

Girls lacrosse plays in three tough games

By Rongi Yost
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The Lady Outlaws played two games on Saturday, April 2, the first against Corvallis High School (CHS) and the second against Crescent Valley High School (CVHS). Sisters lost 10-5 to Corvallis and then fell 13-12 in a very close game against Crescent Valley.

Sisters' first game on Saturday against the Corvallis Spartans was full of hard contact, and at the half the Outlaws trailed 5-3, with goals from Sydney Head, Mia Cook, and Katelyn Josten.

In the second half, Head scored her second goal of the contest, and Bree Papworth added a goal.

CHS had a very tall, strong center and the Outlaws tried out three different centers against her: Head, Josten, and Marissa Young. With Young at center, the Outlaws started to chip away and get some draw controls. Young tallied four draw controls and also had five fouls.

Addy Baney had a 33 percent save rate in the box, with 15 shots on goal and five saves.

Coach Mikaela Trott said, "Corvallis played a physical game with strategic shots that our defense ultimately couldn't end up holding. It was a very tough loss for us, but up to this point CHS had been undefeated, so we knew it would be a hard game. We

wore them out, and ran them into the ground, which helped Crescent Valley beat them in the next round-robin style game day."

Sisters lost 13-12 in overtime to Crescent Valley. The Outlaws started out slow, and Trott told *The Nugget* it took a while for them to come out of the fog and find their rhythm.

After eight minutes of play, CVHS held an 8-1 lead. Trott called a much-needed time-out and the Outlaws were able to turn things around. The Outlaws scored four goals, and only allowed the Raiders one goal, to close the gap to 9-5 at the half.

Sisters really started to fight back, and finished with a total of 28 ground balls, which according to Trott is a game-changer.

Trott noted Sophia Bianchi, a freshman defender, as the Outlaws' big game-changer.

"Sophia stepped in and was the reason that our momentum shifted in the game," said Trott. "Our defense was looking slow and was letting the opposing team's offense control the field. We have been working on a new defensive play, where our low defense calls, 'Crash!', and two people slide to the ball carrier, doubling them and forcing them to make a bad pass or push them out of bounds, while the rest of the defense slides to cover the next closest man.

This hadn't been happening all game, which was why they were beating us so badly.

"Sophia called our play, sprinted to the ball, causing (the) CVHS ball carrier to panic, make a bad pass, and Sophia came up with the ball and got it to the offense. Having her step up as a leader on the field made everyone wake up. After that, we were neck-and-neck with goals."

Josten quickly scored three goals, Taylor Schneider scored four, one with a beautiful assist from Josten behind the goal and a wrap across the crease for the goal, and Marissa Young scored five.

Assists were spread out between Ellie Cook (two), Head (two), and one each from Mia Cook, and Mackenna Jones.

The score was 12-12 with just seconds left in the game. The Outlaws had the ball and missed a shot with five seconds left. The game went into Golden Goal overtime, which means that the first team to score wins. The Raiders scored a goal within the first 30 seconds, and the game was over.

Earlier in the week, on Monday, March 28, the Outlaws lost 14-12 to the West Salem Titans. Sisters trailed 7-5 at the half and lost by two in the very close contest.

In Monday's action at West Salem, the Titans were a very physical team, had six substitutes, and were able

to mix up their very skilled players. Sisters played with no substitutes and held their own throughout the contest.

“ We improved on defense, and had good communication and defensive strategy. — Coach Mikaela Trott ”

Several Outlaws contributed goals. Marissa Young led the squad with five goals, and also caused two turnovers. Bree Papworth scored three goals, and two stood out: one from a gorgeous penalty shot from the center hash of the eight-meter mark, and another where she ran from midfield in a sprint and made a shot into the left-hand top corner of the net. Katelyn Josten scored two great goals for Sisters, one in particular, where she wrapped the crease and then shot the ball over her shoulder right past the goalie and into the back of the net. Taylor Schneider also scored two goals.

Makila Lajko stepped in as goalie for the first time in over two years, did a tremendous job, and took shots to the head and the ankles. Lajko had countless saves, and was a magnet to the ball, with a save rate over 60 percent.

Sierra Hummel stepped up

her game as a communicator for the defense as a lead home defender. Coach Trott told *The Nugget* she used her experience to outsmart her opponents and to keep goals from happening, all while playing with smashed fingers.

Sophia Bianchi also played strong as a defender. Bianchi saw lots of time at midfield, and ran relentlessly with great stamina throughout the contest. Katelyn Josten played at center, and had many draw controls throughout the game.

Trott stated, "We improved on defense, and had good communication and defensive strategy. We were able to slow down fast breaks and we also improved on not getting defensive goals, such as shooting space and three seconds."




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