

## VOLLEYBALL

## 'Jacks have mojo working; on 6-0 streak

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The Cloquet volleyball team is on a winning streak following their 3-1 win over the Duluth Denfeld Hunters Thursday, Oct. 29. The Lumberjacks dropped the first game 22-25, but rebounded to win the next three games by scores of 25-12, 25-18, 25-21 to secure their sixth win in a row.

After losing the opening game of the match, the Lumberjacks front row took control as Brenna McClarey hammered down 13 kills, Ava Carlson added 11 kills and Brea Rasmussen chipped in with eight kills.

"We have several players who are able to score points for us," said Cloquet coach Heidi Anderson. "McClarey, Carlson, Rasmussen, and Geneveve Fonoti are all able to put the ball down and give us a balanced attack."

McClarey also put up five blocks in the front row, Carlson added 10 digs and Rasmussen had four ace serves and 14 digs.

"Keelee Grashorn is also working really hard at the middle blocker/hitter position," Anderson said. "With our first two games against Hermantown and Grand Rapids, we only had five or six practices in after tryouts, so we were still working on figuring out who plays what position and who plays next to each other."

The Lumberjacks also got plenty of help from their setter as well. Emerson Rock ran the offense efficiently with 29 set assists to go along with seven kills and seven digs for an all-around impressive game.

"The timing between setters and hitters takes work," Anderson said. "We had a lot of errors in our first few matches, so we have been working hard to



Cloquet's Keelee Grashorn extends to get to a ball on defense during the Lumberjacks 3-1 win over Duluth Denfeld Thursday night. It was the sixth-straight match Cloquet has won. *Dave Harwig / Pine Knot News*

reduce those errors, earn more points, and not rely on the other teams' errors to score points."

In the back row, the Lumberjacks were consistent throughout the lineup, but Elli Willoughby was most impressive with 17 digs.

The win was the sixth victory

in a row since the two opening losses.

"Denfeld was a fun win between two pretty evenly matched teams," said Anderson. "We had played against them a couple of times in summer league so we knew a bit about them. It's harder

to scout with fewer games being played, but we made some nice game adjustments to get better blocking and defensive matchups in the second, third and fourth sets."

The win improved the Lumberjacks record to 6-2 on the

season. If all goes as scheduled in these pandemic times, Cloquet was set to play unbeaten Greenway at Cloquet Middle School Thursday, Nov. 5, then Denfeld again on Nov. 12 and Esko on Friday, Nov. 13.

## DEER OPENER

## Deer hunt memories have twists and turns

Deer hunting season starts tomorrow, but the signs have been there for weeks. Behind shoppers' masks at the Super One grocery store, I've noticed more patrons (men, I think) sprouting beard growth and buying a lot of meat. It has been a cold October. Already in northeastern Minnesota, there has been snow staying on the ground for a few weeks. Now a warmup is upon us for opening day.

The annual deer harvest ritual — some call it a Minnesota state holiday or vacation — runs Nov. 7-22 for most areas around

Carlton County — two full weeks and three weekends.

My dad's family, a big happy bunch, were all outdoorsy and most were deer hunters. My mom didn't hunt, but she was a crucial element in the planning process. It was the one time a year the red insulated food bag was put into service. She'd make homemade bread and about a dozen sandwiches for the occasion. Dad's hunting party could have survived for days with the food that was packed.

Funny, I don't think any of these hunters were big fans of venison, but it was a needed food source when

they were growing up.

Hot coffee in thermoses was another critical component of hunting success. I was a little kid but I usually woke up to the smell of coffee brewing and all the commotion in the house prior to daybreak. We'd wish the hunters good luck, send them off and I, at least, would go back to bed under my warm quilt.

My older brothers hunted with Dad. By the time I was of hunting age he had health issues and had given it up. I appreciated ruffed grouse hunting, and fall is my favorite time of year. There is nothing better than the smell of the evergreens and fallen brown and golden leaves, the warm sun on your face, and chasing those wily



Steve Korby, right, and friends Tom Montgomery and Steve Boss would go deer hunting in the 1970s and a football game would break out.

grouse through the thicket.

The ruffed grouse/partridge species have been on up-and-down population cycles, but I was never a reason for any downturn. When the birds flush, I usually have to change my

underwear, so I never have hit one flying even with my double barrel shotgun. My hunting friends would like to tell you that the partridges I've shot over the years on the ground or in trees were drunk

from eating mountain ash berries, wounded, had their legs frozen in an icy mud puddle, or didn't even have legs.

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## KORBY'S CONNECTIONS



Steve Korby