



ROCKET GAMEDAY

Neenah (1-1) vs. Kaukauna (1-0)

December 8, 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 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Dec. 10 | at Wausau East | 4 p.m. |
| Dec. 16 | Oshkosh West | 7:30 p.m. |
| Dec. 20 | Fond du Lac | 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 Kaukauna 73-25.
- ▶ The WIAA postseason series is tied 1-1. Kaukauna beat Neenah in the 1997 sectional, and the Rockets returned the favor in the 1998 sectional by beating the Ghosts 53-42.
- ▶ The longest Neenah regular season win streak in the series is 23 games (1966-1979).
- ▶ The longest Kaukauna regular season win streak in the series is 6 games (2004-2006).
- ▶ Neenah's largest margin of victory (47 points) was in 1973 by the score of 95-48.
- ▶ Neenah's largest margin of defeat (30 points) was in 2012 by the score of 67-37.
- ▶ In the 100 total games that Neenah and Kaukauna have played since 1965-66, only 10 games have gone to overtime (7 of them since 2001). Two of those games happened in the same season (2008-09) when Neenah lost at home to Kaukauna 69-67 in OT, and then beat the Ghosts in OT on the last night of the regular season in Kaukauna 76-72.

Around the FVA

| | Conf. | | Overall | | Thursday, Dec. 8 Games |
|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------------------------------|
| | W | L | W | L | |
| Oshkosh North | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | Kaukauna at Neenah |
| Kaukauna | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | Kimberly at Appleton West |
| Kimberly | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | Oshkosh West at Hortonville |
| Appleton East | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | Fond du Lac at Oshkosh North |
| Oshkosh West | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | Friday, Dec. 9 Game |
| Appleton West | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | Appleton North at Appleton East |
| Neenah | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Saturday, Dec. 10 Games |
| Appleton North | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | Neenah at Wausau East |
| Hortonville | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | Fond du Lac at Milw. Juneau/Reagan |
| Fond du Lac | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | Wisconsin Rapids at Oshkosh West |
| | | | | | De Pere at Kimberly |



Follow the FVA at:
fvasports.net

Tale of the Tape

| (Conf. Only) | Neenah | Kaukauna |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Scoring Average | 43.0 | 87.0 |
| Scoring Defense | 46.0 | 55.0 |
| Scoring Margin | -3.0 | +32.0 |
| Field Goal Pct. | 44.4 | 48.5 |
| 3pt Field Goal Pct. | 36.8 | 37.0 |
| Free Throw Pct. | 100.0 (4-4) | 78.6 |
| Field Goal Pct. Def. | 39.0 | n/a |
| Rebounds/Game | 22.0 | 42.0 |
| Assists/Game | 9.0 | 20.0 |
| Turnovers/Game | 19.0 | 10.0 |
| Steals/Game | 3.0 | 10.0 |
| Blocks/Game | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| All-Time History: | | |
| FVA Record | 477-264 | 338-403 |
| FVA Win Pct. | .644 | .456 |
| FVA Titles | 13 | 5 |

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



Hello basketball fans, and welcome to the 2016-17 Neenah high school boys' basketball season. After eight months of hibernation, the Rocket Game Day Report is excited to be back and hopefully better than ever. The mission of this Game Day Report is simple. We want to provide you, the fan, with as much information as possible regarding tonight's game and other pertinent information involving the Neenah basketball program and its rich history. We will also from time to time analyze the Fox Valley Association (check out pages five and six in tonight's program for a history of the FVA). We hope you find the pregame reading material both enjoyable and educational.

We also hope you enjoy watching another exciting season of Neenah Rocket basketball. One final request to both the student and adult fans: Let's provide the support and encouragement to the young men as well as the Neenah Rocket coaching staff that will represent our school district and the community of Neenah for the next four months. The coaches and student athletes put in countless hours of practice, strength training, film study and preparation for every game. The very least we can all do is show up and support our Rockets. Don't be a fair-weather fan. Perhaps you will consider bringing a friend, neighbor or a family member to a home game this year to watch the Rockets perform in the state of Wisconsin's finest high school basketball facility, the Ron Einerson Fieldhouse.

