

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL INSIDER

Titans getting it done at both ends

By MIKE PLANT

Daily Record Sports Writer
WOOSTER — With four experienced players back from a year ago, Keith Snoddy knew what he had at Triway.

He wasn't sure about the rest of his roster, but seven games into the season he's getting the picture, and liking what he sees.

And, at 7-0, what's not to like about the Titans? Although a treacherous schedule awaits when the calendar turns, starting with a visit from Hiland to kick off 2010 on Jan. 2, Triway has been getting across-the-board contributions from everyone Snoddy has called on, including nine Titans playing significant minutes.

"You never know how the roles on a team will play out, how each kid accepts his," Snoddy said. "So far, things have fallen into place real well."

Two games ago, Triway began pulling back its press and concentrating on halfcourt defense, with unmistakable results. Western Reserve and Indian Valley combined to average just 38 points and 30 percent shooting, and for the season, opponents are making just 38.7 percent from the field.

Meanwhile the Titans are shooting 49 percent overall, helped immensely by a 32-of-42 performance — that's 76 percent — in Tuesday's 82-34 pasting of Indian Valley that improved Triway to 4-0 in the Principals' Athletic Conference. "We played really, really well," said Snoddy, "but, to be honest, it all started with defense. We got a lot of turnovers that transitioned into easy baskets, and everything we shot, it seemed, went in."

Triway expected returning starters Zach Houmard, scoring a team-high 15 points a game, and Dana Brooks (10 points, 6.6



Dan Starcher file photo/www.buydrphotos.com

Triway post Jake Lawson (above, right) goes over a Western Reserve defender in last Saturday's 64-42 Titan win at the WQKT-Steve Smith Holiday Hoops Classic. Lawson, a 6-foot-5 junior, scored 14 points in Triway's Tuesday night shellacking of Indian Valley that pushed the Titans' unbeaten start to seven games.

Triway coach Keith Snoddy said junior guard Nolan Wharton (20, below) has taken the team's "biggest jump in improvement from one year to the next." Wharton is averaging 11.7 points off the bench for the Titans while shooting over 50 percent on 2- and 3-pointers.

Tuesday, going 7-of-8 from the field to raise his shooting percentages over 50 on both 2- and 3-pointers.

"Nolan worked so hard in the offseason — he's made the biggest jump in improvement from one year to the next," Snoddy said. "And he's bought into his role, coming off the bench, and when you have a guy come in who can hit 3's, that's a great thing to have."

"(R)efocusing on solid halfcourt defense has really helped us. Now we're playing physically tougher defense, but teams still have to prepare for what kind of pressure we can bring."

Triway coach Keith Snoddy

in, and when you have a shooter who spreads the defense out, other guys can get it inside easier."

Assistant coach Sean Carmichael suggested backing off the full-court pressure and using it instead in smaller doses. With the overall quickness out front, the athleticism of Polen, the physicality of Butcher and the two tall posts, Triway seems built for the halfcourt game.

"I think we got in the habit of gambling too much and getting out of position with our pressure," Snoddy said. "We were winning, but not comfortably, and refocusing on solid half-court defense has really helped us. Now we're playing physi-



Joel Troyer photo/www.buydrphotos.com

cally tougher defense, but teams still have to prepare for what kind of pressure we can bring. It's there, I just think it's more effective using it at different opportunities that may present themselves."

Triway will be presented by challenges through the rest of the regular season and into the Div. III Wooster District, to

which Orrville has been added. The Titans, in addition to Hiland, have two games with Canton Timken and games with Orrville and Wooster remaining.

"I think we'll be tested by tournament time, no question," Snoddy said.

