

Puyallup Herald 2/10/10

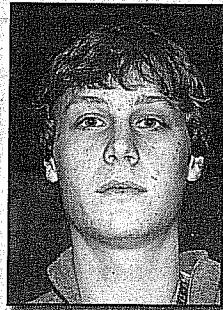
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Athletes of the Week

SELECTED BY EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE PUYALLUP HERALD

Mazda's



Johnny Tveter

Cascade Christian

Tveter, who was being mobbed by a bevy of Cougars fans following the game, knows how big it was for his team to beat the defending state champions (Vashon Island) on the hardwood.

"The feeling we have right now is something that can't be replicated," Tveter said. "Our coaches had a good game plan for this game. We had a great home-court advantage tonight. Our fans were great and were really loud. Any time you get a win against a caliber of a team like them you're going to feel really good about it."

Tveter played an instrumental role in his team's 90-27 victory against the Chimacum Cowboys on Feb. 2. Even though the score was lopsided, Tveter said the Cougars didn't take the Cowboys lightly.

"Even though the score was lopsided, Chimacum was no cakewalk. They've improved a lot since last season," Tveter said.

Cascade Christian Cougars forward Johnny Tveter is the kind of player head coach Jerry Williams leans on when the game is on the line. Tveter, who shoots close to 90 percent from the free-throw line, knocked down 8 of his 9 free throw attempts in a Cougars victory against Vashon Island in January.

"We feel really comfortable with him (Tveter) at the line when the game is on the line," Williams said after the victory against Vashon Island. "He feels really comfortable about it too. We have confidence he will knock down his foul shots and he did. I'm so happy for him right now. He came through for us."



Erika Olsen

Sumner High School

Sumner Spartans shooting guard Erika Olsen is arguably the most reliable player on her basketball team.

Olsen's cerebral approach to the game coupled with her athletic ability have translated into positive results for her team this season on the hardwood. The Spartans have compiled an overall record of 11-6 and are currently in third place in the SPSL 3A division. Olsen scored a team-high 22 points in a 54-48 loss against the Lakes Lancers on Feb. 2.

Olsen is following in her family's footsteps as a Spartans basketball player.

"My uncle and my dad played basketball for Sumner High School," Olsen said. "It's kind of a family tradition. My uncle was the leading scorer on the team when he played here. It's pretty cool that we've all played for Sumner. It is something we all have in common and always talk about. I definitely have big shoes to fill."

Spartans head coach Rob Thayer is confident his team has what it takes to make it to the postseason that is rapidly approaching.

"We just want to make into the (district) playoffs. Once you're in anything can happen. We would like to win a playoff game and go from there," Thayer said.

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