

BOWLING

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I missed it by a few pins last year, so this was my time to shine,” Stewart said.

While the Lions were hoping for a better finish after their hot start, coach Kevin Carver said that it was a good experience for his young squad. Only Stewart will not be back next year.

“It’s never easy to get knocked out, but that can happen at the state tournament when other teams get hot,” he said.

After finishing the qualifying rounds in 12th place, the boys went two-matches-and-out. The Lions lost to Centennial in the first round, 362-356, and they were bounced by Oregon City in the consolation bracket, 377-375. In the latter match, Cottage Grove nearly overcame a 45-pin deficit from the first game but was stymied by a pocket split in the seventh frame of the second game.

“We were right where we wanted to be, and I am very proud of how the kids competed,” said Cottage Grove

coach Ernie Owen.

With hopes of finishing in the top-five, Owen said the Lions did not help their case by finishing in the bottom half of qualifying, but some of that was due to the unfamiliar venue and just plain bad luck.

Owen said that it was a frustrating experience for his team, especially for seniors Austin Renfro and Zach Thomason.

“They worked so hard to get back to the state tournament, and for that goal to disappear so quickly was very disappointing for them,” he said.

Although Renfro and Thomason will surely be missed, the future is bright with young talent: freshman Josh Allen, Chandler Bascue and Jared Simmons gained valuable experience this year; current eighth graders Chris Allen and Jayden Arnold could also factor in to next year’s lineup.

Renfro and Stewart will compete at the state’s All-Star Tournament March 7-8 at Pinbusterz Lanes in Portland.

Future is bright for Lions' chess team

The Cottage Grove High School varsity chess team finished its season with a match record of 3-5 and tied for sixth place in the Midwestern League.

On Jan. 21, the Lions beat Creswell 3-2 with wins from Chris Glesmann, Spencer Falk and Justin Long. It was Long’s first victory of the season.

Cottage Grove then lost to Pleasant Hill 4-1 on Jan. 28. Falk came from behind to make his opponent resign under great time pressure for the Lions’ only game victory.

The final match of the regular season ended in defeat against league co-champion South Eugene. Falk again scored a win for Cottage Grove and finished his season with just one loss. Long earned a draw against his opponent.

In the high school division of the post-season tournament held on Saturday at Willamette H.S., out of 12 players, Henry Lancaster took first place with no losses, and Chris Glesmann tied for second, losing only to Lancaster.

With only one senior on the team (Lancaster) and a host of underclass-



courtesy photo

CGHS Chess Team at Practice — Top (from left): Chris Glesmann, Jessy Thomason, Spencer Falk, and co-coach Taylor Wilhour. Bottom (from left): Alex Reimann, Henry Lancaster, Justin Long and Alex Istudor.

men who gained important experience and skill this season, the future is bright for Cottage Grove. Alex Istudor of Lincoln Middle School played well at the

junior varsity level and is expected to move up to varsity next season.

BOYS BASKETBALL



photo by Matt Hollander

Cottage Grove's Kory Parent scored 18 points in Cottage Grove's first league win of the season, Tuesday against Sweet Home.

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— a 67-43 rout on Jan. 23. But the Lions killed that momentum with a critical play just before the end of the half:

With seconds remaining, Sentman drove into the paint, drew a double-team and found Chance Hopkins underneath for an easy layup at the buzzer that put the Lions ahead 37-26.

Hopkins, who recorded a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds, said that play was a great example of the type of ball movement Cottage Grove will need to demonstrate more consistently in the future.

After going 0-for-7 from the field in the third quarter, Sweet Home exploded for 21 points in the fourth quarter. A 3-pointer by Adams with 2:15 remaining cut what had been a 17-point lead down to four. But Parent, who tallied 18 points, converted on 5-of-6 free-throw attempts down the stretch to help put

the game away.

“This one came from within,” said Hopkins. “The losing was getting to us; we wanted to win this game really bad, and we pulled through.”

Cottage Grove scored over 60 points for the first time since Jan. 2 and shot 46-percent from the field as a team. But the defense was just as potent. After scoring 20 points in their first meeting, the Lions held Hunter Jutte to just nine points. They also outrebounded Sweet Home, 34-29.

It’s been quite some time since Cottage Grove has struggled so mightily in conference, but its team has also never been so youthful. Pollard said that the season began to snowball when a couple close losses in mid January were followed up by a series of blowouts. But with everyone expected to return, Pollard said he saw a lot of progress over the season, and that bodes well for next

year.

With spring sports on the horizon, however, it will be a while until the entire team is back together. Hopkins said that in the meantime they will have to work on their games separately.

“We have to trust each other to keep getting better as individuals because that will help make us a better team,” he said.

