

## Lions on two-game slide before entering league play

South Umpqua and Stayton get the edge on Cottage Grove. The Lions will look to bounce back against Gladstone before the Sky-Em opener against Elmira

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Cottage Grove basketball slipped up this past week by taking two losses in a row; first to South Umpqua at home in a close overtime battle, and then on Friday at Stayton. This Lions let go of two halftime leads, giving them their first back to back losses this season.

Cottage Grove started off on par with the Lancers early in the game. The Lions then looked like their usual self as they gained a slight edge in the second quarter. By halftime, the Lancers were facing a 26-19 deficit.

By the middle of the third quarter, Cottage Grove was desperately fighting off a Lancer comeback. South Umpqua outscored the Lions 19-10 in the third quarter and gave itself a 38-36 lead over Cottage Grove entering the final period.

If there is one thing Cottage Grove does well on the basketball court, it's play under pressure. This season and last season accounted for a multitude of games in which the Lions won in the final seconds or in overtime. This time, however, it was South Umpqua who thrived.

That is not to say the Lions caved. In fact, Cottage Grove outscored South Umpqua by two points in the final quarter, but it wasn't enough to take the lead and the game went into overtime. With more time on the clock, the Lancers were heating up and the Lions had trouble finding the basket. The Lancers



DeJean Alonzo attempts to tie the game against South Umpqua on Tuesday.

outscored the Lions 10-4 in the final minutes of play and took down the defending Sky-Em Champions, giving them their third loss of the season.

Cottage Grove shot just 38 percent from the field and just 50 percent from the line. In fact, the missed free throws (six) accounted for the amount of points the Lions lost by.

Senior Kory Parent was not in for the game and Blake Sentman led in scoring with 22

points, followed by Hunter Gipson with 14 points and seven rebounds. DeJean Alonzo scored 10 points with three assists and three steals.

Cottage Grove then traveled to Stayton, where another disappointing second half cost Cottage Grove the game.

The Lions outscored the Eagles 18-9 in the first quarter and held a 32-24 lead at halftime. This time, Cottage Grove managed to hold off a third-quarter

comeback but were taken by surprise in an 18-6 fourth-quarter run by Stayton. The Lions were outscored 35-21 in the second half and racked up its fourth loss with a final score of 59-53.

Free throw troubles ailed the Lions once again, this time shooting just 35 percent from the line. In fact, the Lions made more three-point shots than free throws this time around.

The return of Parent wasn't enough to give Cottage Grove

a lasting edge. Sentman once again led in scoring with 18 points while Parent had 17.

The two losses has by no means derailed the season. Cottage Grove is scheduled to begin its league play on Friday against Elmira. But the game to see will be next week on Tuesday against Sisters. The outlaws are currently ranked fourth in the OSAA rankings while the Lions sit at 16th, though each team boasts the same 8-4 re-

cord. Sutherlin will be another team to watch for, which is ranked ninth overall and also has an 8-4 record.

The Sky-Em League looks to be a much more competitive conference than last year, where it seemed that it was only Cottage Grove and Junction City in the run for the league title.

In all 12 games, Cottage Grove has outscored both Sisters and Sutherlin.

Photo by Sam Wright

## Lady Lions take down South Umpqua



Photo by Sam Wright

Senior Hannah Albrecht drives to the hoop for a layup early against South Umpqua on Tuesday. Cottage Grove got its third win of the season after defeating the Lancers in a 38-27 showdown at Cottage Grove High School. The Lions will have their work cut out for them as they enter league play ranked fifth in the Sky-Em League.



## Athlete of the Week

Freshman Reilly Kelly is only on her first season of CGHS basketball and is already making a name for herself. The six-foot, three-inches tall rookie has made use of her height and has become an invaluable asset to the Lions' game. Between scoring and rebounds, Kelly has already put up upperclassmen-like numbers in certain games.



## Annual Bald Eagle Count to be hosted Saturday

The annual bald eagle count will be held Saturday morning at 10 a.m. The Coast Fork Birders will be meeting at 78405 Cedar Park Rd., Cottage Grove. The Alison Center leads the count and will visit Dorena Reservoir and Cottage Grove reservoir. The weather is forecasted at 45 degrees on Saturday, so dress warm and bring snacks.

