

SWIMMING: Outlaws have been strong in the pool this season

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faster than the day before with a time of 6:22.82.”

In the same event, Horton dropped time from Friday to finish fourth overall for the boys with a time of 5:42.36.

Stewart, Knirk, Zadow and Christen shattered the school record in the 200-yard freestyle relay and finished second with a time of 1:44.80.

“Generally, school records are beat by a quarter of a second, if that, but in this case two more seconds were taken off,” stated Morioka. “Madelyn and Emily won this for their team by taking an entire second each off of their best 50 freestyle split.”

The boys 200-yard freestyle relay (Luz, Werts, Cyrus and Horton) finished eighth overall with a time of 1:45.21. Horton swam a strong leg, the fastest he ever has, in 24.77.

In the 100-yard backstroke, Christen placed fourth (1:08.02), Zadow was fifth with a best time of 1:09.72, and Harrer finished ninth at 1:16.16.

Bartlett dropped one second off from the previous day for a 10th-place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:26.89. Luz took an additional two seconds off his best time and prelim time for a fourth-place overall finish (1:13.11).

“I was so happy to see Jonathan do so well in his last district meet,” said Morioka. “He works so hard and is completely dedicated to this team.”

The girls B 400-yard freestyle relay (Stuwe, Greaney, Boettner, Bartlett) swam to an eight-second personal record with a time of 4:38.58. Boettner, despite battling bronchitis, took five seconds off her time to help the team.

The girls A 400-yard freestyle relay (Stewart, Harrer, Zadow and Christen) was an emotional event.

“We came into this event not really having a solid idea of how well we would do,” said Morioka. “The best



PHOTO PROVIDED

Mary Stewart, Brooke Knirk, Emily Christen and Madelyn Zadow broke a school record in the 200 freestyle relay.

they had swam as a relay up until this point was 4:01.69, and the school record was a 3:59.80.”

Stewart started with her leg and finished in 55 seconds. Harrer followed and swam 1:00 flat, a two-second drop from her 100 freestyle earlier in the day. Zadow swam a best time of 1:01 and Christen swam a 57-second split, which was the fastest 100 freestyle she has ever swam, and three seconds faster than any split she has ever had. The girls finished in 3:55.30, took second place and broke the school record.

“The entire last 75 yards was neck-and-neck with two other girls,” stated Morioka. “The cheers around were deafening.”

Swimmers waited anxiously for OSAA to announce those who had earned a wild-card spot to the state championships. Sunday afternoon, results were posted.

Joining Stewart, who is seeded first in the 50-yard freestyle, will be Emily Christen, who is seeded 10th.

Stewart had an automatic berth to state in the 100-yard freestyle and is seeded second.

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, Stewart, Knirk, Zadow and Christen are seeded second.

Christen is seeded 10th in the 100-yard backstroke and Zadow is seeded 12th.

Stewart, Harrer, Zadow and Christen are seeded fifth in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Morioka said, “I have faith in our girls. The amount of determination and willpower they have is unstoppable. I truly believe that we can walk away with a first-place finish in the 50 freestyle, 100 freestyle, and 200-freestyle relay. While those other teams may have more physical skill than our girls, we have more willpower and at the end of the day, especially in swimming, willpower is what wins those races.”

At the end of the two-day event, Sweet Home finished in first place and Sisters finished fourth.

SECURITY: Schools to have full-time law enforcement

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Golden told *The Nugget* that the district is seeking bids on camera systems that provide a live and continuous video feed to monitoring computers to cover the entrances at Sisters Elementary School and Sisters Middle School.

“Those would be our first priorities,” he said.

The video feed would play on the computers of various school staff members and would be accessible by law-enforcement personnel.

“There’s several people that would keep those on their screen,” Golden said.

Additionally, the district is looking into providing lanyards with “panic buttons” for staff. Those could be used in an emergency, providing a location of an incident within the school so that appropriate response could be activated.

The sheriff’s office is providing additional law enforcement coverage for the schools.

The Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office will be providing the Sisters School District with another 20 hours of safety coverage with a School Resource Officer (SRO). Deputy Neil Mackey is currently here on a part-time basis, and will continue in that role.

“This will mean that we will have full-time coverage by an SRO in Sisters,” Golden said.

“This news is made even

better by the fact that Don Pray, our recently retired SRO, has agreed to come back and help out for the rest of this school year,” Golden said. “This coverage will begin on March 2 and continue for the rest of this school year. We will then budget in next year’s budget to keep this position full-time.”

Golden expressed appreciation to Captain Erik Utter for advocating for the position for Sisters.

While there is a law-enforcement presence in Sisters, and backup just up the road at Black Butte Ranch, resources are stretched thin. If deputies respond to a major incident at a distance from Sisters, their response time to an incident in Sisters schools could be dangerously lengthy. Having full coverage by deputies assigned to the schools makes for a more continuous law-enforcement presence.

“Kids come to them with a lot of info. We just think it’s good, preventative stuff.”

— Jim Golden

Golden notes that it’s not just a matter of a security presence. SROs build a rapport with students, which can provide information that can head off problems.

“Kids come to them with a lot of info,” Golden said. “We just think it’s good, preventative stuff.”

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