

Hard-nosed performance lifts CG-B boys into first

Written by Steve Ostermann

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Vrubley-led Rockets stun Oostburg in road win that gives them share of CLC lead

Perhaps the Cedar Grove-Belgium boys' basketball team should change its moniker from Rockets to Road Warriors.

Coach Jim Meinen's squad played the hard-nosed role to perfection last Saturday when it knocked off Oostburg, 62-54, to grab a share of first place in the Central Lakeshore Conference race.

Guard Nic Vrubley scored 20 points and grabbed seven rebounds to fuel the Rockets, who handed the Flying Dutchmen their first loss of the season.

The victory left both teams with 6-1 league records and in a three-way tie for the CLC top spot with Sheboygan Christian.

"It was a really good win for us," said Meinen, whose team upped its overall mark to 7-2.

"We were able to take away the things that Oostburg does well offensively and handle the defensive changes they can throw at you."

The Dutchmen grabbed an 8-4 lead in the first quarter, but Cedar Grove-Belgium went on a 17-8 run on its way to a 24-20 lead at halftime.

Oostburg pulled within 44-41 after three periods, but Cedar Grove-Belgium used an 18-point fourth quarter to pull away down the stretch.

"Oostburg is so athletic, but we did very well matching up with them," Meinen said. "It was a solid team effort."

The Rockets finished with a 37-27 edge in rebounding. In addition to Vrubley's effort, Weston Meinen, Spencer Jacque and Josh Mulloy each had six boards.

Balanced offense was another key for Cedar Grove-Belgium. Besides Vrubley's game-high scoring total, Meinen and Jesse Anderson finished with 13 and 10 points, respectively, and Jacque and Jon Herzog had six apiece.

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Meinen also had six assists.

Oostburg was led by Marcus Buehler with 19 points.

CG-Belgium 60, Ozaukee 40

Strong defense allowed the Rockets to dominate a CLC game at home Jan. 5.

Cedar Grove-Belgium held Ozaukee to 21% floor shooting and steadily pulled away. The Rockets stretched a 10-8 first-quarter lead to 24-15 by halftime and to 44-29 after three periods.

Anderson, a senior center, scored 12 of his game-high 19 points in the third quarter. He also finished with eight rebounds and five blocked shots.

Mulloy had 10 points, and Meinen added eight.

No one scored in double figures for the Warriors, who were led by freshman Stephen Street with nine points.

This week, the Rockets continued CLC play against Kohler on Tuesday and will host Sheboygan Lutheran on Friday. On Jan. 19, they will travel to Kewaskum for a nonconference contest.

Both games start at 7:30 p.m.