

SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Tigers quell Rebels in close call



ABOVE — Spencer freshman Calista Frankenstein put up 17 points, including a last-second shot, in a 60-59 nail-biting win at Sioux Central on Thursday, Feb. 5.

LEFT — Spencer senior Maddie McWhirter goes up for a shot during a 60-59 win at Sioux Central on Thursday, Feb. 5. (Photos by Scott Merchant)

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Spencer girls basketball made the short drive down Highway 71 to face Sioux Central on Thursday, Feb. 5, the Tigers holding on for a tight 60-59 nonconference win and their first over the Rebels since December 2022.

Five different Tigers scored to give Spencer a 14-11 lead after one quarter. Four triples combined between Sydnee Hopkins and Kennedy Graettinger in the second half helped lead the Tigers over the Rebels 31-26 going into halftime.

Sioux Central made a living at the free-throw line, making 12 of 16 in the third quarter alone to shrink Spencer's lead to 3. The

Rebels continued to be sent to the charity stripe in the fourth, especially Avey Wilson with 11 free throws in the second half. The senior Rebel became Sioux Central's all-time leading scorer in the mix of her foul shots.

But Spencer could also make their free throws, shooting 9 of 11 in the fourth quarter, to hold on to their lead by the skin of their teeth.

Calista Frankenstein led the Tigers in double figures with 17 points. Graettinger and Hopkins each poured in 12 points, Lucy Simington 10 points.

Spencer (9-9) fell at home to Storm Lake 56-45 the next day. The Tigers were at Storm Lake on Monday and will host Sioux City West for Senior Night on Thursday. They also host Le Mars on Friday.

SIoux CENTRAL SPORTS

REBELS GO 1-2 AT HAWARDEN

Sioux Central's boys wrestling team traveled to Hawarden and won one of three dual matches Friday, Feb. 6, in their final tune-up before the district tournament this Saturday, Feb. 14.

The Rebels lost to Lawton-Bronson, 50-24; lost to West Sioux, 58-24; and defeated Akron-Westfield, 40-23.

"Can't be disappointed how we wrestled today," Rebels coach Chance Rice said. "The two teams we lost to are ranked, and our guys put a lot of heart into every match. We finish the season with a dual record of 13-17 with 13 of those 17 losses being to a ranked team, 3A team, or Minnesota teams. I am extremely proud of my guys this season and am looking forward to what we can do at districts this week."

Kooper Bean at 285 pounds and Gavin Casey at 165 pounds won all three of their matches. Going 2-1 were Keaton Hoigrefe at 113/120 pounds, Xander Waldstein at 150 pounds, and Connor Brown at 175 pounds. Going 1-2 were Bryce Gunderson at 120/126 pounds, Brandon Zeledon at 132 pounds and Hunter Reis at 157 pounds.

The Rebels travel to West Lyon for the district tournament on Saturday. Wrestling begins at 10 a.m. Other schools at the meet are West Lyon, Kingsley-Pierson, Sibley-Ocheyedan, Akron-Westfield, West Sioux, MMCRU, Hinton, Central Lyon/George-Little Rock and Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley.

VARSITY	
113/120 — Keaton Hoigrefe.....	2-1
120/126 — Bryce Gunderson..	1-2
132 — Brandon Zeledon.....	1-2
144 — Bo Smith.....	0-1
150 — Xander Waldstein.....	2-1
157 — Hunter Ries.....	1-2
165 — Gavin Casey.....	3-0
175 — Connor Brown.....	2-1
190 — Dalten Kreibaum.....	0-3
215 — Hunter Perry.....	0-3
285 — Kooper Bean	3-0
JV	
Mario Gallardo.....	1-0
Frickie Smith.....	1-0

SIoux CENTRAL OVERCOMES TITANS ON ROAD

Through three quarters, Sioux Central and GTRA were tied at 45 apiece, but the Rebels went on a 16-6 run in the final eight minutes and claimed a 61-51 road win Friday night in Graettinger.

The game see-sawed, with both teams holding small leads throughout before Sioux Central seized control late and improved to 15-3 on the year. GTRA fell to 10-9.

Owen Mills led the Rebels with 23 points, and he added seven rebounds and five assists. Jack Christian had 14 points and 4 assists. Colin Christians had 12 points. Koen Glover had 9 points and a game-high 13 rebounds. Boden Bright had 3 points and six rebounds. Sawyer Hollesen had three assists. The Rebels shot 46% from the field, including 40% from 3-point range. They had four turnovers while the Titans had six. They also won the rebounding battle, 33-21.

GTRA got 14 points, eight rebounds and five assists from Teagan Hanson. Brooks Hanson had 12 points and four rebounds. Landen Dietrich had 10 points. Lucas Girres had 8 points. Jaxson Schnell had 7 points and four assists.

The Rebels played at HMS on Monday night, they host South O'Brien on Tuesday night, and then play host to Hinton next Monday. After that, the district tournament will begin, with pairings to be announced this week.

Tigers survive Rebels' fourth quarter rally



Spencer senior Dylan Timmer lays up a shot over the fingertips of a shot blocker during a 48-46 win at Sioux Central on Thursday, Feb. 5. Timmer scored a team-high 11 points for the Tigers.



Spencer senior Foster Roos drives to the rim during a 48-46 win at Sioux Central on Thursday. (Photos by Scott Merchant)

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Spencer boys basketball led by as much as a dozen in a nonconference clash at Sioux Central on Thursday, Feb. 5, yet the Rebels made things interesting with a fourth quarter rally just falling short in a 48-46 Tigers win.

Dylan Timmer, Larson Vulk and

Shelton Bendlin paced the Tigers with 7 points for Timmer and 5 points for the latter two as Spencer pulled away from an deficit to lead 30-23 at halftime. The Tigers only extended their lead to double-digits in the third quarter as Timmer added a couple more baskets.

Sioux Central's Jack Christian 12-4 fourth quarter run with 8 of his 11 points in the final quarter. Shots by Foster Roos and Hunter Pearson kept Spencer's head above

water as the Rebels scored the last 7 points of the game.

Timmer led the Tigers with 11 points, joined in double figures by Shelton with 10 points. Vulk chipped in 7 points.

Spencer (5-12) fell to Lakes Conference rival Storm Lake 69-61 back at home on Friday. The Tigers were at Storm Lake on Monday and will host Sioux City West for Senior Night on Thursday. They also host Le Mars on Friday.

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