

Sports

The
Bristol Observer

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Our Athletes



TAMMI KNAPIK

One step ahead

St. Paul's Kelly McMahon dashes past the Torrington offense on Friday in a home game. The Falcons lost to their NVL rivals, 54-37.

Crosby taunts St. Paul boys; St. Paul girls have Crosby's number

By MICHAEL LETENDRE
STAFF WRITER

The Crosby High School basketball teams proved to be a thorn in the side of the St. Paul boys. But the girls had a bit of an easier time of it.

In Bristol, the St. Paul girls grabbed a 60-26 decision from the Maltby Street Gymnasium. While the boys dropped a hard fought 87-68 Naugatuck Valley League game in Waterbury on Wednesday, Jan. 18.

The girls moved to 7-5 with the victory and are now one triumph away from tournament qualification.

The boys fell to 7-4 overall and still remain one game away from the playoffs.

On the girls' end, the

Falcons scored several points over its regular season average as three players racked up 10 points or more.

Kelly McMahon dropped in 13 points while Theresa Swanke and Gabby Perleche each tallied 10 apiece in the winning effort.

Swanke also posted 14 rebounds for her third straight double-double while also tallying six assists.

From downtown, McMahon hit two from deep while Monica Roccapriore and Gianna Sabino each hit one three-pointer apiece to lead the outside shooting attack by St. Paul.

Samaya Saunders led

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CROSBY 87, ST. PAUL 68

from Crosby High School, Waterbury

St. Paul (7-4) 19 7 17 25 — 68

Crosby (9-2) 15 28 19 25 — 87

St. Paul (68): Justin Gonzalez 5-3-15, Marty Lewis 8-1-22, Tyler Alexander 4-0-8, Dave Guidone 1-1-4, Justin Kawiecki 0-0-0, Brandon Shaw 3-2-8, Garrett Bochenek 0-0-0, Jordan Rowley 3-0-6, Kyle Dube 2-0-5, Blake Haskins 0-0-0. Totals: 26-7-68.

Crosby (87): T.J. Pierce 3-2-8, Anthony King 6-0-18, Tyshon Rogers 11-6-32, Asiem King 2-0-4, Davon Robinson 2-2-7, Trevon Butler 3-2-8, Lex Perez 1-0-3, Devin Stallings 1-0-3, Ryan Spears 1-2-4, David Crenshaw 0-0-0, Isaac Vaichus 0-0-0, Ernest Wallace 0-0-0. Totals: 30-14-87.

Three-point goals: Gonzalez (SP) 2, Dube (SP), Guidone (SP), Lewis (SP), Anthony King (C) 6, Rogers (C) 4, Robinson (C), Perez (SP), Stallings (SP).

Records: Crosby 9-2; St. Paul 7-4.

ST. PAUL 60, CROSBY 26

from the Maltby Street Gymnasium, Bristol

Crosby (0-13) 8 5 4 9 — 26

St. Paul (7-5) 5 24 16 15 — 60

Crosby (26): Danielle Outler 0-0-0, Samaya Saunders 6-6-20, Kyra Perry 1-0-2, Yaniris Castillo 0-0-0, Shayla Perez 0-0-0, Aaliyah Siders 0-0-0, Cori Battle 0-1-1, Carina Cardona 1-1-3. Totals: 8-8-26.

St. Paul (60): Gabby Perleche 5-0-10, Theresa Swanke 3-4-10, Mary Joyce 1-0-2, Gabby Camden 2-0-4, Gianna Sabino 3-0-7, Kelly McMahon 5-1-13, Mikaela Giantonio 2-0-4, Laura Giofrida 2-0-5, Monica Roccapriore 1-0-3, Caleigh Lozito 1-0-2. Totals: 25-5-60.

3-point goals: Saunders (C) 2, Giofrida (SP), McMahon (SP) 2, Sabino (SP), Roccapriore (SP).

Records: St. Paul 7-5; Crosby 0-13.

Eastern's defense ties up Central's offense

By MICHAEL LETENDRE
STAFF WRITER

BRISTOL — When the Bristol Eastern girls basketball plays a little defense, the squad is certainly a tough one to reckon with.

And against Bristol Central, the defense certainly was on display for the Lancers.

The Rams played gamely and seemed to be just out of reach of the lead over the first three quarters before the Lancers took

control in a big fourth quarter as Eastern grabbed a 50-26 victory in a CCC South confrontation from the Thomas M. Monahan gymnasium in Bristol on Thursday, Jan. 19.