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Area basketball statistics

Boys Basketball			Girls Basketball		
WAYNE CO. ATHLETIC LEAGUE			WAYNE CO. ATHLETIC LEAGUE		
School	Lg.	Overall	School	Lg.	Overall
Northwestern	3-0	3-3	Smithville	4-0	4-1
Dalton	2-1	4-1	Norwayne	4-0	5-2
Rittman	2-1	5-1	Hillsdale	3-1	5-1
Smithville	1-1	4-2	Northwestern	2-2	3-4
Norwayne	1-2	1-3	Waynedale	1-3	3-5
Hillsdale	1-2	2-3	Dalton	1-3	1-6
Waynedale	1-2	3-2	Chippewa	1-3	1-5
Chippewa	0-3	0-4	Rittman	0-4	1-4
OHIO CARDINAL CONFERENCE			OHIO CARDINAL CONFERENCE		
School	Lg.	Overall	School	Lg.	Overall
Madison	2-0	4-1	Orrville	4-0	7-0
Mansfield	2-0	5-0	West Holmes	3-1	5-2
Orrville	1-1	3-1	Mansfield	3-1	5-2
Lexington	3-2	5-1	Lexington	3-2	5-2
Wooster	2-2	4-3	Wooster	2-2	4-3
Clear Fork	1-1	3-1	Madison	2-3	3-4
Ashland	0-2	1-4	Clear Fork	0-4	1-6
West Holmes	0-3	0-5	Ashland	0-4	0-7
PRINCIPALS ATHLETIC CONFERENCE			PRINCIPALS ATHLETIC CONFERENCE		
School	Lg.	Overall	School	Lg.	Overall
Triway	3-0	6-0	Tuscarawas Valley	4-0	6-0
Timken	3-0	5-1	Fairless	2-2	3-3
Tuscarawas Valley	3-1	3-3	Triway	1-3	2-4
CVCA	2-2	3-2	Tuslaw	1-3	1-4
Manchester	2-2	3-3	Indian Valley	0-3	0-7
Indian Valley	1-2	1-4	Timken	n/a	4-3
Tuslaw	0-2	0-3	CVCA	n/a	n/a
Fairless	0-4	0-6	Manchester	n/a	n/a
OTHERS			OTHERS		
School	Lg.	Overall	School	Lg.	Overall
Hiland (IVC)	2-0	3-0	Hiland (IVC)	6-0	6-0
Loudonville (MBC)	2-2	2-3	Loudonville (MBC)	5-0	8-0
Kingsway	Ind.	2-4	Kingsway	Ind.	1-0
Cloverleaf (SL)	1-1	2-3	Cloverleaf (SL)	1-3	2-5
Cent. Christian	Ind.	0-5	Cent. Christian	Ind.	0-4

* Denotes league champion

BOYS LEADERS

SCORING

(players ranked by average)			
Player	G	Pts.	Avg.
J. Bolyard, Orr	4	82	20.7
C. Wray, Clo	5	103	20.6
N. Boyd, Hil	2	41	20.5
C. Caldwell, Smi	5	102	20.4
A. Lowe, KC	6	117	19.5
D. Zickefoose, Lou	4	77	19.2
C. Tasker, Nor	4	66	16.5
D. Kaufman, Hil	2	32	16.0
Z. Wasson, Orr	4	62	15.5
B. Gasser, Ritt	5	76	15.2
Z. Houmard, Tri	6	91	15.1
D. Orr, Smi	5	64	12.8
N. Wharton, Tri	6	75	12.5
T. Cline, Hills	4	47	11.7
N. Davis, Nor	4	46	11.5
L. Smith, Ritt	5	56	11.2
C. Furr, Clo	5	54	10.8
A. Komara, KC	6	63	10.5
J. King, CC	5	51	10.2
D. Brooks, Tri	6	60	10.0

FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE

(Min. 2 made FGs per game)			
Player	FGM	FGA	Pct.
Z. Wasson, Orr	27	42	64.3
D. Zickefoose, Lou	44	79	63.6
N. Boyd, Hil	16	35	60.0
C. Weber, Tri	21	34	61.8
N. Davis, Nor	18	33	55.0
N. Wharton, Tri	24	44	54.5
J. Yoder, Hil	6	11	54.5
D. Sharier, Ritt	23	44	52.2
B. Gasser, Ritt	30	58	51.7
C. Tasker, Nor	23	46	50.0
D. Kaufman, Hil	13	26	50.0
Z. Houmard, Tri	37	77	48.0
R. Moore, Hills	20	43	46.5
C. Caldwell, Smi	36	79	46
A. Lowe, KC	40	87	45.9

3-POINTERS

(Players ranked by made 3-pointers)			
Player	3PM	3PA	Pct.
N. Wharton, Tri	10	20	50
A. Lowe, KC	10	27	37.0
A. Komara, KC	10	34	29.4
T. Chaffin, Nor	10	34	29.4
J. Miller, Way	10	39	25.6
D. Orr, Smi	8	20	40.0
J. Horst, Smi	8	29	27.5
N. Boyd, Hil	6	11	54.5
B. Maxwell, Nor	6	17	35.0
D. Brooks, Tri	6	17	35.2
L. Smith, Ritt	6	18	33.3
P. Rufner, Ritt	6	19	31.6
Z. Houmard, Tri	5	10	50.0
D. Sharier, Ritt	5	11	45.5
J. Gehman, CC	5	12	41.7
C. Gerer, Way	5	12	41.7
G. Weaver, Way	5	11	45.5
S. Haag, Lou	5	15	33.3
C. Stryker, Way	5	15	33.3
L. Rufner, Ritt	5	19	26.3
D. Brooks, Tri	5	27	18.5

