

# Cottage Grove falls to Elmira on the road

*Falcons' fourth quarter surge pushes team to victory*

By Zach Silva  
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In a matchup featuring a pair of teams that have both been frustrated throughout the season, it was Elmira using a strong fourth quarter to defeat Cottage Grove 57-47 on Friday night.

"That was tough. That was really tough, that's just how the season has been," said first year Cottage Grove head coach Seth Hutchison after the loss. Heading into the fourth quarter of Friday's road game, the Lions (5-17, 3-5 Sky-Em) had a one-point advantage over the Falcons (8-12, 2-6). But instead of a close fourth quarter contest, it was an Elmira 15-3 run to take the Lions out of the game.

The scoring came from across the board as five different Falcons in the quarter. For Elmira head coach, and CGHS teacher, Nick Garman, his team's fourth quarter performance seemed to be an answer to his pre-game challenge.

"I get it, I'm from a different era where we didn't have cell phones and we didn't have video games until I was in high school.

What we did was play sports and everything was based on sports: did we win, did we lose? And if we lose we were in a bad mood," said Garman. "Losing motivated us. I said, 'You guys aren't the same as me. And I recognize that but I challenge you right now, we've got to go out and put some effort into winning.' And winning is important. And just said, 'We've got to play with fire.'"

In the team's first meetings, it was fire that was lacking as Cottage Grove jumped out to a 16-0 lead before defeating the Falcons 53-40. But on Friday night, the teams traded baskets early on as the Falcons led 14-12 after one quarter of play.

As Cottage Grove switched to their bigger lineup featuring the height of Creed Lufkin, Jasper Nichols-Ferguson and Shambay Trapp - all of whom are over 6-foot-4 - Elmira countered by pressing the Cottage Grove ball-handlers.

"We don't press much. But it's like, we can't guard their three big guys with my little guys. So we got to try to change the game," said Garman who has one player over 6-foot-4 on his team.

The press worked to varying results as the Lions, at times,

broke it with the ease of three simple passes that created open lay-ups while, at other times, committed turnovers.

"I don't feel like they caused us to do those things and sometimes that's just the press," said Hutchison. "That's just what they want you to do, get your mind spinning. Get you rushed a little bit and you start to be lackadaisical with the basketball in those situations where you start to throw it away."

Despite turnovers, Cottage Grove rallied in the third quarter as they went on a 10-0 run to take the lead going into the fourth quarter. The Lions were led in scoring by Nichols-Ferguson with 13 points. Jaden Doolittle and Lufkin each added eight points for the team.

Cottage Grove was limited in the game by their short-bench as Hutchison stuck to a seven-man rotation.

"We're really thin and it hurts, it hurts at times. Leaving some kids out there and they try to push through their tiredness and in reality it should be the next guy up rather than fight through that," said Hutchison. "That's when things happen when you get tired."

The team's depth took a hit recently after starting guard - and



Cottage Grove's Jaden Doolittle gets off a shot against tight Elmira defense on Friday night.

the team's only returning starter from last season - Erick Giffen's departure from the team that Hutchison described as being "mutual."

The Lions finish the regular season this week with home games against Junction City and Marist.

"Nothing changes even if you

don't have as much to play for. Nothing changes, you're still competitive, you're still playing hard," said Hutchison. Adding, "Keep getting better, keep competing, keep being a good teammate. And you just hope for the best and play hard. Effort is half the battle."

Middlefield Men's Club  
Monday 2/7/2019  
Game: 2M Points

First Place: 98  
Jake Cox, John Kallbrier,  
Don Perkins, Bob McCarty

Second Place: 97  
Jim Cunningham, Larry  
Strickland, Jack Doleman,  
Pat Rickard

Third Place: 93  
Frank Gates, Gary Ingram,  
Gary Rider, Dave Tooker BD

Fourth Place (tie): 90  
Larry Eymann, Phil Hamilton,  
Jerry Pennington, Ron  
Ackerman

Fourth Place (tie): 90  
Don Hanly, Darrell Lee, Gary  
Sparks, Jim Wamsley

Fifth Place: 89  
Bill Avery, Steve Lindholm,  
Mike Stahl, Dave Tooker

Low Gross:  
Jake Cox 72  
Gary Ingram 74

Low Net:  
Jim Cunningham 57  
Don Hanly 60  
Don Perkins 63

Closest to the Pin:  
#5 Ron Ackerman  
#7 Frank Gates  
#14 Don Hanly

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### COTTAGE GROVE HIGH SCHOOL

2/14  
5:45 p.m. Girls Basketball vs.  
Marist  
7:15 p.m. Boys Basketball vs.  
Marist

2/15  
10:00 a.m. Cottage Grove  
Swimming @ State

### NORTH DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL

2/13  
6:00 p.m. Boys Basketball @  
Pacific - League Playoff

2/15  
TBD Girls Basketball @ League  
Playoff (Marshfield High  
School)

### YONCALLA HIGH SCHOOL

No games.

### ELKTON HIGH SCHOOL

2/15  
TBD Girls Basketball (possibly)  
@ League Playoff (Marshfield  
High School)

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**PAC-12 WOMENS**  
Friday, February 15  
Utah @ Arizona  
5:00 PM  
Colorado @ Arizona State  
5:00 PM  
Oregon State @ Oregon  
6:00 PM PAC12  
Stanford @ UCLA  
6:00 PM  
Washington @ Washington State  
7:00 PM  
California @ USC  
8:00 PM PAC12

**PAC-12 MENS**  
Wednesday, February 13  
UCLA @ California  
7:00 PM PAC12  
Arizona State @ Colorado  
7:30 PM FS1  
USC @ Stanford  
8:00 PM ESPNU

Thursday, February 14  
Arizona @Utah  
6:00 PM ESPNU

Saturday, February 16  
USC @ California  
5:00 PM PAC12  
Washington @ Washington State  
5:00 PM ESPNU  
Arizona State @ Utah  
7:00 PM FS1  
UCLA @ Stanford  
7:00 PM ESPN2  
Oregon @ Oregon State  
7:30 PM PAC12

Sunday, February 17  
Colorado @ Arizona  
11:00 AM PAC12  
Stanford @ USC  
12:00 PM PAC12  
Utah @ Arizona State  
1:00 PM  
California @ UCLA  
4:00 PM PAC12

Monday, February 18  
Oregon @ Oregon State  
6:00 PM

Sunday, February 17  
Arizona @ Colorado  
5:00 PM ESPNU