



Upset minded Raiders face top seed tonight

A tall task awaits Fulton this evening when the Raiders invade Carthage looking to extend the most successful boys basketball season in recent history. Fresh off the team's first sectional victory in eight years, a thrilling 69-60 win over Vernon-Verona-Sherrill, Fulton meets the top seeded Comets hoping to do what few have accomplished over the past three seasons: beat Carthage on its own home floor.

At 18-1 the Comets have been nearly unbeatable regardless of where they have played, but with a 10-0 mark and an impressive 30-1 run within the familiar confines since 2012, Coach Jeff Ventiquattro's side has been especially tough at home. Throw in the fact that the three-time reigning Frontier League champions are 54-5 overall through the last three campaigns, and it is easy to see why the Raiders will be a decided underdog entering tonight's second round showdown.

For that reason it is especially important

Section III Boys Basketball Playoffs

#8 Fulton (12-7)

@

#1 Carthage (18-1)

7 pm tonight

that the visitors are quick off the mark at 7 pm. "A good start is always very important," Fulton Coach Matt Kimpland noted. "Our goal as a team has always been to establish the tempo and style we want within the first four minutes of the game. If we are able to withstand their first punch early in the first quarter and stay in the moment we should be in very good shape."

The Comets are led by standout Peyton McLaurin, the senior coming off a career best 41 point performance on February 12 that included seven shots from beyond the three point arc. At 6-foot-5 McLaurin has been a handful for opposing sides all sea-



The Fulton varsity boys basketball team will be looking to pull off a major upset tonight when they travel to Carthage to face the #1 seeded Comets in a Section III, Class A Tournament encounter. (Dayger photo)

son while averaging nearly 25 points per outing with 467 points in 19 games.

Even though Fulton hasn't faced Carthage since the 2012-13 season, Kimpland is well aware of McLaurin's abilities, commenting that, "Peyton is a very good basketball player. We understand that he will get his points and it will be a team effort in making sure he does not hurt us too much."

To that end the Raider game plan is to, "give them different looks to help slow him down and make things difficult for him."

Kimpland also cautioned, however, that too much emphasis on McLaurin could lead to a big night by another Comet marksman, shooting guard Jerry Willis, a 21 point performer against Watertown who averaged nearly 14 points per game with 33 shots from downtown to go with McLaurin's 55 threes. "We need to be careful as Willis is a very good shooter as well. We can't leave him when we are in help situations vs. McLaurin," the coach remarked. "However, if we can force them to use the other players in the lineup to beat us we have the advantage."

Jake Redmore has averaged 10 points per game and Richard Smedes has 19 three-pointers to his credit for Carthage, but obvi-

ously the road to a Raider victory revolves around containing McLaurin and Willis if Fulton's season is to extend beyond tonight.

Along with the perennial question of just how difficult a schedule Carthage played comes another potential mark in Fulton's favor, as the Comets have not had a game in nearly two weeks, while the Raiders were in action on Friday night. "I think it is to our advantage having played on Friday. We play better in short preparation," the coach noted. "At this time of year the season begins to get long and the kids just want to get back on the court and play. We will use this to our advantage and hope to really get after Carthage on the defense end and make them work extremely hard to get into the flow of their game, as they have not been in a situation like this in a while."

A check of the Carthage schedule also reveals that, "they have not experienced a close game for some time and with kids at this age level if you can get a team that is so successful to second guess themselves and their success you have the advantage." Indeed the Comets ran roughshod over their Frontier League opponents, surpassing 50 points all

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Raiders hope to keep successful season going

(from page 1)

but once while scoring 70 or more points in 10 of their 19 games. A 56-54 win over New Hartford in December was their only close encounter of the season, with a 59-46 loss to the Spartans standing as the lone blemish on their record thus far.

If that number is to double, the Raiders will need big efforts from leading scorer Cody Green, averaging 18 points per game, and inside threat Chris Jones, a 15 ppg. contributor. Against V-V-S Green knocked down 19 points and Jones had 17 to go with a 13 point effort from Chris Lee as Fulton used a 26-18 fourth quarter advantage to cement its first playoff win since 2007.

And while continued offensive showings from Green and Jones are essential tonight, another key element for the Raiders is the fact that different players have emerged at crucial times to help fuel Fulton's success. "It seems like each game someone new has stepped up and played a vital role in the wins we have had this year, which makes us tough to stop," Kimpland stated. "This group has worked extremely hard and has logged in many hours in preparation for moments like these. This is a great group of guys and they balance themselves out very well as they are very close with one another."

