

Area prep schedule announced

Thursday
Girls basketball
Sullivan @ Argenta-Oreana 7 p.m.

Friday
Boys basketball
Sullivan vs. Monticello 6 p.m.

Okaw Valley @ Martinsville 7:30 p.m.
Lovington vs. Shiloh 6:15 p.m.

Saturday
Boys basketball
OVHS, LHS in LOVC tournament - Arthur

Monday
Girls basketball
Okaw Valley vs. Villa Grove 7:30 p.m.

Boys basketball
Arthur Okaw Christian vs. Conerstone Christian at Lovington M.S. 6 p.m.

Tuesday
Boys basketball
Sullivan @ Shelbyville 6 p.m.

OVHS, LHS in LOVC tournament - Arthur

Grant applications are now accepted

Applications for grants from the Ruth and Vaughn Jaenike Access to the Arts Fund are being accepted. Activities in music, theatre arts and the visual arts are eligible for Jaenike Fund grant support for up to half of the overall costs. The next application deadline is Feb. 16 with notification on March 1.

The purpose of the fund is to encourage the presentation of arts performances, exhibitions, lecture, demonstrations, and related programs to new or underserved audiences, with a priority on serving the east-central Illinois area (roughly within a 50 mile radius from Charleston).

Grant requests will be accepted from schools or non-profit organizations. Grants are not awarded for the purchase of equipment or to individual artists to support the creation of works of art.

For a grant application, contact the Tarble Arts Center, at 217-581-2787, mwatts@eiu.edu.

SBD records fall in Dunscomb New Year Opener

by Scott Lockwood
sportsdesk@newsprogress.com

The Sullivan Blue Dolphins participated in the Seth Dunscomb New Year Opener Jan. 8-10 at Millikin University's Gris-wold Physical Education Center hosted by the Decatur Swim Club. The team really exceeded everyone's expectations as records were broken and there were qualifiers for state and region.

SBD swimmers placed well, making them eligible for high point trophy awards in most of the age groups and the team had the most points overall.

Kailyn Boyer, Megan Zindel and Makayla Thompson all broke their own team records. Boyer held the girls 9-10 50 back with a 34.15. It is now a 33.37. Megan Zindel broke two records at the event. She held the 11-12 100 back with 1:06.82 and now holds it at 1:05.26, and also moved the 50 fly from a 29.29 to a 28.61.

Thompson broke two records in back stroke events. The first one was in the 100 back in the 15 and over division with a 1:05.74 that broke the old mark of 1:06.41, and she now holds the 200 back at 2:19.12. The previous mark was 2:21.71.

The 11-12 year old girls didn't just break the 200 Medley Relay - they flat out destroyed the old record by nearly five seconds. The old record was held by Zindel, Lily Bales, Mackenzie Mosier and Brittin Boyer at 2:14.59 and was topped by Brynna Sentel, Zindel, Lily Bales and Kailyn Boyer with a time of 2:09.91.

So far this season, 10 SBD swimmers have qualified for the regional meet that will be held in Peoria Feb. 26-28. Kailyn Boyer has qualified for seven events at the state meet that will be held in Chicago March 12-14. She will be joined there by Sam Rousser (two events) and Grant King (one event).



Photo submitted
Morning high point winners for the Sullivan Blue Dolphins from the Seth Dunscomb New Year Opener meet. Pictured are back row, left to right: head coach Jason Drury, Connie and Richard Dunscomb, assistant coach Chris Salisbury. Front row: Megan Zindel, Kailyn Boyer, Gabe Oetting, Grant King and Sam Rousser.

AHS overpowers OVHS 69-47

by Scott Lockwood
sportsdesk@newsprogress.com

The town of Arthur is known for its spectacular fireworks show every summer, but Friday night it was the Knights who put on a display of firepower in a 69-47 rout of the Okaw Valley Timberwolves in a matchup of two of the top teams in the Little Okaw Valley Conference in Arthur.

Kyle Pierce hit a layup on the first OVHS possession of the game, but Arthur responded quickly responded with a three-pointer from Carson Petersheim. Petersheim hit two more threes in the next 45 seconds to put the Knights up 9-3. Pierce drained a long trey and Ryan Brandenburg scored on a reverse layup to put the Timberwolves back within three points with 4:40 to go in the first quarter.

Turnovers began piling up for the Timberwolves from that point. They would turn the ball over eight times in all for the first quarter, which helped fuel a 10-2 Arthur run. Justin Schuring hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to put the Knights up 24-10 going into the second quarter.

Pierce scored on a jumper from the free-throw line with

the first shot of the second quarter. Petersheim hit another three and Arthur began to pull away thanks to more OVHS turnovers and several missed layups. Alex Corrington hit a jumper at the buzzer for the Timberwolves, who trailed 38-19 at the half. OVHS had 13 turnovers and was 6-for-23 shooting.

"I thought that was what they did the best," said Okaw Valley coach Mike Reynolds, referring to the Knights three-point shooting ability. "We gave them some easy shots. We didn't guard them on the three. I knew they shot well. I thought we just killed ourselves in the first half. We played scared and when they shot like that with no. 11 (Petersheim) making three three right of the bat it scared us even more. Arthur is good and played hard, but I don't think we gave a very good effort in the first half. They played like they are supposed to be No. 1 and we played like we don't know how good we are. I am disappointed."

Arthur came out of the locker room on fire in the second half, while the Timberwolves started out cold and shot 1-for-10 in the first two minutes of the third

quarter. Ryan Brandenburg's three with 7:18 left in the quarter put Okaw Valley back within 15 points, but they would get no closer the rest of the way. The Knights went 11-for-12 from the floor in the third quarter and shot 80 percent in the second half.

"Carson Petersheim got us off to a great start, but we shot the ball incredibly well. It was one of those nights where everything we shot went in," Arthur head coach Dale Schuring said. "We were starting to understand the offense and starting to play a little more team basketball and starting to share and begin at the right spots at the right time and it is starting to show on the floor now," said Schuring. "I knew at the beginning of the year that this would take some time. We started to get a little bit at Christmas and right now we are playing pretty well and hopefully we can continue."

Arthur's Elliott Tinnon, who was a perfect 9-for-9 from the field and 1-for-2 from the line, led all scorers with 19 points. Pierce led Okaw Valley with 14 points, followed by Brandenburg with 10.



Photo by Scott Lockwood
Okaw Valley's Cody Bly (right) fires off a jump pass over Arthur's Sheldon Miller during the first quarter of Friday night's Little Okaw Valley Conference game against Arthur.

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