 Kimberly Papermakers. Sadly, tonight's game will be Neenah's last Friday night home game of the regular season. During the final four weeks of the season, Big Red will play five of its last eight games on foreign hardwood, with their three remaining home games on a Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

The Papermaker program is led by head coach Lockwood "Lucky" Wurtz. Coach Wurtz is already in his eighth season leading the Kimberly program. The Papermakers are one of the most interesting teams to study this year in the FVA. This talented team has had some impressive victories this season including a 97-92 win at Oshkosh North, a 77-67 win at De Pere, a 67-61 win over Bay Port and a recent 60-45 victory over Appleton West. Kimberly is led in scoring by the dynamic duo of junior 6'8" forward #3 Will Chevalier (18.2 ppg) and junior 6'4" guard #15 Danny Vanden Boom (16.4 ppg). The Rockets got a close up of these two stars back on December 10, when Neenah traveled to Kimberly to battle the Papermakers in a key early season FVA battle. In that game the Papermakers led throughout the first half, and took a six-point lead (34-28) into the locker room. In that first half performance, Chevalier and Vanden Boom scored 25 of Kimberly's 34 points. The Papermakers extended their lead to 45-34 at the 12:44 mark of the second half. Then Neenah started chipping away at the Kimberly lead. In what would turn out to be Neenah's most impressive road win of the season, the Men of Rabas cut the lead to a single basket (53-51) with 3:00 left in regulation. Over the final 3 minutes, the Rockets would outpace the Papermakers 11-6 to hang on and win 62-59.

For the first time all year, the Rockets are facing some adversity. Starting at a season-high two-game losing streak, Neenah needs to find a way to get a win tonight to stay in a three-way tie for second place in the FVA. Besides the fact that the Rockets faced two very talented teams on the road in Kaukauna and Appleton West, there are a number of factors that have contributed to the Rockets two defeats over the past seven days. One major dilemma is their inability to stop their opponents from scoring. For the first time since the 2003-04 campaign, Neenah has allowed over 70 points in consecutive FVA games. For this team to have success, that cannot continue to happen.

One final note, tonight is Alumni Night for the Neenah basketball program. Playing basketball in Neenah is a privilege. This is because of all of the players that have come before us and established the benchmark of competitive excellence. For over 100 years these expectations have been handed down from class to class. All of our players and coaches have contributed to the excitement and memories that makes Neenah Rocket basketball special in the state of Wisconsin.



## Turning Back the Clock

Tonight we are going back 42 years to one of the most memorable weekends in the glorious history of Neenah Rocket basketball. We will focus on the sectional championship game played between Kimberly and Neenah on March 9, 1974 at the Kolf Sports Center on the campus of UW-Oshkosh. However, to really appreciate the sectional championship, we must go back one night earlier and review how the Neenah Rockets advanced to play Kimberly in the first place.

On Friday, March 8, in front of a capacity crowd of 6,000 basketball fans, the Neenah Rockets outlasted the Sheboygan South Redmen in four overtimes 63-61. That's right, eight periods of basketball, and the Rockets still had enough gas in the tank to get the job done. An amazing stat in that game is Neenah trailed by 4-6 points at the end of the first, second and third quarters. They also trailed by four points with under two minutes to go in the third overtime period. However, playing in pressure packed WIAA sectional tournament games was just another part of the season for Neenah. After all, Coach Einerson's Big Red Machine had already won sectional titles in 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972. So bright lights, big crowds, and a little bit of adversity wasn't going to make the Rockets panic. In the fourth overtime period, Neenah senior Tom Spice scored the winning basket. Spice led the Rockets with 17 points and 13 rebounds.

As a result of that win, the Rockets would advance to face the 1974 FVA conference champion Kimberly Papermakers. The Papermakers had defeated Fond du Lac the night before 60-46 in only four quarters of action. Kimberly had also defeated Neenah twice during the regular season, once by five points, and once by six points. Coach Jack Wippich's team was ranked third in the state, cruising along on a 13-game winning streak and owning a lofty overall record of 20-1 entering the sectional championship game. They would end the evening 20-2.

In front of another capacity crowd, the Papermakers broke out to an early 5-2 lead in the first quarter. A few possessions later, a Larry Madsen basket would put the Rockets up 6-5. That's the closest Kimberly would get the rest of the night. The Rockets led 8-5 at the end of the first quarter, and extended their lead to 25-16 by halftime. Junior star Wayne Kreklow added two key perimeter jump shots during the second quarter Rocket spurt. Kreklow led the Red and White on this evening with a 17-point, 11-rebound performance. Kimberly made a serious run in the third quarter and sliced the Neenah lead to 34-32. The Rockets responded with back-to-back baskets by Madsen and Scott Blank to take a 38-33 lead into the fourth quarter. The Papermakers fought back again, cutting the Rocket lead to 44-40. Nevertheless, the Rockets had their own answer. His name was Wayne Kreklow. Kreklow scored five consecutive points with a free throw, a tip in and a baseline jumper to extend the Neenah lead to 49-40 with under two minutes to go in the game. From there, the Rockets spread the court and made their free throws to provide the final winning margin of 54-47. With the win, the 19-3 Neenah Rockets advanced to the WIAA state basketball tournament for the fifth time in Coach Einerson's first six years on the job.

