

# Viks lose heartbreaker to Sweet Home

BY NED HICKSON  
Siuslaw News

Viking fans were treated to another nail-biter Monday night as Siuslaw hosted the Huskies of Sweet Home in a hotly contested match-up on Glenn Butler Court.

Siuslaw mounted three rallies in the game, battling back from as many as 13 points to remain within striking distance in the final seconds.

Senior guard Jake Hickson put Siuslaw on the scoreboard in the first minute with a bouncer off the glass to go up 2-0. The Huskies responded with a long 3-pointer less than a minute later, marking what became the first eight buckets from beyond the arc for Sweet Home.

A pair of freethrows from senior Kyle King put Siuslaw back on top, 4-3, only to have the Huskies sink another 3-pointer to retake the lead. Senior forward Jared Brandt tied the game at 6-6, then managed a steal on the return that made its way into the hands of senior guard Johnny Rollin for an 8-6 lead.

Again, the Huskies gained the advantage with a 3-pointer, then scored on a 3-point play after scoring inside the paint and earning a trip to the charity line to go ahead 13-8 entering the second period.

Sweet Home opened the quarter by draining yet another 3-pointer. Senior guard Dylan McGallian penetrated the paint for a back-door bucket that kept Siuslaw within 5 points, only to have the Huskies string together a 23-10 lead that included the team's fifth 3-pointer in the first 10 minutes.

King scored the Viks' second basket of the period on a feed from Hickson, followed by back-to-back scoring from Rollin, who spent the evening muscling his way through the Husky defense.

Junior guard Dylan Wynn ended the half with a pair of freethrows to keep the Viks within 7 points — 18-25 — entering the break.

Coming back from the half, the Vikings shifted into high gear, pressuring the Sweet Home offense and quickening their own offensive tempo. King scored the first two baskets of the third quarter to put the Viks within three points, 22-25, before the Huskies nabbed their first basket of the period after nearly 4 minutes of play.

Hickson found Rollin on the return for an easy lay-up. The Huskies answered, but Hickson found Rollin again on the fast-



NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

Senior forward Jared Brandt works his way inside the paint against Sweet Home.

break for a quick basket and a trip to the foul line that put Siuslaw within one basket, 27-29.

With 1:17 remaining in the period, the Huskies scored, but King earned a trip to the charity line and drained a pair of freethrows to keep it a one-basket game heading into the fourth quarter, 29-31.

Seconds later, a running pass from McGallian to Rollin tied the game for the first time since early in the first period. Sweet Home answered with a 3-pointer, then moved ahead 36-31 on a steal. By this time, the Huskies had picked up their seventh foul, sending Rollin to the foul line for a 1-and-1. He sank both, then grabbed a steal at the other end and passed to Brandt, who put Siuslaw within three points, 36-39.

A foul by the Huskies put Hickson at the charity line with 1:50 on the clock as Siuslaw entered the double-bonus. The senior sank both shots to cut the Huskies'

lead to a single point, 38-39.

Meanwhile, the Vikings picked up their seventh foul, sending Sweet Home to the line for a 1-and-1, which they sank for a 41-38 lead.

King cut the lead to one point with 1:05 remaining, then Rollin got a steal as the clock cleared :41. Sweet Home was fouled and made both attempt to go up 43-40.

Siuslaw got the ball with 9 seconds left as the Huskies bench chanted "No threes!"

King got the final possession, driving to the basket and drawing a foul on his way to score. The ball bounced around the rim but fell short, eliminating the chance to tie the game with a 3-point play. King sank one of his attempts for the final score, 41-43.

The Viks were back on Glenn Butler Court last night to host Reedsport (after press deadlines) and will take a break before hosting Corbet on Friday, Dec. 29, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

# Kick off new year with annual OPRD free First Day Hike Jan. 1

SALEM — The First Day Hikes tradition continues New Year's Day 2018 when the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) joins America's State Parks in sponsoring the seventh annual event.

All 24 hikes in 22 Oregon state parks will be guided by park rangers or volunteers who will share stories about a park's geology, history, wildlife and plants. Day-use parking fees are waived for all visitors at participating parks Jan. 1 only.

Hikers can register for a hike online for the first time at [bit.ly/ParkStoreEvents](http://bit.ly/ParkStoreEvents). Registration is not required but helps park staff plan for the hike and provide them with participant contact information should hike details change.

"Bundle up and enjoy your first walk of the year with us," says Lisa Sumption, OPRD

director. "First Day Hikes are a fun, healthy way to start 2018 and a great way to see that Oregon state parks are great any time of year."

OPRD advises visitors to plan for inclement weather, dress in layers, wear sturdy shoes, bring water and remember to carry binoculars for viewing wildlife.

Check the hike listings at [bit.ly/ParkStoreEvents](http://bit.ly/ParkStoreEvents) for details about recommended ages for children hiking and whether pets are allowed.

Participating parks and meeting areas along the coast include:

- William M. Tugman State Park at 10 a.m. Meet in the day-use area at the gazebo.

- Oswald West State Park at 10 a.m. Meet in the main parking lot on the southern end near the shop.

- South Beach State Park at 10 a.m. Meet in the South Beach day-use area.

# Horse Club returning for young equestrians in January

C&M Stables has announced the Horse Club for equestrians between ages of 6 and 18 will soon begin its second session of the 2017-18 school year.

The weekly one-hour program enables Horse Club members to build on the skills learned in the previous weeks

and use hands-on techniques to learn safety around horses, grooming and riding. The program also reviews horse and tack parts, and provides written handouts on its major sections.

The program goals are for members to learn the basic fundamentals of horsemanship,

how much fun it is to ride and what wonderful animals horses are.

The afterschool classes last for 15 weeks, beginning the week of Jan. 29, and ending the week of May 13.

To sign up for Horse Club, stop by C&M Stables, 8 miles

north of Florence at 90241 Highway 101, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., seven days a week.

For more information, call the stables at 541-997-7540.



# Blanket Drive for the homeless

## Share the Warmth

This winter, The Siuslaw News is having a blanket drive to help the homeless in our community.

Please help us by donating

new or gently used and clean blankets to the homeless.

You may drop off your donated items at The Siuslaw News

148 Maple St. in Historic Old Town Florence

Donations accepted until December 29th

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Need more info? Call us at 541-997-3441 or visit our website, [thesiuslawnews.com](http://thesiuslawnews.com)

# ARE YOU A THREE RIVERS CASINO RESORT COMMUNITY CASH WINNER?



## THIS WEEK'S LUCKY WINNERS:

Tuesday 12/12	Dennis Sydow Krispin Hill	Florence Westlake	Beachcomber Safeway/Florence
Wednesday 12/13	Pat Sullivan Jackie Allen	Florence Florence	RiteAid /Florence Grocery Outlet/Florence
Thursday 12/14	Shirly Hamilton Bea Vanderpool	Florence Florence	Cheveux Spa Bella's Salon
Friday 12/15	Marge Eichenberger Thelma Hale	Florence Deadwood	City Lights Cinemas Safeway/Florence
Saturday 12/16	Joanne Leggio Wayne Payne	Florence Florence	Grocery Outlet/Florence Tony's Garage
Sunday 12/17	Al Thenell Paul Ricard	Florence Florence	Safeway/Florence Grocery Outlet/Florence
Monday 12/18	Linda Stevens Jeff Gray	Reedsport Florence	Safeway/Florence Safeway/Florence

Each winner receives \$50.00 in Community Cash!

Winners have 7 days from the date drawn to claim their prize.

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