With the victory, the Lancers went over the .500 mark at 7-6 overall and are 6-2 in CCC South play while the Rams fell to 4-9 and 2-6.

Eastern's defense was ramped up as the Lancers' starting backcourt of Cassie Aiken and Amanda Zdun

BRISTOL EASTERN 50, BRISTOL CENTRAL 26

from the Thomas M. Monahan gymnasium, Bristol

Bristol Central (4-9) 3 9 5 9 — 26

Bristol Eastern (7-6) 7 17 10 14 — 50

BRISTOL CENTRAL (26): Lauren Bossi 1-3-5, Jenn Fannon 0-0-0, Vicky Vasile 0-0-0, Katie Raymond 0-4-4, Megan Riel 1-0-2, Ashley Elder 1-0-2, Erika Monsalve 0-2-2, Christina Bouvier 0-0-0, Tyra Talbot 0-0-0, Gretchen Edelman 1-0-2, Chandler Walker 3-3-9. Totals: 7-12-26.

BRISTOL EASTERN (41): Mallory Kloss 6-1-15, Kassie Aiken 0-2-2, Amanda Oliver 0-0-0, Nikki Hammer 0-0-0, Chantel Defosse 0-0-0, Kadajah Shoultz 2-7-11, Brianna Root 0-0-2, Christina Tramontanis 0-0-0, Amanda Zdun 4-1-10, Karissa Smith 5-2-12, Mia Farias 0-0-0. Totals 17-13-50.

Three-point goals: Kloss (BE) 2, Zdun (BE).

Records: Bristol Eastern 7-6 overall, 6-2 CCC South; Bristol Central 4-9, 2-6.

did an excellent job pressuring the ball up top all evening long. And when the ball

Rams show guts, Lancers get victory

By MICHAEL LETENDRE
STAFF WRITER

BRISTOL — The Bristol Central basketball team showed some real guts against Bristol Eastern on Friday, Jan. 20 in a big cross-town showdown.

Boys basketball

But while the Rams had the Lancers on the ropes, it could not deliver that one knockout blow to send Eastern packing.

However, the Lancers did all the heavy lifting late to put up its eighth victory of the season.

Tied at 29 apiece, the Lancers went on a big 11-2 run as a barrage of points led Eastern to a 43-36 victory from the Bristol Central gymnasium in a CCC south affair.

Eastern, now 8-3, made all the big shots when it had to. While on the other end, they clamped down on the Central sharp shooters just enough to keep the home team at bay.

Overall, the Rams hit only 13 of 46 field goals in the game (28.3-percent) and were held scoreless for a big chunk of the final period.

"We did a good job extending to their shooters," said Bristol Eastern coach Mike Giovinazzo. "When you have a kid like (Kris) Fuller in the middle, you can take a few more chances on the perimeter and get out on the shooters because Kris is going to be able to cover for your mis-

takes."

Central did what it wanted to do in the game offensively and forced most of the action on the floor with a slowdown tempo.

While the Rams didn't have a double-digit scorer, Central took its time going for its shots and slowed down the pace throughout the contest and gave itself multiple chances at taking the game.

"Defensively, I told our team (after the game) they got an 'A' for their performance tonight," said Bristol Central coach Tim Barrette. "They did a great job and I think they dictated the tempo where we wanted it tonight. The first possession of the game said everything. We took a minute off the clock and hit a three-pointer."

Eli Rodriguez led all players with 13 points, six rebounds and three steals while Fuller added a complete stat line with 11 points, eight rebounds, four assists and five blocked shots.

Ryan Chiasson ended the game with a career high 10 rebounds while Jose Antonetty had six points and two rebounds for the Lancers.

But the Eastern bench played a huge role in the game.

Jeff Farber scored seven big points, Gabe Ungaro added a critical two free throws late while Joel Angeles netted two points and five rebounds in only seven minutes of

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came down low, the Lancers' big three of Kadajah Shoultz, Mallory Kloss and Karissa Smith made it tricky down low for the Rams.

"We did a really good job putting pressure on the (Central) guards," said Bristol Eastern coach Tony Floyd. "We have some quick guards and nobody gives them any respect. (Aiken and Zdun) have really stepped it up in the last few months."

"The really dug down,

they're starting the play great defense and that's why we're playing so much better now."

On the other end of things, Aiken and Zdun limited their turnovers and played a very controlled offensive game.

And then the big three — along with a career game offensively by Zdun — made big buckets throughout the game.

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