In Madison, the Rockets lost a heart breaker to Green Bay Southwest in the state quarterfinal 61-59. Neenah was unable to hold onto a seven-point lead with 2:30 left in regulation. With the game tied at 59-59, the Rockets missed a shot with five seconds left in the game. Sadly, a foul was called on Neenah with 1 second left. The Trojans made both free throws and the Rockets lost. Yet, this might be one of the most impressive stats of Neenah's dominant run in the 1970's. The Rockets were a perfect 18-0 in the WIAA sectional between 1969-1978. Incredible, but true! Until February 9, when the Patriots of Appleton East come to town, NEENAH WITH PRIDE!



# Neenah Rockets

**8-5 Overall, 7-3 Fox Valley Association**

**Head Coach:** Lee Rabas (1st season, 8-5 at Neenah, 111-61 overall)

**Assistant Coaches:** Chas Pronschinske, Al Krueger

**Student Assistant:** Sam Borchers

**Video Assistant:** Matthew Elbe

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
2	Josh Mericle	G	6-0	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Jose Alba-Zielinski	G	6-1	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
4	Cole Szczepaniak	F	6-0	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Anthony Dehn	G	6-1	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Eli Powell	F	6-5	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
12	Payton Mericle	G	6-0	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Rayce Prosser	G	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
15	Jonah Matulle	F	6-4	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Patrick Wangelin	C	6-5	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Jordan Mascall	F	6-5	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
31	Anthony Bartman	C	6-6	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
33	Zavier Sims	F	6-5	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
41	Joe Jung	G	6-1	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
43	Greg Lenhart	F	6-1	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345

# Kimberly Papermakers



**9-5 Overall, 6-4 Fox Valley Association**

**Head Coach:** Lucky Wurtz (8th season, 113-68 at Kimberly, 352-254 overall)

**Assistant Coaches:** Jeff Simon, Jon Geyman, Justin Schlueter

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
1	Mitch Koller	G	6-0	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
2	Ben Carew	G	6-0	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Will Chevalier	F	6-8	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Alec Rosner	G	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
10	Jordan Janssen	F	6-3	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Tanner Johnson	F	6-5	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
12	Erik Saxby	G	5-8	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
15	Danny Vanden Boom	G	6-4	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	Drew Johnson	G	5-9	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Steve Behnke	G	6-0	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
25	Bennett Thies	F	6-2	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
30	Caleb Gomilla	G	6-1	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
32	Levi Nienhaus-Borchert	F	6-3	Fr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
34	Troy Argall	F	6-1	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** - Coaches: Kyle Popp and Ron Billman

Statistics Asst.: Nathan Laeyendecker

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
2	Seth Hammett	G	5-9	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
4	Peyton Mellenthin	G	5-9	Fr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Chance Pronschinske	G	5-9	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Logan Morrow	G	6-3	Fr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
15	Matthew Pavletich	G	6-1	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Peter Herberg	F	6-3	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
25	Tyler Van Oursouw	G	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
31	Spencer Schamens	F	6-2	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
33	Jaxon Spiegelberg	G	5-9	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
41	Caleb Feavel	F	5-11	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
43	Tyrese Taylor	F	6-4	Fr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
45	Dakota Bartlett	G	6-4	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345

**Kimberly Papermakers** - Coaches: Mike Van Thull and Nate Van Handel

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
1	Drew Riegsecker	G	5-8	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
2	Griffin Friemuth	G	5-10	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Ryan Tessner	G	5-9	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
4	Tanner Johnson	F	6-5	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Kevin Lind	F	5-11	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
10	Chris Gear	G	5-8	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
12	Max Dorn	G	5-9	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Charlie Jacobson	G	5-10	Fr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	Alex Hammen	F	5-10	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Jordan Douglas	F	5-11	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
30	Jarrett Simms	F	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
32	Levi Nienhaus-Borchert	F	6-3	Fr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
34	Logan Johnson	F	6-1	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
44	David DeValk	F	6-6	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345

# Freshmen

**Neenah Rockets**

**Kimberly Papermakers**

No.	Player	Ht.	Yr.
2	Kyle Martis	5-2	Fr.
3	Tim Nault	5-11	Fr.
4	Max Schneider	5-10	Fr.
5	Ethan Parker	6-1	Fr.
11	Grayson Schroeder	5-8	Fr.
13	Teddy Gullickson	5-7	Fr.
15	Quinn Rechner	5-7	Fr.
21	Carson Hughes	5-10	Fr.
23	Mason Morrow	5-10	Fr.
25	Hayden Jones	5-9	Fr.
31	Logan Eiden	6-1	Fr.
33	Marcus Hickey	6-1	Fr.
35	Sam Dietrich	5-9	Fr.
43	Martin Morales	6-0	Fr.
45	Andy Jensen	5-11	Fr.

No.	Player	Ht.	Yr.
3	Zach Olson	5-6	Fr.
4	Eli Ruplinger	5-9	Fr.
11	Luke Chevalier	6-2	Fr.
12	Adler Reschke	5-8	Fr.
13	Ian Sorenson	5-9	Fr.
20	Ben Pennings	5-9	Fr.
21	Gavin Lefeber	5-10	Fr.
22	Chris Carreon	5-9	Fr.
23	James Vanevenhoven	6-0	Fr.
24	Parker Hietpas	5-10	Fr.
33	Braeden Thies	5-7	Fr.
34	Matt Koller	5-10	Fr.
42	Corey Walbrun	6-0	Fr.
44	Jack Hackbart	5-11	Fr.
50	Jacob Schiessl	5-10	Fr.

Coaches: Marc Goodman and Christian Schnell

Coaches: Paul Appleton and Corey Vanevenhoven