Tuesday, Feb. 17									
Cottage Grove 62, Sweet Home 52									
Sweet Home 12 14 8 21 — 55									
Cottage Grove 19 18 12 13 — 62									
Sweet Home: Adams 18, Jutte 9, Virtue 7, Mitten 6, Bangot 5, Tow 5, Sieber 3, Aiona 2.									
Cottage Grove: Parent 18, Sentman 18, Tucker 12, Hopkins 10, Porter 3, Gipson 1									

Sky-Em Boys Basketball									
Conference					Overall				
W		L		Pct	W		L		Pct
Sutherland	9	1	0.900	17	7	0.708			
Junction C.	8	2	0.800	16	8	0.667			
Sisters	7	3	0.700	14	8	0.636			
Elmira	3	7	0.300	10	14	0.417			
Sweet Home	2	8	0.200	6	14	0.300			
Cott. Grove	1	9	0.100	5	19	0.208			

Tuesday's Results									
Cottage Grove 62, Sweet Home 55									
Junction City 52, Sutherland 48									
Sisters 48, Elmira 30									

Friday's Results									
Junction City 67, Sweet Home 46									
Sutherland 42, Sisters 37									
Elmira 55, Cottage Grove 49									

Play-in Round Games									
TBA — OSAA.org									

Sky-Em Girls Basketball									
Conference					Overall				
W		L		Pct	W		L		Pct
Sutherland	10	0	1.000	24	0	1.000			
Cott. Grove	7	3	0.700	14	10	0.583			
Junction C.	5	5	0.500	12	12	0.500			
Sisters	5	5	0.500	10	13	0.435			
Elmira	3	7	0.300	6	16	0.273			
Sweet Home	0	10	0.000	1	19	0.050			

Tuesday's Results									
Cottage Grove 64, Sweet Home 27									
Sisters 51, Elmira 38									
Sutherland 60, Junction City 24									

Friday's Results									
Cottage Grove 54, Elmira 45									
Junction City 43, Sweet Home 38									
Sutherland 49, Sisters 18									

Play-in Round Games									
TBA — OSAA.org									

COTTAGE BOWL									
League: Dynamic Trios									
Date: Feb. 17									
Team		W		L					
Grandma's Rule		12		0					

Bowling Stones	0	7
Covered Bridge U.	0	7
High Game		
Men: Dave Richardson 279		
Women: Jaralee Swearengin 190		
High Series		
Men: Butch Cardoza 712		
Women: Mary Whetstone 521		

League: 5 O'Clock Shadows			
Date: Feb. 15			
Team		W	L
V. Richenstain		4	0
4 U Simple		4	0
Jenni and the Jets		4	0
Amigos Quatro		3	1
Mid State		3	1
Aces High		3	1
Book Mine		1	3
C.G. Vac and Sew		1	3
Jim's Tire Factory		1	3
Ames to be True		0	4
All in the Family		0	4

High Game			
Men: Johnny Saldana 257			
Women: Cherry Bascue 197			
Men Three-high Series			
1. Johnny Saldana 673			
2. Aaron Ames 628			
3. Don Perkins 621			
Women Three-high Series			
1. Cherry Bascue 549			
2. Jan McTaggart 496			
3. Mildred Hand 443			

League: Meri Rollers			
Date: Feb. 17			
Team		W	L
Team Reliv		10	2
Moms Girls		9	3
Blue Sunshine		9	3
Emerald Valley		9	3
Simand Chiro.		6	6
Treasure Chest		5	3
Ron's Girls		4	8
Lucky Ladies		4	8
Addi's Diner		2	6
Charlie's Angels		2	6
Three Amigos		1	7

High Game: Allie Simons 213

Three-high Series:		
1. Allie Simons 6530		
2. Jacki Jackson 522		
3. Jennifer Fox 520		

League: Scratch League			
Date: Feb. 16			
Team		W	L
Cottage Bowl		112	56
Columbia 300		110.5	57.5
CG Speedway		94	74
Who Cares		92	76
Bi Mart		86	82
Firs Bowl		84	84
Hines Cutting		82.5	85.5
Marvin Smith Auto		77	91
You've Been Merved		76	92
One Night Stand		72	96
Red Solo Cup		69	99
TJs Big Horse Farm		55	113

High Team Game: Bi Mart 877		
High Team Series: One Night 3320		
High Game: Andy Mitchell 278		
High Series: Andy Mitchell 946		

League: Yamaha City League			
Date: Feb. 19			
Team		W	L
Who Cares		30	10
Drain Chainsaw		29	11
High Yield Tech		25	15
Cottage Bowl		22.5	17.5
Addi's Diner		18.5	21.5
Jim's Tire		18	22
Dawgnauts		15	25
Gladiators		14.5	25.5
Gilkinson & Dad		14	26
Urban Honey		13.5	26.5

High Team Game: Who Cares 1003		
High Team Series: Cottage Bowl 2924		
High Game: Jeremy Nelson 258		
High Series: Matt Owen 724		

League: Junior Stars			
Date: Feb. 21			
Team		W	L
Ten Pin Mafia		10	0
Lane Rangers		9	1
Space Money Mafia		8	2
Delivery Boys		5	5
Hot Shots		5	5
J Dawgs		5	5
Junior Who Cares		5	5
Lane Damage		2	8
Tea to Beat		1	9
My Spare Ladies		0	10

High Team Game: Lane Damage 510			
High Team Series: Ten Pin Mafia 1458			
High Game Boys: Skyler Arnold 201			
High Game Girls: Gracie Stewart 175			
High Series Boys: Chandler Bascue 567			
High Series Girls: Fayth Stewart 523			
MIDDLEFIELD MENS GOLF			