

## Girls tennis doubles team earns win

By Rongi Yost  
Correspondent

The Lady Outlaws played their first regular season match under sunny skies on Thursday, March 31, at Stayton High School. The team was missing a few key players due to spring break, but still finished with some good matches.

Alana Lukens and Engracia Diez won at the No. 1 doubles spot. The duo defeated Jordan Watkins and Karina Velasco 6-4, 7-5. Due to spring break, Coach Susan Fullhart hadn't finalized the lineup until the day prior to the match, and told *The Nugget* that Diez was surprised and intimidated at first when she realized she was playing No. 1 doubles.

"After a couple of games, I told Engracia that I wanted her to act like she belonged out there, and her demeanor changed," said Fullhart. "Both girls played well from the back court. Alana was solid on her service-returns and as usual, was tenacious at the net. She literally scares people up there, which is exactly what you want from a doubles player. I think this was a huge confidence



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Alana Lukens, with partner Engracia Diez, won at the No. 1 doubles spot. (Photo from a previous event).

builder for these girls."

At No. 3 doubles, Ashley Adams and Alexa Asson lost 6-7 (7-9), 2-6, to Claire Jones and Alexa Bender. Adams and Asson played a strong first set, and were close to the win. They continued their strong effort in the tiebreaker, and ran down balls that looked impossible. However, the match just didn't go their way.

Lacey Gilmore also gave a valiant effort at the No. 1 singles position. Gilmore lost 4-6, 3-6 to Miranda Ritchey.

Fullhart said, "Lacey played a great match against a solid opponent. She played solidly throughout the match, but I was especially happy to see her going into the net when she got the chance. She won a lot of points with her volleys. It's an awesome addition to her solid back-court game."

The Outlaws were to play at Cascade on Tuesday, April 5. On Friday, April 8, the Outlaws will play at Junction City with North Bend.

## Vehicle strikes dog, arrest made

A Bend man was taken into custody after allegedly killing a dog with his speeding vehicle.

On March 30, at about 6:20 p.m., Oregon State Police received a report of a hit-and-run involving a dog near 65100 Gerking Market Rd. in Tumalo.

According to the victim, he was on the west shoulder of Gerking Market working on his property when he observed a vehicle traveling northbound at a high rate of speed. He said as the vehicle approached, he motioned for the driver to slow down. The victim stated the driver accelerated and swerved directly at him, crossing into the oncoming lane of travel. The victim's dog, an adult dalmatian, was struck by the vehicle in the southbound lane of the road. After striking the dog, the vehicle continued northbound on Gerking Market at a high rate of speed (the victim estimated 80 mph). The dog died at the scene.

Troopers determined the suspect vehicle was a charcoal gray 2006-2009 Mustang based upon vehicle parts remaining at the scene and the description provided by the victim.

Oregon State Police notified several media outlets and received multiple tips on the possible suspect and where he resided.

On March 31, Troopers made contact with Bruce A. Hoover, age 65, of Bend, at his residence. Hoover's vehicle had recent damage which he stated was from striking the dog. Hoover was later arrested for Criminal Mischief, Reckless Driving, Menacing, Fail to Perform Duties of Driver, Reckless Endangering, Aggravated Animal Abuse, and Fail to Perform Duties of a Driver (Property Crime). Hoover was booked at the Deschutes County Jail and later released on his own recognizance.

Oregon State Police is asking any witnesses to this incident to call 503-375-3555.

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