



Lions drop in rankings after two straight losses, winning streak ends

BY SAM WRIGHT

The Cottage Grove Sentinel

The saying “all good things come to an end” rang especially true for the Cottage Grove High School boys’ basketball team when its 10-game winning streak was brought to an abrupt end by Marist Catholic on Tuesday, Feb. 2. The frustrations carried over onto the next game, as the Lions fell to Elmira three days later.

The Lions found themselves up over Marist Catholic at half-time, 32-29, but the small lead was shattered when the Spartans went on a 26-9 run in the third quarter. Despite the valiant efforts of the Lions for a fourth-quarter comeback (outscored Marist 23-19), Cottage Grove fell short, losing 74-64.

Part of the trouble came from starter Kory Parent, who has been sick for the past week and reportedly had a fever of 103 degrees at one point.

The illness reflected Parent’s performance on the court. The junior only had 12 points, relatively low for this season, and only played 24 minutes (although he was benched occasionally for being in foul trouble with four personal fouls on the night).

It seemed that Cottage Grove was outmatched by a team that wasn’t going to miss a step all night. Although the Lions shot a decent 43 percent from the field (21-for-48), the Spartans shot 55 percent (27-for-49). Even from the line the Lions scored 72 percent of their free throws, but Marist was 81 percent.

The Lions were also out-rebounded 35-12, one of the widest margins they’ve had all season. Junior Blake Sentman was the team’s top rebounder with only four, while the top



Photo by Gary Ordway

Tucker Porter leaps for the basket against Sutherlin from last week.

rebounder on the Spartans’ side had 11.

Sentman took the reigns and stepped up as the leading scorer with 22 points. He shot 50 percent from the field (seven-for-14) with three of those being three-point shots. Along with his aforementioned rebounds, Sentman had one assist and two steals.

But the one great performance wasn’t enough. Usually Parent is

able to keep pace if not surpass Sentman in scoring but because of foul trouble and being sick, he wasn’t able to perform to the best of his abilities.

Parent had 12 points, three rebounds and one assist, comparing to previous games this season, the was the quietest game yet.

Chance Hopkins also had trouble. The senior only accounted for two rebounds all

game, a place where he usually finds himself leading in. His 11 points contributed, but after five personal fouls, he only played 22 minutes.

Despite the loss, the Lions still remained at No. five in the OSAA rankings, but that changed after 32 minutes in Elmira.

Cottage Grove struggled throughout the entire game and never held a lead against Elmira. The Falcons outscored the Lions

13-8 in the first quarter and 19-12 in the fourth quarter, which became the deciding parts of the game as each team scored 20 points in the second and third quarters. The result was a frustrating 52-40, the lowest score the Lions have been held to all season.

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Athlete of the Week

Sentman takes charge



Despite the two losses, Sentman took charge of his team as the top scorer on both games while the regular leading scorer, Kory Parent struggled through his illness this past week. Sentman had 22 points against Marist and even managed 13 points against Elmira, a game where the Lions were held to the lowest points scored in a game all season.



Girls' basketball downs Elmira

After a third-quarter blowout, the Lions were able to snag a come-from-behind win over the top Sky-Em team

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The girls’ basketball team only had one game this week, but it was a good one for the Lions, as they came back to beat Elmira 41-38. The win was even more impressive with the absence of starting point guard Melissa Thielman who had a concussion (the seventh one of the season for the girls’ program) and starting post Keara Murphy, who broke her nose in practice.

It was a slow start for Cottage Grove, which was outscored 8-1 in the first quarter, and the Lions found themselves in familiar waters, down 20-12 at halftime. But the third quarter saw a 16-3 run by Cottage Grove as they took the lead and fought hard in the fourth quarter to maintain it. They were outscored 15-13

in the fourth quarter but were able to fight off the Falcons and snagged their second win in a row.

The Lions shot 33 percent from the field, sinking 10 shots compared to Elmira’s 14. However, Cottage Grove was able to make 19 of their 38 free throws, while the Falcons only sank nine of 22.

The Lions also won the rebound battle (39-34), a key aspect of the game that head coach Kevin Yoss has been wanting to improve since the beginning of the season.

Cottage Grove was beaten in the paint due to Elmira’s size, with only 12 points coming from inside the paint compared to the Falcon’s 26. But the Lions’ ability to score from the outside, including two clutch three-pointers from Hannah Albrecht and

Taylor Harsh, kept them in the game and eventually gave them the lead.

Hannah Arnold led the team with a whopping 16 points that came from 12 free throws and two field goals. She also led the team in rebounds with a total of nine. Albrecht finished the night with a total of eight points, but her stand-out performance isn’t seen on the statistics. The junior defended Elmira’s top player, Miranda Jensen, all night. Jensen scored 22 points on the Lions during their first encounter this season, but Albrecht held her to only three points this time around.

Freshman Tara Child had her first start of the season due to the injuries and played a good game, according to Yoss. She

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Photo by Gary Ordway

Freshman Tara Child started her first game this year against Elmira.



Photo courtesy of Jamie Nelson

Sam Cruden stands victorious at the Valley League District Tournament Saturday.

Lincoln Middle School takes second place at district meet

12 students place at Valley League District Tournament

Lincoln Middle School already had a lot of success the previous weekend at their regional tournament, taking second place overall. Head Coach James Deatherage knew from past events that his team was strong and confident, and nothing changed going in to the Valley League District tournament on Saturday.

Lincoln finished in second overall again, with many students taking top places in their respective weights.

Sam Cruden and Trace Nelson took first place, followed by Triston Aldrich, Drew Swenson, Luke Johns and Nick Naro all finishing in second place. Jayden Owens finished in third. Jacob Dunn, Nano Giffen, Walker Humphrey, Austin Dempsey and William VanHoy all took fourth place.

The second place finish has put Lincoln Middle School on a roll of success in their wrestling program.

Lions improve at invitational after loss to Huskies

After a rough 64-18 loss, Cottage Grove’s wrestling team saw many second-place finishes at their invitational

On Thursday, Feb. 4, the Sweet Home Huskies came into to Cottage Grove and took care of the Lions 64-18 in a dual that showed a lot of difficulties for Cottage Grove.

It started off with Sweet Home’s Kobe Olson setting the pace by defeating Cottage Grove’s Bryce Allen by major decision, 9-0.

From there, the Lions suffered four pins in a row on Travis Thomas, Rodney Chamberlain, Tyler Woertnik and Rafe

Barkley. Alan Bordeaux was the first winner for the Lions when he pinned Oscar Hernandez in the second period.

Jayson Stalder put up a tough fight, but eventually yielded to Bryce Coulter in the third period.

Andrew Bordeaux, like his brother, pinned his Sweet Home opponent, Devin Stafford early, in the second period. Adam Lamb was the only other winner from Cottage Grove that evening, pinning Gavin Baskin

in the first period. After that, Chance Ralston and Aaron Boitz were both pinned quickly in the first round.

Over the weekend, the Lions hosted the Cottage Grove Invitational, where they saw more individual success from their mat men.

Bryce Allen made it to the first-place match at the 126-pound weight class after going 4-0 and

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