



NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

Siuslaw senior Kenneth Thrall snatches a loose ball from a missed pass by the Lancers during Thursday night's home game, which began the second half of the league season.

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Viks

from 1B

with both Sierra Potter, the team's top outside shooter, and junior Destinie Tatum, the team's

top scorer and rebounder, both off the court before the second half — Potter with an injured wrist in the first period, and Tatum due to foul trouble early in the second period.

Coming back into the game with three minutes remaining before the half, Tatum sparked a six-point run that managed to give Siuslaw a narrow 17-15 lead heading into the half.

After the break, with both Potter and Tatum back in the lineup, along with senior post Taylor Dotson, the Vikings went on a 12-7 run in the third period to start the fourth quarter leading 29-22.

Switching to a man-to-man defense, the Lancers were able to force a series of turnovers while, offensively, picking up trips to the charity line as Siuslaw got into foul trouble. The result was an 11-1 scoring run that put them on top 33-30 with just under four minutes in the game.

In that time, the Lancers were able to outscore the Viks 19-5 and end their 0-5 record.

Tatum finished with a team-high 14 points and nine rebounds. Dotson had 10 points and two blocked shots, with freshman guard Annabel Tupua coming off the bench to score six points — with five of those points coming in the third period.

In the boys game, the Lancers had all five starters score in the opening period to establish a 14-8 lead by the end of the first period.

In the third period, aside from a 3-pointer from sophomore forward Jared Brandt and two points from sophomore forward Jakob Hickson, the Viks were scoreless as the Lancers took a 23-13 lead at halftime.

Senior post Reese Siegel opened the second half with a quick layin to cut the Viks' deficit to nine, but South Umpqua answered with back-to-back 3-pointers and a free throw to extend their lead to 33-17 and hold a double-digit lead for the rest of the game.

Senior point guard Preston Mitchell and Siegel led Siuslaw with 6 points each, Brandt had 5, sophomore post Trent Reavis and Hickson had 4 points each, junior guard Marcos Reyna had 2 points, and junior guard Brogan Cornish had 1 point.

Tuesday, the Vikings will be on the road at Marshfield.

"We played Marshfield well last time," Hickson said of the last time the Vikings and Pirates faced each other, with the state's No. 1-ranked team squeaking out with a 10-point win. "We could still make the play-offs if we play to our potential, get a road win and take care of our home court."

The girls game tips off at Marshfield at 6 p.m., followed by the boys at 7:30 p.m.

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