

Outlaws post win over Sweet Home

By Rongi Yost
Correspondent

The Outlaws beat the Huskies 43-38 on the road at Sweet Home on Friday, February 3. Although the Huskies don't have a lot of tallies in the win column, they played hard and gave the Outlaws a run for their money in their best performance of the season.

Sisters went down early at the start of the first quarter, but stormed back with outstanding offensive execution and beat the Huskies by seven in the first quarter, 16-9. The Huskies outscored the Outlaws nine to six in the second quarter, but the Outlaws held onto the lead and entered the half with a 22-15 advantage.

Sweet Home penetrated early and the Outlaws had trouble containing them. On the flipside, the Huskies didn't have an answer for Ty Horner on the inside and the Head brothers on the glass. Tanner and Tyler's relentless effort on the glass kept the Huskies on their heels. In fact, the Huskies scored only four points from the field in the first half, with their remaining points coming from the stripe.

Coach Rand Runco told *The Nugget* that every time Sisters pulled to a lead, they would turn it over in the half-court. The Huskies played hard and tested the Outlaws guards, who responded with tough play, answered their aggressiveness, and went right at them.

It was a battle on the hardwood, and the Outlaws controlled the game most of the way. Sweet Home cut the score to one in the final quarter, and Sisters answered with a ball inside to Horner, who put in a great shot. Sisters held on to win by five.

Keegan Greaney had one of his best rebounding



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Ben Saba drives for the hot-handed Outlaws.

and overall games. Greaney played very well on the defensive end and was key in breaking the press and getting the Outlaws into their sets. Several times while under pressure, he was able to break their press and find the right person for an easy bucket.

Horner finished the game with 17 points, and Tanner Head scored nine. Greaney, Tyler Head, Ben Saba, and Jack Berg all pitched in with four points each. Greaney, Saba, and Berg all recorded four rebounds.

"The boys played well against a great environment," said Runco. "The crowd and band were incredibly loud and it was a really fun game to be in."

The win separated the league, with Sisters,

Sutherlin, and Cottage Grove all moving forward to a 5-1 record and a three-way tie. The Outlaws were to play at home against Cottage Grove on Tuesday, February 7. On Friday, February 10, the Outlaws will travel for a game at Sutherlin. Both CG and Sutherlin boast efficient and explosive offenses, and games should be a dogfight to the end.

Runco said, "We will need to get stops and scores, and keep the turnovers down and we will be in a great position for post-season play. The boys really play well together and are getting better and better chemistry. Trusting each other and sharing the ball on offense and communicating on the defensive end are our keys."

Salmon return to Deschutes River

BEND (AP) — Oregon's Deschutes River saw a large number of native sockeye salmon return to its waters in 2016.

A total of 536 sockeye salmon returned to a complex of hydroelectric dams and reservoirs called the Pelton Round Butte Hydroelectric Project, reported *The Bulletin*. That's a significant improvement over recent years — since 2010, annual returns have ranged between 19 and 86 fish.

"We are not pointing to this and saying mission accomplished, but at the same time it's a really great result for 2016," said Steven Corson, a spokesman for complex co-owner Portland General Electric. "Our goal is to have sustained and harvestable fish runs, but we are still in the beginning stages."

The dam complex is owned by PGE and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. It stretches over about 20 miles of the Deschutes River west

of Madras.

The complex was originally designed in the 1950s and 60s to include fish passages, but the passages were not effective. Round Butte Dam owners are now trying to reintroduce spring chinook and steelhead in addition to sockeye salmon.

Corson said salmon returns are often unpredictable and the reintroduction efforts are still in the early stages.

More than 93 percent of the sockeye originated in the Middle Deschutes basin, according to genetic testing received by Portland General Electric in January. Most of those came from a lake created by the Round Butte Dam called Lake Billy Chinook.

While waiting for new data, scientists continue to monitor water quality and work on habitat-improving projects in the area.

"It's an ongoing, scientific-based effort to maximize the potential for a successful year," Corson said.

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