



PHOTO PROVIDED

Torin Greaney won sixth-grade honors and will represent Sisters in statewide chess competition.

## Sisters shines in chess tourney

Last Saturday, 21 Sisters school kids competed in the Central Oregon chess tournament, with the winners moving on to represent Sisters at state competition in Portland.

The main auditorium at Ridgeview High School was full to capacity and each participant had to play five rounds — a tremendous feat of concentration for the younger children.

Sisters had great success, with Brennan Frutos and Chris Roach qualifying from fifth grade, and Torin Greaney and Ashton King winning sixth grade and high school respectively.

The elementary (K-4) team finished third and was invited to represent Sisters in Portland.

Also representing the community, Sisters Christian Academy had three participants with Rameen Vahdat qualifying for State.

Sisters' chess program is in need of volunteers or simply people willing to play against the kids. If you have the time and know even rudimentary chess, reach out to Jennifer King at the RE/MAX office (opposite The Open Door) on Hood Avenue.

## Lady Outlaws wrap up league play

By Rongi Yost  
Correspondent

The Lady Outlaws were smothered by the Warriors in a final score of 59-13 in their final game of league play held at Philomath on Monday, February 18.

It was a tough first quarter for Sisters as they were outscored 21-6. The second quarter proved to be even worse as they were held scoreless and trailed 39-6 at the half. The Outlaws were unable to keep up with the Warriors, who played like a well-oiled machine. Sisters was outscored 20-7 in the second half and recorded the loss.

Isabelle Spitler led the Outlaws with five points, and Payden Petterson added three. Meaghan Greaney had six rebounds in the contest, and Petterson grabbed five. Sydney Head recorded four rebounds and two steals.

Coach Brittane Niebergall-Brown said, "We were outmatched skill-wise and physicality-wise. We struggled offensively to get good shots and we struggled defensively to challenge their scorers. Despite the struggle, the girls played extremely hard and with grit. There is a reason why Philomath is competing for the league title, and we give a lot of credit to them for their consistent high level of play."

Sisters finished the season 5-7 in league play, and 7-17

overall.

Niebergall-Brown told *The Nugget* that the coaches felt the Outlaws had a successful season in the sense of starting to rebuild the program and putting a certain emphasis on specific qualities of the program.

"Our main emphasis has been focused around having effective effort and unmatched energy every day in practice and in games," said Niebergall-Brown. "We did win seven games and there were three others that I thought we could have won if our play would have been better at the beginning of the year. Many of our successes weren't just in wins, but in the improvement of play and the quality of young ladies on and off the court that made up our basketball program."

Niebergall-Brown said that the team is still not where she wants it be in terms of fundamentals and skill-work, but noted they made a lot of progress and have to keep moving forward and look at the long-term projection of the program.

"We will get there, but it is going to take some time for it to be what I would like us to look like skill-wise and playing-wise," she said. "We saw remarkable improvement in our players from day one to the end of the year. However, we still have a long ways to go to be able to compete with the top-tier teams. I can confidently say that this group of



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Sydney Head drives down court in her last game as an Outlaw.

girls has inspired and paved the way for many future Lady Outlaws to come. We are looking forward to spring

and summer basketball, and continuing to strengthen the Sisters girls basketball program."

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