Having already surpassed the performances of recent Raider teams with double-digit victories, a trip to sectionals and a sectional triumph, the coach hopes that this is the start of something big for his Raider side. He needs only look across the bench tonight at a Carthage team that went from 4-13 in 2011-12 to compile records of 18-2, 18-2 and now 18-1 to see that positive momentum is contagious. "We have preached all year raising the expectations and going beyond what people outside of the program believe can be accomplished," Kimpland commented. "We are seeing a great in-

crease in involvement and excitement within the program and hopefully using this year as a platform for years to come. This has been a very enjoyable season and we look to continue to extend our season going into tonight's game. "

He had high praise for the Fulton fans as he concluded by saying, "we look forward to seeing the support we have seen over the last few months at Carthage and hope to take away some of their home court advantage!"

The winner will advance to meet the winner of tonight's #4 vs. #5 match-up between Jamesville-Dewitt and Cortland at 2:45 pm Sunday at Onondaga Community College's SRC Arena.

What's happening at G. Ray Bodley High School?

Calling all seniors! The first payment for the senior trip to New Jersey is due by Friday, February 27. The amount due is \$94 to Mr. Lacey. If you are interested in going or would like more information please see Mr. Lacey in room 125 for more details

The class is also starting a Gertrude Hawk chocolate bar fundraiser. All funds will go toward the Senior trip and Senior Dinner Dance. Anyone interested in selling should see Mr. Lacey in room 125.

The next meeting of the **Fultonian Yearbook** will be on Wednesday after school in room 102.

The **Senior Class** officers meet every Monday after school in room 125 and all seniors are welcome to attend.

Physicals for spring sports will be available at GRB on March 4. Signups are currently underway in the nurse's office to make an appointment.

Spanish Club will be having a game day and snacks after school on Tuesday, Feb. 24 in room 128. Bring your game face!

What's for lunch?

Today: Chicken nuggets with tomato soup and crackers, butternut squash, peas and fruit cup

Wednesday: Pizza with side salad, baby carrots and fresh apple

Start getting your act together NOW!



Wednesday, March 18

sign-up after school in room 119

**Book now for
the prom and
dinner dance!**

Reflections

-THE- Salon & More

608 South 4th Street-Fulton

Call for an appointment today!

Phone: 592-4415

*Proud 25 Year sponsor
of GRB Journalism*

Job Corps offering career technical training interviews in Oswego

Job Corps, administered by the United States Department of Labor, offers free career technical training for 16-24 year olds in auto mechanics, auto body repair, medical and business office, C.N.A., L.P.N., construction, culinary arts, security and more.

The program includes up to two years education and training, campus housing, meals and other services. There is no cost to eligible students. Both high school graduates and non-graduates may apply. If needed, a student can also get a New York State High School Equivalency (TASC) or high school diploma at the same time they train for a career in the Job Corps.

Orientation and interviews will be held at the Oswego Public Library, 120 East Second Street, Oswego, beginning at 10:30 am on March 13 by reserved seating only. Interested students must call admissions counselor David Brown at 478-5529 to reserve their seat and to find out what documents to bring.

French Club Snow Sculptures

Please join the French Club in building snow sculptures. We will be enjoying pizza afterwards. Make sure to dress warm!

- When: February 27th
- Time: 2:30-5:00
- Where: Outside
- Pizza will be served at 4:00.
- Dress warm!

Last call for GRB volleyball tourney

This year's school-wide intermural volleyball tournament is coming up soon and the time to sign up your team is now! There is a limit of 12 teams of eight players per team.

See Physical Education teacher Mrs. Lazarek to sign up. Interested students need to bring a list of the eight team members with a team name and captain. The date of the tournament is this Thursday, February 26 starting at 3 pm and end at approximately 6.

The cost to play is \$5 per person and it will include a t-shirt to wear during the tournament. There will be pizza and beverages on sale. The money raised will be donated to the American Cancer Society. See Mrs. Lazarek or Mr. Lyons for more information.

Send us your pictures of the Red Raiders in action
theraider@fulton.cnyric.org

*** NHS inductions**
*** Clubs**
*** Winter sports**
all needed ASAP

Quote of the day:

"You were given this life, because you are strong enough to live it."
 -Robin Sharma

Keep in touch with the Fultonian Yearbook by liking us on Facebook. Free yearbook drawing at 400 likes!



School of Thought compiled by Maggie Williams and Hope Williams

How will the Raider basketball team do tonight at Carthage?



"They're going to do fantastic."

Mrs. Parkhurst



"They'll do very well."

Levi LaBeef



"I'm not really sure."

Alex Pagan



"They'll do good, they're strong."

Alexis Pagan

Meteorology and you

By Carson Metcalf



Today:



Afternoon snow showers.

19°

Average: 36°
Record: 64° (1984)

Tonight:



Chance snow showers.

13°

Average: 17°
Record: -10° (1993)

Tomorrow:



Chance snow showers.

17°

Average: 36°
Record: 66° (1957)

Former GRB student and current SUNY Oswego junior Carson Metcalf is an aspiring Meteorologist. Look for his daily weather forecasts for Fulton on RaiderNet Daily.