FREE THROW PERCENTAGE

(Min. 2 made FTs per game)			
Player	FTM	FTA	Pct.
J. Yoder, Hil	6	6	100.0
A. Lowe, KC	27	32	84.4
M. Pirman, Orr	9	11	81.8
B. Jurkovich, KC	16	20	80.0
Z. Houmard, Tri	12	15	80.0
T. Cline, Hills	17	22	77.2
N. Davis, Nor	10	13	77.0
C. Tasker, Nor	19	25	76.0
T. Kick, KC	15	20	75.0
N. Wharton, Tri	12	16	75.0
D. Brooks, Tri	21	28	75.0
B. Gasser, Ritt	16	22	72.7
J. Miller, Hil	5	7	71.4
T. Orr, Way	15	21	71.4
Z. Fulk, Hills	9	13	69.2
C. Caldwell, Smi	29	42	69.0
J. Bolyard, Orr	8	12	66.7
J. Besancon, Orr	8	12	66.7
R. Crossen, Hills	10	15	66.6
D. Orr, Smi	16	25	64.0
A. Komara, KC	19	30	63.1
L. Smith, Ritt	10	16	62.5
E. Yoder, KC	13	21	61.9
C. Webber, Tri	13	21	61.9
N. Boyd, Hil	15	25	60.0

REBOUNDING

(Players ranked by average)			
Player	G	No.	Avg.
B. Gasser, Ritt	5	63	12.6
D. Zickefoose, Lou	4	50	12.5
D. Kaufman, Hil	2	23	11.5
C. Caldwell, Smi	5	54	10.8
S. Polen, Tri	6	57	9.5
D. Orr, Smi	5	42	8.4
N. Davis, Nor	4	31	7.8
A. Lowe, KC	6	46	7.7
R. Moore, Hills	4	29	7.3
J. Bolyard, Orr	3	21	7.0
L. Rufner, Ritt	5	34	6.8
E. Yoder, KC	6	39	6.5
P. Rufner, Ritt	5	30	6.0

ASSISTS

(Players ranked by average)			
Player	G	No.	Avg.
D. Brooks, Tri	6	46	7.6
J. Besancon, Orr	4	18	4.5
A. Bates, Smi	5	21	4.2
S. Haag, Lou	4	16	4.0

No stats received from Wooster, Dalton, Northwestern or Tuslaw. Coaches: Please send by Tuesday at 5 p.m. by fax (330) 264-1132 or email to cjohanson@the-daily-record.com.

GIRLS LEADERS

SCORING

(players ranked by average)			
Player	G	Pts.	Avg.
A. Gregory, Rit	5	115	23.0
N. Yoder, Hil	5	104	20.8
Ha. Plybon, Orr	5	86	17.2
J. Pew, Smi	5	85	17.0
C. Boreman, Nwn	7	113	16.1
H. Weaver, Hil	5	79	15.8
L. Walker, Woo	6	94	15.7
M. Mocolnikar, Nor	7	107	15.2
B. Orchard, Lou	7	98	14.0
B. Funk, Hills	6	80	13.3
L. Arnold, WH	7	89	12.7
A. VanHorn, Lou	7	89	12.7
K. Stuckey, Hil	5	62	12.4
K. Frizell, Smi	5	60	12.0
B. Kelley, Chi	6	71	11.8
M. Scarberry, Lou	7	80	11.4
G. Baisden, Rit	5	55	11.0
K. Simpson, Clo	7	74	10.6
A. Turner, Woo	6	62	10.3
H. Gallo-Malta, Woo	6	61	10.2
A. Leister, Smi	5	50	10.0
M. Miller, Hil	5	50	10.0

FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE

(Min. 2 made FGs per game)			
Player	FGM	FGA	Pct.
K. Stuckey, Hil	20	31	64.5
K. Simpson, Clo	28	48	58.3
C. Ryan, Lou	28	49	57.1
L. Walker, Woo	40	71	56.3
J. Stutzman, Hil	15	27	55.6
M. Miller, Hil	21	38	55.3
S. Bias, Woo	13	24	54.2
T. Schaffter, Smi	14	26	53.8
N. Yoder, WH	40	76	52.6
H. Gallo-Malta, Woo	22	43	51.2
H. Weaver, Hil	28	55	50.9
L. Arnold, WH	36	73	49.3
F. Baker, Lou	26	54	48.1
Ha. Plybon, Orr	31	65	47.7
K. Prosep, Hills	22	47	46.8
B. Funk, Hills	27	58	46.6
A. VanHorn, Lou	33	71	46.5
J. Pew, Smi	28	61	45.9
M. Davault, Orr	10	22	45.5
K. Frizell, Smi	22	49	44.9
K. Aultz, Orr	18	41	43.9
B. Orchard, Lou	38	87	43.7
L. Snyder, WH	24	56	42.9
M. Fowls, Clo	22	52	42.3
M. Scarberry, Lou	31	76	40.8
B. Molnar, WH	17	42	40.5

3-POINTERS

(Players ranked by made 3-pointers)			
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