

## **Rockets' big first quarter not enough as Ozaukee rallies for CLC road victory**

Fast starts can be deceiving.

Just ask the Cedar Grove-Belgium girls' basketball team, which saw a strong first quarter fade into a frustrating Central Lakeshore Conference loss to Ozaukee on Feb. 14.



After racing to an 11-1 lead, the host Rockets couldn't sustain their shooting touch and were handed a 41-32 defeat on Senior Night.

"We made some early shots and played good defense in the first quarter but then went cold," Cedar Grove-Belgium coach Nate DePagter said.

"We didn't allow a field goal in the first period, but we didn't score for the first four minutes of the second quarter. It was very frustrating."

Ozaukee, which improved its CLC record to 10-5, got back into contention with regular trips to the free-throw line. The Warriors had only two baskets in the first half but went 9-for-13 on foul shots and pulled within 15-13 by intermission.

"We had a tough first half offensively, but played good defense and got to the line, which kept us close," Ozaukee coach Lee LeMahieu said. "In the second half, we shot better and had only four turnovers."

Steady ball handling, coupled with the Rockets' cold shooting, helped Ozaukee take control in the final two quarters. By the end of the third period, the Warriors led, 25-24.

Ozaukee pulled away in the fourth quarter as the Rockets continued to struggle from the field. A basket by Alyssa Schmitt cut the Warriors' lead to 36-32 with 3 minutes, 15 seconds left, but Cedar Grove-Belgium failed to score again.

## **CG-Belgium starts fast, Warriors finish stronger**

Written by STEVE OSTERMANN

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“We had some good looks but didn’t get a point in our last five possessions,” said DePagter, whose squad fell to 7-9 in the conference. “We didn’t run our offensive efficiently.”

The Warriors missed seven free throws in the final 2:29 but still finished 17-for-29 at the line compared to the Rockets’ 5-for-10.

Ozaukee’s scoring leaders were Jessika Dieringer and Lizzie Janke with 10 points apiece. Dieringer also had nine rebounds.

Cedar Grove-Belgium was paced by Schmitt’s 10 points.

This Thursday, both teams will conclude the regular season with 7:30 p.m. CLC games. Ozaukee hosts Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah while Cedar Grove-Belgium plays at Howards Grove.

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Image Information: OZAUKEE’S JESSIKA DIERINGER pulled a rebound away from Alyssa Schmitt during a Central Lakeshore Conference game Feb. 14. Ozaukee rallied to win, 41-32. Photo by Sam Arendt