The Rockets will look a little different this season. Head coach Lee Rabas graduated six seniors that all played a role in last year's 13-11 (10-8 in the FVA) season. The Rockets enter tonight's game 1-1 on the young season. Big Red traveled to Monona Grove during the Thanksgiving holiday and earned a hard fought 56-50 non conference win over the Silver Eagles. However, the Rockets followed that win with a clunker of a performance last Friday night at Appleton East in the FVA opener for both teams. Neenah led 27-23 at halftime over the Patriots and maintained their lead for almost all 18 minutes of the second half, before the Rockets endured continual breakdowns in execution and a simple lack of toughness which directly led to Neenah blowing a double digit lead and losing to the Patriots for the first time in years, 46-43. As disappointing as that result was last Friday, the Rockets better come ready to fight tonight as they face the other end of the spectrum in the FVA, the defending FVA and WIAA Division 2 state champion Kaukauna Ghosts.

Kaukauna went 26-2 last year but graduated two key players from last year's team in Marcus Moreau and Dalton Erdman. However, the cupboard is far from empty for head coach Mike Schalow. The Ghosts are loaded again this year and are one of two schools in the FVA to be the heavy favorite (along with Oshkosh North) to win the 2017 FVA title. A repeat trip to Madison and another state championship is certainly at least attainable if not expected for this Ghost program. The Ghosts return three main cogs from last year's state title winning team in junior point guard Jordan McCabe, senior guard Adam Smith and junior forward Dylan Kurey. Both McCabe (West Virginia) and Smith (Minnesota-Duluth) have already verbally committed to where they will spend their college careers playing basketball. Unfortunately for the Ghosts, Smith suffered an injury during the football season and will be out for the next few weeks.



Turning Back the Clock

Tonight we are going back 19 years to the 1998 WIAA Sectional semifinal at the Kolf Sports Center on the campus of UW-Oshkosh. It would be Neenah's first visit to Kolf since it lost to Appleton East 61-59 in the 1993 WIAA sectional semifinal in what would be Hall of Fame head coach Ron Einerson's last game on the sidelines. The four years between 1993 and 1998, UW Oshkosh ended up hosting the NCAA indoor track and field championships and the traditional "Oshkosh Sectional" would find different gyms to be played at. For the Rockets, the Kolf Sports Center had become a second home during the 1970's and 1980's. This building had hosted sell-out crowds year after year and witnessed some of the greatest wins in Rocket basketball history. In fact, Neenah never lost a game in this building during the entire decade of the 1970's when they advanced to Madison nine times in a 10-year stretch.

This game would feature a Neenah team led by head coach Tim Hopfensperger that had tied for the FVA title at 15-3, 17-4 overall (with Oshkosh West and Fond du Lac) playing a Kaukauna team led by head coach Mike Schalow that finished the FVA schedule at 4-14, 7-14 overall (8th place). This game would be the third time that the Ghosts and Rockets had faced each other during the 1997-98 campaign. The Rockets defeated the Ghosts in Kaukauna 64-45 earlier in the year and also beat them in the season finale at the Neenah Armstrong Fieldhouse 59-51. Neenah advanced to the sectional semifinal by defeating Menasha 83-67, and Kaukauna got by Appleton North in overtime 52-47 for the opportunity to face the Rockets. For the Rockets, there was also the fact of revenge to this game. Exactly one year ago in the WIAA sectional semifinal at Appleton East, FVA champion Kaukauna defeated Neenah to end the Rocket season. The Rockets returned the core of the 1997 team in seniors Matt Hofkens (1st team all conference), Jon Fleming (2nd team all conference) and Craig Stier (honorable mention) to their conference champion ball club.

Neenah got off to a quick start against Kaukauna despite Hofkens being saddled with foul trouble throughout the evening. The Rockets led 11-7 after eight minutes of action and extended their lead to 25-17 at halftime. Fleming helped widen that eight-point spread early in the third quarter when he scored seven consecutive points, including back-to-back three pointers in less than a four-second spread of time. Midway through the third quarter the Rockets would enlarge their lead to 38-22. The Ghosts, led by 6'8" senior Curt Coenen, responded by going on an 8-2 spurt during the final two minutes of the third quarter to cut the Rocket lead to 40-30. Coenen would lead the Ghosts in scoring honors on this night with a team-high 13 points. However, the 10-point deficit was too much of a hill for the Ghosts to climb. Neenah and Kaukauna traded baskets in the final quarter of action and the Rockets prevailed 53-42. With this important victory, the Rockets earned a ticket to their first sectional final since 1989.

