

# Girls tennis plays close matches

By Rongi Yost  
Correspondent

The girls tennis team played two very close matches against North Bend (NB) and Junction City (JC) at JC on Friday, April 8. The Outlaws tied 4-4 in matches with both teams, but won one and lost one on games. NB won on games 71-66, and Sisters defeated JC in games, 75-60.

In the match against NB, Sisters' doubles teams cleaned house, but unfortunately it wasn't quite enough to get the win.

At the No. 1 doubles spot, Alana Lukens and Mykaila Hartman defeated Drew Diefenbaugh and Macy Metcalf 6-3, 6-3. Hartman hit some great lobs, which set Lukens up for a lot of great finishes at the net.

Anni Stadel and Engracia Diez dominated at No. 2 doubles, and beat Lindsey Varga and Dezrea Sonnabend 6-0, 6-2. Diez was had steady play from all areas of the court, and Stadel showed her experience by seeing the court, and placing the ball in strategic places.

Nika Chick and Emily Skalda teamed up for the first time at No. 3 doubles. The duo defeated Madison Platt and Nichole Grover 7-5, 6-2.

"I could not believe their poise and communication relative to their experience," said Coach Susan Fullhart. "As is evidenced by their score, they solved the puzzle of their match, and really dominated in the second set."

Maggie Bidasolo and Kayla Neil also played together for the first time, and wrapped up the sweep in doubles at the No. 4 spot, with a 6-4, 6-3 win over Ashley Moffitt and Claire Peters.

"Competition brought out the best in both of these girls," said Fullhart. "They really wanted to win, and competed hard. They both served

consistently, and Kayla was amazing from the back court."

NB has a very strong singles line-up, and consequently the Outlaws' singles players had a rough time, and lost all four singles matches.

The next match was just the opposite. JC had a very strong doubles line-up and all the Outlaws doubles teams lost, but the singles earned wins. The Outlaws came out on top after the tie, due to games won.

At No. 1 singles, Lacey Gilmore defeated McKenzie Monter 6-3, 6-2.

"Lacey played great all day today," said Fullhart. "She hit well off both sides. She was able to confidently come in and finish points from the net. She showed her fitness by playing solid tennis from start to finish today."

Hawley Harrer (No. 2 singles) beat Caitlin Victory 6-0, 6-1.

"Hawley showed herself to be a seasoned athlete on the court today," stated Fullhart. "Her forehand was unbelievably consistent. She had the most decisive singles win of the day, and still was not completely satisfied. The kind of high standard she sets for herself, along with her competitive nature and athleticism, bodes well for Hawley's tennis future."

Mary Florian defeated Ally Lucas 6-1, 6-1, due to her very consistent play. Florian made Lucas hit a lot of balls. She hit most of the balls to the

open court, which made things more difficult for Lucas.

Nika Chick played in her first singles match ever (No. 4), and did an amazing job. Chick beat Chloe King 6-2, 6-1. Chick played a rough first game, which gave her opponent a moment of hope, but then proceeded to quickly finish the match.

"Nika's speed and athleticism was on display as she ran down ball after ball," said Fullhart. "It was a fun match to watch."

Fullhart told *The Nugget* that the day proved to be just what the Lady Outlaws needed.

"We were able to get some wins, and see a lot of our players compete," said Fullhart. "Our line-up is finally really starting to take shape. Taylor Eagon had the misfortune of playing against both the strong singles and doubles line-ups. Relative to how our other players did in their matches, Taylor won a lot of games for us, and on a day when winning or losing came down to games, she played great and competed hard, and contributed positively to our outcome in spite of the fact she didn't win her matches."

On Tuesday, April 5, the Outlaws lost 8-0 to Cascade.

Sisters was to play Corbett at home on April 12. On Friday, April 15, the Outlaws will take on the Henley Hornets at home at Black Butte Ranch. On Saturday, Sisters will participate in the Madras Invite.

# Debt relief is part of school bond proposal

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

A \$1.27-million portion of the Sisters School District's \$10.7-million bond funding request that goes to a vote May 17 is dedicated to paying off a full faith and credit obligation undertaken by the school district in 2007.

The district has six annual payments of \$240,000 still remaining on the original \$2.1 million obligation. The funds for those payments come out of the district's general fund, and district staff and board members note that eliminating the debt will free up those dollars to pay staff.

"This is an aspect of the bond where we will see immediate results," said school board member Amanda Clark.

Superintendent Curt Scholl notes that most of the district's operating budget is devoted to staff costs, so losing \$240,000 per year to debt payment takes money out of the classroom.

"Whether that means we're saving people or adding people, 80 percent of our budget is people," he said.

The original FF&C obligation was undertaken to pay for work that would be commonly paid for through a

bond. At the time of the issuance, Sisters' enrollment was at a peak, which meant that state funding was substantial enough to pay the debt off without major impact on operations.

A deep and prolonged recession brought a decline in enrollment and in state funding. Budgets were cut back and the \$240,000 annual payment has loomed larger and larger through those straitened times.

The FF&C obligation funded a new roof at Sisters Elementary School, along with insulation and new classroom ceilings. It also paid for fiber optic installation, modular classrooms, HVAC and lighting upgrades at SES. It also funded new classroom space, remodeling, and ADA upgrades at Sisters Middle School.

The bond request also includes \$2.7 million for safety and security upgrades at the schools; \$3.2 million in repairs and maintenance, including repairs to the high school roof (in lieu of replacement); \$3.4 million in improvements to Reed Stadium to make the track usable and the stadium ADA compliant, a new tennis court complex, and a new ball field.

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