

Watchmen boys make trek to Jewell, score first league victory

The C.S. Lewis boys basketball team improves to 4-4 on the season with a Casco League win

By [B. Scott Anderson](#)

It may have taken a 140-mile round-trip bus ride, but the C.S. Lewis Academy boys basketball team earned its first Casco League win with a 68-47 victory Tuesday at Jewell.

The Watchmen (4-4, 1-2 Casco League) had been mired in a two-game losing streak to Casco League opponents prior to Tuesday's victory. For first-year C.S. Lewis coach Dave Brown, it was his first trip to the school located deep in the Oregon's coastal mountains.

"That was a long, long bus ride," he said.

Still, Brown would probably make the trip again if it meant another league victory, especially after the Watchmen had already suffered league losses to Country Christian and St. Paul earlier this season.

"We needed to get a win in the Casco League," he said. "It was a big game for us. Country Christian is a tough team for us to beat and we already lost to St. Paul, so we needed a win."

The long bus ride didn't seem to negatively impact the Watchmen. In fact, it seemed to energize them as the Watchmen bolted out to an early 9-2 lead.

"They just came out with a ton of energy and played really smart and really well," Brown said of the Watchmen. "They played with a lot of heart and energy and it was the best overall they played in every area and they just happened to put it all together in the same night."

C.S. Lewis guard Gabe Leatherman hit a three-pointer at the halftime buzzer to give the Watchmen a 33-16 halftime lead. C.S. Lewis was never seriously threatened in the second half.

Ryan Haffner led the Watchmen with 19 points. Vas Walker, the Watchmen's lone senior who had been suffering from a back injury for most of the season, added 12 points.

"Having (Walker) really helped us," Brown said.

Leatherman added 11 points for the Watchmen.

The Watchmen return to action Friday with a tournament at Gaston. Results were unavailable at press time.

"If we play with as much heart and energy as we did at Jewell, I think we'll be fine," Brown said Thursday. "I'm happy with where we're at right now after eight games."

Notes: The C.S. Lewis junior varsity team defeated Jewell 44-19. Paul Brubaker led the Watchmen with 16 points and 13 rebounds "and probably 20 flat-out dives on the floor. He played the best game of his life there. That kid just plays hard," Brown said

Watchmen fall to 0-3 in Casco League

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SEASIDE - The C.S. Lewis Academy girls basketball team committed a season-high 42 turnovers Dec. 17 and fell 52-23 at Jewell.

The difference in the game might have been at the free-throw line where the Watchmen (1-5, 0-3 Casco League) shot and made their lone attempt. Or it could have been the fact that

Jewell had 34 offensive rebounds - equal to the number of total rebounds the Watchmen had.

"They were just more aggressive than we were," Watchmen coach Krystal Johnson said.

"We weren't attacking the basket as much as Jewell was, so we weren't getting the opportunities to shoot like Jewell was."

The Watchmen, who were 11-34 from the field, also played without senior starting forward Natalie Nibler, who was ill. Still, the team's other six players all scored. Kendra Martin led C.S. Lewis with 10 points and six rebounds; Anna Martin added four points and 12 rebounds. Danielle Davis added three points. Ashley Coxx, Jessica Spivey and Noelle Hansen scored two points apiece. Hansen also added seven rebounds.

In the loss, the Watchmen held a 6-4 lead after the first quarter, but were outscored 15-6 in the second. Jewell outscored C.S. Lewis 33-11 in the second half.

"What was great was that, individually, we were seeing opportunities on offense and making great passes, but our fundamentals killed us with our turnovers," Johnson said. "We just got rattled. They pressed us and once we settled down and ran our plays, that's when we passed well and got our opportunities."