

Kennedy girls get revenge against Wash

Written by Tom Fruehling

Friday, 06 February 2015 23:54 -



As soon as the Kennedy girls figured out early Friday night that they could handle Washington's pressing defense, well, there was no stopping them.

The Cougars finished off the first quarter on a 10-0 run and just kept pouring it on in a 67-35 rout on the Warriors' home court.

"We were really pumped tonight," said heady Kennedy forward Linden Runels. "Wash is a good team, but we wanted to get them back for the last game at our place."

Washington won that one 53-46 back in mid-December when the Cougars suffered one of their rare poor shooting performances. This time around they were running on all cylinders.

"We were really good on the boards," Runels noted.

Indeed, Kennedy out-rebounded Washington 47-16, including a whopping 18-3 advantage on the offensive glass.

Kennedy girls get revenge against Wash

Written by Tom Fruehling

Friday, 06 February 2015 23:54 -

“And we did a great job running the ball out in transition,” the junior defensive specialist added. “We hit the open shooters, and the shooters hit their shots.”

The Cougars shot 43 percent for the game, with five of 13 coming from 3-point range. The Warriors, meanwhile, hit just 28 percent and made only one of 14 from behind the arc.

Kennedy’s dynamic inside duo of six-footers Stephanie Botkin and Lela Sellers were dominant on both ends of the floor. The senior Botkin had 15 points and 10 rebounds, while junior Sellers contributed 14 points and a dozen boards.

“We practiced and talked a lot about getting to the boards,” said the jumping-jack Sellers. “That really helped us get second shots.”

Botkin said the whole team was playing with an extra shot of confidence after knocking off highly rated Iowa City West, 60-54, last week.

“That was huge,” she said. “It showed us we could play with the big boys.” Now winners of seven out of their last nine games, Kennedy (14-5) is currently ranked eighth in Class 5A. But they’re on a roll, according to junior sharpshooter Sydney Hayden. She led her team on Friday with 16 points, including 3-of-5 from long range.

“Everybody on the team is contributing,” she said. “And we’re really playing with a lot of confidence.”

Written by Tom Fruehling
Friday, 06 February 2015 23:54 -

Friday, 06 February 2015 23:54 -

