

Boys basketball splits two on the hardwood

By Rongi Yost
Correspondent

The Outlaws split their games on the hardwood this past week, to give them a 2-3 record in the Sky-Em League. On Tuesday, January 26, Sisters lost 45-33 at Junction City (JC), but three days later bounced back to record a 57-49 win at home against Elmira.

Sisters played in a very hard game against the Tigers on Tuesday. JC returned three first-team all-league players, which all hurt the Outlaws at some point in the game.

The Outlaws defended very well in the first half of the contest, but just could not get the ball to fall through the hoop. They missed many great looks at the basket, and struggled on their execution.

The Outlaws were held to just five points in the first half, and as teams headed to the locker room Junction City held the lead with a 15-5 advantage.

In the second half, the Outlaws did much better offensively, but were still outscored 31-28.

Sisters kept the Tigers' Hayden Martinez in check the first half, but Martinez scored 15 of his 17 points in the second half.

Keegan Greaney and Steen Johnson led the Outlaws' scoring effort with eight points each, and rebounds were split evenly throughout the team.

"We were disappointed in our performance, although there were some good things late in the game," said Coach Rand Runco. "Junction City played very well, and they are a very hard team to catch up with.

"In the first half, we played well defensively, and really struggled getting shots to fall, and at the same time

we were plagued by turnovers, which cut down our opportunities. We improved offensively in the second half, but defensively we gave up a lot of good looks. The story of the game was really the turnovers, which came in bunches."

"We improved offensively in the second half, but defensively we gave up a lot of good looks. The story of the game was really the turnovers, which came in bunches."
— Coach Rand Runco

In Friday's action, the Outlaws came out on top against the Falcons.

Sisters went down early and struggled to keep Elmira, a very aggressive rebounding and offensive team, under control. At the end of the first quarter, the Outlaws trailed the Falcons 17-8.

The Outlaws fought back and closed the gap as teams approached the end of the second quarter. Elmira hit a late three-point shot at the buzzer that sent the Outlaws into the half down by six, 24-18.

Sisters kept up the battle in the third period and again narrowed the Falcon lead. Elmira dropped in a shot at the end of the third to take a five-point lead with a score of 35-30.

The Outlaws kept at it and caught the Falcons in the final quarter. Ben Saba hit two big shots to give the Outlaws a one-point lead

with little time remaining on the clock.

With just a few seconds left in the game, Sisters fouled. The Falcons hit their first shot, but missed their second, which tied the game. Greaney quickly brought the ball up the court, but the Outlaws were unable to get a good look, and the game went into overtime.

"We really had to dig in," said Runco. "Steen Johnson really stepped up as a leader, and inspired the team in a final huddle to get a good start to overtime."

Sisters jumped on the Falcons in overtime and beat them 14-6. The Outlaws were 10-for-13 in overtime from the line, and 13-for-16 from the line in the final two quarters of the game.

"The kids really handled adversity well," said Runco. "Our guards really stepped up in this game and took it at them. I am excited about this, because it is what we have been waiting for. I think they really took the game away from Elmira.

"It was a really good team effort, and the kids were mentally tough down the stretch. We are proud of them. Our league is very tough and we are learning to play a complete game on both ends of the court. On most nights, our defense gives us a chance to win, but tonight our offense really stepped up and hit the shots we needed to be in the position to win."

Hayes Moore had a



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Steen Johnson goes up for two against Elmira.

terrific game for the Outlaws with 19 points, four assists, and four steals. Steen Johnson had 11 points, six assists, and four boards, and also contributed multiple big plays and rebounds just when the Outlaws needed it.

Keegan Greaney recorded eight points and four steals,

and Scott Waddell finished with 10 points. Ben Saba played great minutes off the bench and had the two big free throws that gave the Outlaws the lead.

Sisters was scheduled to have a bye on Tuesday, February 2. On Friday, February 5, the Outlaws will play at Sutherlin.

Budget Blinds **Motorized Window Coverings**

Only Somfy Certified Dealer in Central Oregon
Hunter Douglas motorization certified

25% OFF
Exclusive Signature Series window treatments by Budget Blinds

*** PLATINUM EXPERT somfy

Window Treatments for all budgets • Locally owned & operated

541-788-8444 FREE CONSULTING www.BudgetBlinds.com

CCB Licensed #197715 | Bonded | Insured | 30+ Years Experience
Offer valid through Budget Blinds of Deschutes County only. Offer good through 3/31/16 and not valid with any other offers.

Touch of Class Tours
www.touchofclasstours.com
connie@touchofclasstours.com

WINNEMUCCA
MARCH 11-13 | \$89 PPDO
Receive \$30 slot play/\$15 food coupons

RENO/LAUGHLIN/DEATH VALLEY
MARCH 20-27 | \$575 PPDO
8 days/7 nights
(includes Scotty's Castle!)

NEW DATE OREGON CASINOS
APRIL 13-15
\$279 PPDO
Visit 5 casinos: Spirit Mtn., Chinook Winds, Three Rivers, The Mill & Seven Feathers. Receive food credits/slot play/1 free breakfast.

HAWAII CRUISE
APRIL 21-30
Includes air, taxes/transfers, 2 pre-nights ocean view (w/breakfast) at Sheraton Princess Kaiulani. 8 day/7 night cruise. Inside cabins starting at \$3,150 PPDO.

TOPAZ LODGE
MAY 5-8 | \$149 PPDO
Receive \$30 slot play/\$15 food coupons

PENDLETON UNDERGROUND "COME TO LIFE" TOUR
MAY 15-16 | \$289 PPDO
Visit Pendleton's historic past. Includes breakfast, dinner, woolen mills & more!

Connie Boyle
541-508-1500
P.O. Box 615
Sisters, OR • 97759

CONCEAL CARRY PERMIT CLASS

OREGON - UTAH VALID 35 STATES

Thursday, February 4
1 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Best Western Ponderosa Lodge
500 Hwy. 20 W., Sisters

OR/UT (valid in WA) \$80
or OR-only \$45

360-921-2071 | Call or Text
FirearmTrainingNW@gmail.com
www.FirearmTrainingNW.com