

Lady Outlaws snap two-game losing streak

By Rongi Yost
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The Lady Outlaws snapped their two-game losing streak with a 47-29 road win at Sweet Home on Tuesday, January 22.

Sisters was tenacious on defense and pressed the Huskies all four quarters. In the first quarter, teams played even and at the close of the period the Outlaws held a slim one-point lead at 6-5. In the second quarter, the Outlaws continued to play tough defense and really started to hit their shots. At the half they'd built a substantial 24-15 advantage.

The Outlaws came out aggressive and in charge at the start of the third. They scored immediately and continued to widen the gap. Sisters' tenacious pressure wore down the Huskies, and the Outlaws continued to convert on the offensive end and knocked down big shots. Sisters outscored the Huskies 23-14 in the final half and easily earned the win.

Meagan Greaney said, "This win was a great way to end the first half of league. During the second half, we played aggressively, and our press was extremely effective in forcing turnovers. All of us trusted the game plan and played tough. We feel confident heading into the second half of league because we have had really focused and intense practices these past couple of weeks. Recently, our team has been playing very well together and we're starting to click on the court."

Sisters had balanced scoring throughout the squad with nine different players contributing points. Lexi Stewart led the team with 11 points, and Greaney followed with 10. RylieReece Morgan and Payden Petterson scored six points each, Kaylee Huber had five, Sophia Bianchi and Isabelle Spitler posted three points each, Sydney Head had two, and Gracen Sundstrom added one.

Sisters was also a force on the glass. Morgan pulled down nine rebounds and Greaney had eight. Head and Petterson grabbed four boards and Bianchi recorded three.

The Jewel Sisters

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Spitler, Stewart, and Morgan each had three steals.

Coach Brittney Niebergall-Brown said, "We played very well. I really loved our team's aggressive defense. We pressed the entirety of the game and created some scoring opportunities for our offensive game. We pressed on makes and misses and tried to make Sweet Home as uncomfortable as we could, and we rebounded with more authority against a much taller and bigger opponent. We also limited our turnovers and were able to control more of the game from the guard position, and that really helped our tempo as a team."

The previous week was a completely different story. The Outlaws struggled to get points on the scoreboard and dropped their games against Philomath and Stayton.

On Tuesday, January 15, Philomath's size, strength, and skill was no match for the Outlaws. In the first quarter, Sisters went down 0-21 before they were able to score. With two-and-a-half minutes left in the period, Isabelle Spitler hit a nice shot from behind the arc to give the Outlaws their first and only score in the quarter.

In the second half, Sisters did a better job on their



Sophia Bianchi drives into the lane against Stayton.

offensive execution. There were a couple highlights for the Outlaws in the third quarter: Sundstrom stole the ball, and drove the floor for the score, and Bianchi grabbed an offensive board and made a put-back for two.

In the final period, freshman Emma Lutz drove and made a nice lay-in, and also hit a three-pointer, for the Outlaws' last five points in the game.

"The athleticism of Philomath really made it difficult for us from the start of the game," said Niebergall-Brown. "Our girls played hard throughout the game and were able to put together

a more productive second half. We are still challenging our girls to stay focused with high energy for all four quarters of the game."

Three days later at Stayton, it was a similar situation. The Outlaws were held scoreless in the first quarter, and at the half trailed 24-8. The Eagles continued to hit their shots and outscored Sisters 19-11 in the second half.

The Lady Outlaws were scheduled to host Newport on Tuesday, January 29. They will play on the road at Cascade on Friday. The Outlaws are currently 3-3 in league play, and 5-13 overall.

Parent company of Bulletin files for bankruptcy

BEND (AP) — Western Communications, the parent company of *The Bulletin*, has filed for bankruptcy.

The Bulletin says court filings made Tuesday show the company owes more than \$10 million to more than 1,000 creditors and has assets of \$10 million to \$50 million.

Its largest unsecured creditor is newsprint supplier Page Cooperative Inc. of King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, which is owed about \$946,000.

Western Communications previously filed for Chapter 11 protection in 2011 following a three-year dispute with Bank of America, the company's largest creditor at the time.

The company emerged from Chapter 11 protection in April 2012.

Western Communications is also the parent company of *The Baker City Herald* and four other Oregon publications, as well as two California newspapers.

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