

Prep Recap for Feb. 7

By Staff Reports

Marshfield girls clinch spot in Class 5A playoffs

Marshfield's girls basketball team has reached the playoffs for the first time since 1989.

The Pirates beat host Springfield 51-39 Tuesday to clinch a spot in the Class 5A postseason. Marshfield improved to 7-3 in league play and has a five-game lead and a tie-breaker edge on the three teams tied for fourth place with five games to go.

“It's going to be a pretty exciting ride home for us,” said Marshfield coach Debbie Dunbar after the game. “It's our first playoff berth since 1989, and we're very proud of the success we've had this season.”

The Pirates outscored Springfield 20-8 in the fourth quarter Tuesday after the teams had been tied entering the final period.

Ali Worthen had 16 points, Brianna George 10 and Taylor Scott nine for Marshfield.

Kenzie Smith and Taryn Usmsen had 10 points each for the Millers.

Marshfield enters the final round of league play with a chance to catch Churchill, now 8-2, for second place in the final standings.

The Pirates bounced back from consecutive losses to the Lancers and league-leading Willamette.

“I give all the credit to the girls,” Dunbar said. “We're still struggling with our shooting, but we got our intensity back and we're finally playing well on the road as a team.”

Marshfield's 1989 team won two playoff games to reach the Class 4A state tournament at the Chiles Center in Portland, where the Pirates finished out of the trophy hunt.