Until next Friday, December 16 when we welcome the Wildcats of Oshkosh West, NEENAH WITH PRIDE!



Neenah Rockets

1-1 Overall, 0-1 Fox Valley Association

Head Coach: Lee Rabas (2nd season, 14-12 at Neenah, 117-68 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 | 5-10 | 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 | 5-11 | Sr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |

Kaukauna Galloping Ghosts



1-0 Overall, 1-0 Fox Valley Association

Head Coach: Michael Schalow (22nd season, 321-170 at Kaukauna, 424-271 overall)

Assistant Coaches: Ryan Bowers and Kevin Evers

| No. | Player | Pos. | Ht. | Yr. | 2-pointers | 3-pointers | Free Throws | Fouls |
|-----|----------------------|------|------|-----|------------|------------|-------------|-------|
| 2 | Eric Carl | G | 6-4 | Jr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 3 | Logan Jedwabny | F | 6-2 | Fr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 4 | Connor Judd | G | 5-11 | Jr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 5 | Jordan McCabe | G | 5-11 | Jr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 13 | Bailey McDaniel | F | 6-1 | Sr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 14 | Brad Vosters | G | 6-0 | Sr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 15 | Keaton Ferris | F | 6-4 | Fr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 21 | Ryan Fries | F | 6-1 | Sr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 23 | Luke Gulbranson | F | 6-2 | Sr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 24 | Rodney Ebben | F | 6-3 | Jr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 31 | Adam Smith | G | 6-2 | Sr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 32 | Dylan Kurey | F | 6-6 | Jr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 33 | Luke Eiting | F | 6-1 | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 43 | Travis Hietpas | F | 6-6 | Jr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 44 | Ross Vande Wattering | F | 6-1 | 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 | | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 4 | Peyton Mellenthin | G | | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 5 | Hayden Jones | G | | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 11 | Grayson Schroeder | G | | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 13 | Jack Van Dyke | G | | Fr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 15 | Dan Craig | G | | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 21 | Mason Morrow | G | | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 23 | Max Klesmit | G | | Fr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 25 | Tim Nault | F | | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 33 | Marcus Hickey | F | | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 35 | Logan Eiden | F | | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 41 | Andy Jensen | F | | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 43 | Tyrese Taylor | C | | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| | Ethan Parker | F | | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |

Coaches: Christian Schnell and Ron Billman

Kaukauna Galloping Ghosts

| No. | Player | Pos. | Ht. | Yr. | 2-pointers | 3-pointers | Free Throws | Fouls |
|-----|----------------------|------|------|-----|------------|------------|-------------|-------|
| 3 | Donovan Ivory | F | 6-2 | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 4 | Brayden Ivory | G | 6-0 | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 11 | Ross Vande Wattering | G | 5-10 | Jr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 13 | Noah Van Asten | G | 5-10 | Fr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 15 | Logan Jedwabny | G | 6-0 | Fr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 20 | Tyler Paltzer | F | 6-0 | So. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 23 | Rodney Ebben | C/F | 6-6 | Jr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 21 | Jacob Newhouse | F | 6-3 | Fr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |
| 22 | Seth Kamenick | C | 6-4 | Fr. | 2222222222 | 333333 | 1111111111 | 12345 |

Coach: Dan Van Bostel

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. |

Kaukauna Galloping Ghosts

| No. | Player | Ht. | Yr. |
|-----|--------------------|------|-----|
| 2 | JT Tadych | 5-0 | Fr. |
| 3 | Dayton Lindemuth | 5-4 | Fr. |
| 4 | Logan Kunstman | 5-4 | Fr. |
| 5 | Alec Hopfensberger | 5-5 | Fr. |
| 10 | Mason Pencil | 5-6 | Fr. |
| 11 | Justin King | 6-1 | Fr. |
| 13 | Adam Hartley | 5-9 | Fr. |
| 14 | Mason Helms | 5-8 | Fr. |
| 33 | Andree Williams | 6-0 | Fr. |
| 42 | Mason Bauer | 5-10 | Fr. |
| 44 | Grant Stephenson | 6-1 | Fr. |

Coach: Troy Baumgart

Coaches: Marc Goodman, Todd Mueske & Rich Frost