

Final

from B5

had a chance to win with 18 seconds left but couldn't get an off in time.

Klemmer's free throw with 3:44 left in overtime broke the 34-34 tie. Grubough made a free throw and followed that with her perfectly anticipated theft of a Caitlin backcourt pass to put the Chiefs in a bad position.

"Steals make a difference," Thomann said. "You don't get many, but when you do, it's huge. That one was a key."

Monica Mahr had a pair of free throws with 45 seconds to play that made the score 40-36 and the Chiefs held their friendly foe at bay after that.

Klemmer had four points, Mahr two and Mary Lou Liebau two for Salem.

Kissell scored four for Canton, followed by Angie Nou with three, Meghan Meier, Williams and Leuts with two each.

"We'll go back and look at the tape and see if we can make some minor adjustments," Blouin said. "Then we'll go from there."

"This is the fun time of year," Thomann said. "To get the opportunity to do it again is great. Playing good tennis and big games is what makes your season great."

"It doesn't matter when these two teams play, you're going to get a great game."

The end thing is that the battle takes place in the district opener. It means one very good team is going to be finished playing Wednesday night.

ST. AGATHA 69, CLARENCEVILLE 36: Hardford St. Agatha, the Catholic League C-D Division champion, jumped out to a 31-10 halftime lead on route to the non-league victory. Kyrstal Dennis and Sonia Louisa each tallied 14 points for the Aggies (18-1). Clarenceville (10-20) got a team-high 12 points from Jessica Kennedy. Both Marlow contributed nine points for the Trojans, while Rachel Koornike hauled down 13 rebounds.

Hockey

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"I don't want to put pressure on any one player, but we expect Mark to score," Harris said.

The Spartans also return junior Scott Hawley to the line along with backup Chris McComb, a senior. Marano finished 30-10 with a 1.83 goals-against average.

The defense is anchored by third-year varsity player Alan Polyzoski. Newcomer Mike McKeown, who played junior B last year, should also help on the back line.

Two 2nd players, junior forward Mark Harker and Josh Latusau will give Stevenson some firepower up front in its first game on the road.

"We have the potential to develop into a balanced offensive team," Harris said. "I don't have the speed and the physical presence to put a good defenseman in line."

Churchill coach Jeff Hickey, in his eighth season, guides a mix of players from last year's 14-6 squad.

But junior goaltender Ryan McElroy, a second-year All-Oregonian pick and All-State selection with a 2.43 goals-against average, will not be ready for Salween's season opener at East Kootenay because of a bothersome groin injury.

"We have a lot of questions to be answered," Hickey said. "Our success will hang upon us playing well on the road."

"I'm not worried about the league standings or scoring race. There's also talk at the winter camp, but it doesn't win points in the state tournament. We'll see the league (WIAA) in April and hockey team."

Junior center Adam Kray, who scored 26 goals and had 28 assists last year, is the team's captain along with junior defenseman Nate Jakubowski.

Newcomer Sean Stosick, a junior who played last year for the Millett AAA Ice Dogs, gives Churchill stability on defense alongside Jakubowski.

Sean Smith, a junior right winger and teammate of Stosick last year, will add scoring punch on the front line along with returnee Jason Turri, a senior center.

Franklin's Terry Jobbitt, the dean of Observer's coaches, is now in his 18th season and needs just three victories to hit the 200 mark.

The Patriots, 8-16-2 but scoring .500, expect to be much improved.

"We had more try out this year than we've had in over 20 years," Jobbitt said. "I had to let four varsity players go, which is unfortunate. It broke my heart."

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Although All-Star Terry Stosick graduated, the Patriots return a solid nucleus of returnees led by captain Evan McCullough, a senior center, senior defenseman Chad Van Hulle, a fourth-year war-

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