

Outlaws claw the Panthers

By Rongi Yost
Correspondent

The boys basketball team showed outstanding play in their 42-28 victory over the Redmond Panthers on Friday, January 9. Earlier in the week, on Tuesday, Sisters suffered a 39-32 loss against North Marion (NM).

An extraordinary defensive effort and steady scoring led to the Outlaws victory over the Panthers on Friday. Sisters stifled Redmond in the first quarter, held them scoreless, and closed the period with a 9-0 advance.

Sisters continued to control the pace of the game and held on to the end. The Outlaws held a 12- to 15-point lead for most of the contest and played as a cohesive unit. Players executed on both ends of the floor and were unselfish throughout.

Ben Larson was sick, and Hayes Moore stepped in and played a steady game at the point. Moore scored eight points and was six-for-six from the line. Steen Johnson stepped up his play at wing and posted 14 points in the game. Keegan Greaney added seven points.

Greaney, Lane Gladden, and Logan Schutte all had strong defensive performances and shut down Redmond's perimeter. Tysen Gill, Connor Schaab, Justin Harrer and Isaac Mackenzie did an outstanding job on the bigger Panther posts and

controlled the boards.

"We really controlled the game from the start and played as a team," said Coach Rand Runco. "It was a good game. The boys are really starting to play team ball and understand our strengths and weaknesses. We are becoming a tough team. It was nice to see Justin (Harrer), who has been out with an injury, start working his way back into shape and the line-up."

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Three days earlier the Outlaws fell 39-32 to North Marion (NM). The Huskies are a very tough team, and the Outlaws did not have a good outing on the offensive end.

The Outlaws held a 20-17 lead at the half but were

outscored 22-12 in the second half.

Runco said, "In the third, a guard got away from us and scored 10 points. That was it."

Sisters did hold NM to 20 points below their average but they just didn't have the punch to get it over the top. The big difference in the contest was turnovers. Sisters had 15 turnovers and the Huskies only had four.

Gill scored seven points, Moore added six and Schaab led the team on the glass.

"The boys played extremely hard and were excellent on the defensive end," said Runco. "We are one of the best defensive teams in the state. We aren't extremely quick, but the boys play great team defense that puts us in a position to win every game."

Runco told *The Nugget*



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Justin Harrer drives past Redmond to score.

that the Outlaws' offensive execution has been poor and they will be focusing on improving in that area.

Sisters will play at Cottage Grove on Friday, January 16, in their first league match-up of the season.

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