## 2017 Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show comes to Portland

Portland, Ore. This February 8-12, the Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show and Sport Fishing Boat Show®, presented by Federal Premium Ammunition and Bushnell, returns to the Portland Expo Center in its 42nd year! This is more than an event. It's more than a pastime. It's a true Northwest tradition where there's always something new to see, to learn, and to pass on. This year's show features dozens of exciting and educational activities for outdoor enthusiasts of all ages, including:

Brutus, the 900 lb Grizzly Bear LIVE: Brutus is back and you have a chance to meet him in person! Les Schwab invites you to come see this adult male Grizzly from Montana to learn more about bears and how to be safe if you encounter them in the wild. Adopted as a newborn

cub by naturalist Casey Anderson, Brutus is the co-star of the National Geographic show Expedition Wild.

Outdoor Survival Expert: Brett Stoffel will bring exciting seminars and tips for outdoor survival training to the show. Presented by your local Toyota dealers, Stoffel's free outdoor survival training seminars are a must-see for all ages, providing show attendees with invaluable knowledge and survival solutions that are affordable and effective. These seminars cover a variety of topics, from what to do if you're lost to survival myths and misconceptions.

Million Dollar Ammo Sale: Back by popular demand, Bi-Mart will be offering amazing deals for hunters and shooting sports enthusiasts. This huge on-site sale offers big savings

on small count bricks of .22 shells and a variety of center-fire rifle, handgun, 5.56, .17 and shotgun shells.

Smokehouse Camp Cooking Demonstrations: These camp cooking experts share tasty recipes for simple meals. This year's show is packed with new demonstrations and recipes the whole family will love. Author and outdoorsman Scott Haugen, Dutch oven guru "Cee Dub" Welch, angler Milt Gudgell, TV personality Bethy Rossos, BBQ expert Glen Thornton and Roger Neufeldt, aka the Smokehouse Sausage Guy, will also present throughout the five-day show. They will demonstrate their craft and share samples! Learn everything from the basics to gourmet techniques at the ever-popular Smokehouse Camp Cooking Demonstrations, spon-

sored by Franz and Camp Chef.

Head & Horns Competition: The 2017 Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show, sponsored by Federal Premium Ammunition and Bushnell, invites the public to bring head and horns or antlers to the 2017 show to vie for records, bragging rights and valuable prizes provided by Danner, Fort Knox, Simmons, Ruger, Gerber, Hoppes and Primos at the highly anticipated Head & Horns Competition. Bring your trophy, past or present, for official measurement! Entrants pay a \$25 deposit that's refunded to those whose entries don't make the official record book.

Northwest Tour of Big Game Animals: Appearing at the show's Head & Horns area, don't miss this display featuring a variety of deer and elk

and the largest California sheep ever taken by an archer. Back by popular demand will be the world-record Bison. Also on display will be the world-record mule deer, taken in 1919. Don't forget to pick up a copy of the newly released 6th edition Oregon record book. Records were made to be broken!

Free Kids! Trout Fishing Pond: The Kids Trout Fishing Pond is one of the show's most popular attractions, and it's completely FREE, courtesy of Baxter Auto Parts. Unplug for the day and join us at the Portland Expo Center, where kids ages 12 and under can try a hand at catching up to two live trout to keep or release. Over the years, thousands of children have caught their first fish at the show with the support of Multnomah Anglers and Hunters

Club, a nonprofit organization that's volunteered at this family-friendly feature for more than 40 years. So bring your camera, and don't miss out on a truly memorable experience.

Archery, Panning for Gold and other Family Fun Activities: Kids and adults alike will enjoy learning archery in a safe environment. Sylvan Archers staff will provide expert instruction and supervision in a fun setting. Kids and parents are also invited to the Northwest Mineral Prospectors Club booth. Panning for gold is fun and easy to learn. Who knows, maybe your kids will strike it rich!