

Outlaws advance players in districts

By Rongi Yost
Correspondent

The Outlaws tennis squad played in the first round of the district tournament held at Stayton on Thursday, May 4.

The tournament this year was set up in an entirely different manner than teams are used to.

Instead of the tournament being held over a two-day period, it was decided that the tournament be held over three days and in three different locations. On day one, organizers split the draw in half. Sisters competed against North Marion, Philomath, Stayton, and Cascade at Stayton; and the other four teams competed at Madras.

Jonny Gurney (No. 2 seed) dominated the court in his 6-0, 6-1 win over James Erickson from Philomath.

“Jonny had a super-strong showing,” said Coach Bim Gander. “Erickson was a pretty good player, but Jonny really took it to him and recorded a surprisingly easy win. He’s on the cusp of getting the No. 4 seed next week, but it can’t be guaranteed.”

Josh Kizziar (No. 2 singles) beat Logan Moore, who is Stayton’s strongest player. Josh posted an easy 6-1 win in the first set, but

fell behind in the second 3-2, and 4-3, both at service break. Kizziar battled back to win the second set 6-4.

Jed Kizziar and Jacob Gurney posted a 6-2, 6-2 win over Carlisle and Crouser, Philomath’s No. 2 team. The duo was expected to tally the win, as they defeated Philomath’s No. 1 team in the head-to-head match-up earlier in the season.

Gander told *The Nugget* that Kizziar and Gurney are likely to receive the No. 4 seed at Crook County on Wednesday, and if they can live up to that seed they’ll go to state.

The Outlaws were able to avoid the rain, thunder, and lightning during the match, and enjoyed a great day of tennis. However, the storm hit with a vengeance on their drive back to Sisters.

“It was raining sideways, and there was thunder and lightning,” said Gander. “We just crawled home. The only time I’ve seen harder rain is when I got caught in a hurricane in Florida years ago.”

The Outlaws will advance to the second day of districts, which will be held at Crook County (CC) on Wednesday, May 10, and conclude on Thursday, May 11, at Madras. All nine teams will come together and face each other at CC.

Outlaws win two over Lions

By Tom Mauldin
Correspondent

Senior left-hander Amanda Smith struck out 19, homered and had plenty of offensive support as Sisters High School’s varsity softball team won a pair of Sky-Em League games over Cottage Grove last week.

By winning, 12-1 and 9-8, the Outlaws improved to 4-7 in Sky-Em League play and 7-11 overall.

Smith homered and struck out nine and allowed just hits in the first game victory. SHS broke open a 1-1 game with two runs in the third, four in the fourth, and five in the fifth to record the five-inning run-rule victory.

In addition to Smith’s homer, three Outlaws had big days at the plate – Sophia Affatati and Savannah Ryan had three hits and Cassidy Ling-Scott went four-for-four. Smith also had two singles. Kylie Steiner also singled twice and Grace Maiden and Brenda Isarraraz each had a base hit.

Smith had 10 strikeouts in the second game, but it was the Outlaws’ offense that keyed the double-header sweep. SHS pounded out 20 base hits in the 9-8 win. All totaled, 10 Outlaws had base hits.

Sisters jumped out to an 8-0 lead, stretched it to 9-0 in the sixth, then held off a pair of four-run innings by the Lions.

Smith, Ryan, Steiner,



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Amanda Smith pitched for two wins, also hitting a home run and a double vs. Cottage Grove.

Graciela Isarraraz and Sarah Hartford had two base hits; and Rylee Funk, Ling-Scott, Maiden, Nancy Montecino and Denise Tapia added a base hit each.

“Overall we are seeing a lot of hard work coming together,” said second-year Head Coach Dave Smith. Graciela and Brenda Isarraraz are getting better each game along with Denise Tapia. We still have some fundamentals to work on, but we are

becoming more competitive.”

The Outlaws will be short-handed for their upcoming game versus Sweet Home on May 9 as three players—Amanda Smith, Graciela Isarraraz and Rylee Funk—will miss the game due to medical issues.

Following the Sweet Home game, SHS will close out the season against Junction City for a double-header on May 12.

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