

# Outlaws crush Sutherlin, lose winning streak

By Rongi Yost  
Correspondent

The Outlaws crushed Sutherlin 17-1 in the league opener on Monday, April 6, in a game that only went five innings due to the 10-run rule. The win gave Sisters their 49th straight conference win. Two days later, the long winning streak was broken. The Outlaws fell 3-2 in a heartbreaking loss at Cottage Grove. On Friday, the Outlaws bounced back with a 12-5 win at Sweet Home.

In Monday's game, Sisters cranked out 14 hits, and once again had zero errors. Sutherlin had two hits and two errors in the contest.

Zach Morgan pitched the first four innings for the Outlaws and was the winning pitcher for the Outlaws. Morgan threw a good fastball and recorded three strikeouts. Ryan Cook came in to close out the fifth.

Sisters exploded in the third inning with 12 runs. With one out, freshman Odin Thorson hit a line drive over the left-fielder's head for two RBI and got the rally started. Other big hits in the inning were Morgan's three-run homer to left field, and Justin Harrer's double for an RBI.

Harrer hit his second home run in the fourth, which scored two.

Cody Kreminski also had a nice double and finished two-for-four with three RBI.

Morgan, Harrer, and Kreminski combined for a total of 13 RBI.

Coach Steve Hodges said, "Our defense shined! Our infield-defense was so great. We had excellent play from

Jonathan Luz (third base), Alec Gannon (second base), and Justin Harrer (shortstop). They all made great plays today.

"As happy as I am with our defense today, I'm especially happy with our offense. It was a recipe for success. We said we wanted to make a statement to start off conference, and I think we did."

Two days later, Sisters (No. 3) fell 3-2 at Cottage Grove (No. 4). Sisters scored their two runs off five hits, and once again had a perfect defensive performance with zero errors, but sadly left 13 runners stranded on base. The Lions scored three runs off five hits and committed two errors.



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Justin Harrer had a hot bat for the Outlaws last week, hitting for power and multiple RBI.

“As happy as I am with our defense today, I’m especially happy with our offense. It was a recipe for success.”  
— Coach Steve Hodges

Sisters scored their first run in the third off an RBI-single from Kreminski, and in the fourth, Alec Gannon scored on an error when the ball went under the third-baseman's glove.

Hodges told *The Nugget* that the Outlaws hadn't lost a conference game since 2011, and it was a very emotional loss.

On Friday, the Outlaws were back on track and posted a big win over the Huskies.

Morgan had six strikeouts

in the contest and was the winning pitcher of record.

"Zach got ahead in the count a lot, and he made guys chase pitches that were out of the strike-zone. His fastball was good, and today he added a curve-ball for strikes," said Hodges.

Sisters was on top 3-2 after four innings, and broke it open in the fifth. Every runner in the line-up got on base and the Outlaws tacked on eight runs.

Ben Larson started off with the count at 0-2, and hit a high fastball into right-center for a double. Morgan scored Larson on a single. Thorson hit a double over the center-fielder's head for a double and scored Morgan.

Alec Gannon hit an RBI single, and Jon Luz and Alex Olivier followed with singles.

Harrer drew a walk to load the bases. Ryan Funk's double down the right-field line scored two, and Kreminski's single scored a run. Sisters went up 11-2 and held on for the win.

Harrer went two-for-two with three RBI, Kreminski went three-for-four with an RBI, and Morgan was two-for-four with an RBI.

"With our loss against Cottage Grove, we got to know what it felt like to be

on the other side," stated Hodges. "But, we showed we could bounce back after 48 hours and get after it. The guys showed mental toughness, and they competed and performed, and put the loss behind them."

The Outlaws were to play at home against Elmira on Monday, April 13. They will play at home against Junction City on Wednesday, April 15, and two days later will travel to Sutherlin.

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