

Outlaws fall to Cottage Grove on hardwood

By Rongi Yost
Correspondent

The Outlaws fell 30-44 to Cottage Grove at home on Tuesday, December 17.

The Outlaws started off cold, didn't have good opportunities to score, and when an opportunity was there they couldn't score. They were held to just two points for the first six minutes of the game, but in the last two minutes were able to cut the lead in half and close out the quarter 6-12.

Sisters did a much better job in the second period. Weber hit a three-ball, and a driving lay-up to

narrow the Lions' lead to 11-16. In the last 2.5 minutes, Nicklous and Linn made lay-ins and Scholl and Linn both went two-for-two on their free-throw attempts to give the Outlaws a 19-16 lead to close out the first half.

It was a brutal second half for the Outlaws. They went cold and were unable to get a basket to fall the entire third quarter. Their first score came in the fourth with 2:39 left in the game. Sisters lost the contest by 14.

Weber scored 10 points, five of them in the fourth quarter. Nicklous recorded eight points and Petterson and Linn added four points each.



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Joe Scholl puts up two vs. Cottage Grove.

Outlaws compete at invitational

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The Outlaws matched up against tough competition at the Les Schwab Invitational basketball tournament held at Marshfield High School Thursday through Saturday, December 19-21, and dropped all three of their games.

Sisters' first match-up was against Marshfield, and the Outlaws battled hard the first half of the contest against the Pirates. Nate Weber led the team in scoring with his aggressive play to the hoop, and converted 10 first-half points. At the half, Sisters trailed Marshfield 18-30.

Strong rebounding from senior Joe Scholl, along with a balanced offensive effort, pulled the Outlaws to within eight at the close of the third quarter with a score of 32-40. Sisters had a hard time finding their offensive rhythm in the final quarter, and that — combined with several turnovers — led to the 38-59 loss.

Weber led the Outlaws scoring effort with 14 points and Sam Nicklous and Scholl each had eight points in the game.

Coaches told *The Nugget* that the Marshfield Pirates were long and quick, and really made the Outlaws struggle on the offensive end as the game wore on, but they were happy that they stayed close the first three quarters.

On Friday, Sisters faced a talented LaSalle squad and

struggled to execute their offense. The Outlaws were unable to score in double digits in all four quarters, and fell 25-49 to the Falcons.

The Outlaws stayed close in the first quarter, which ended 9-11, and scoring was balanced across the boards. In the second quarter, the Falcons increased pressure and took the Outlaws out of their offensive rhythm, which left them down by 22, with a score of 11-33.

Sisters stayed even the rest of the game, but just could not cut down on the deficit they'd accrued in the first half. In the final period, the Outlaws bench energy was strong and Hayden Sharp, Ricky Huffman, Jamen Schwartz, Adam Maddox-Castle, and Max Palanuk provided great minutes.

In their final game of the tourney Sisters battled in a close contest against the North Valley Knights. Strong perimeter shooting and aggressive play at the hoop had the Outlaws within striking distance all four quarters.

At the half, Sisters trailed 17-25. The Outlaws rallied in the third to close the gap to 31-35 at the end of the period.

Sisters narrowed the lead to five with four minutes left on the clock. The Outlaws

fouled in hopes the Knights would miss and they could convert on the other end. Unfortunately, that wasn't the case. North Valley hit clutch free throws, and were intense on the defensive end, which made it hard for the Outlaws to score. The Knights posted the 54-38 win.

“ We learned a lot this weekend, and... there was a lot of growth — Rob Jensen

Weber led the way for the Outlaws with 21 points, including a trio of three-balls, and he went a perfect six-for-six from the stripe. Nicklous added nine points.

“We learned a lot this weekend, and despite the scores there was a lot of growth,” said Coach Rob Jensen. “We will continue to improve, and the kids have a great attitude about the game. We are looking forward to working hard at practice to make some little things automatic. Most of the errors we made were mental and can be corrected by doing some little things.”

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