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Cyclists stampede to Sisters Country

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

The cycling gods smiled upon Sunday's running of the Sisters Stampede mountain bike race.

"Some of the most ideal weather you could ask for," said Casey Meudt. "Rain all week then sun on the day of the race."

Meudt, who owns and operates Blazin Saddles, wasn't on a bike himself this weekend. It's his business' best weekend of the year, so he was busy making hay while the sun shined. On Friday, Blazin Saddles celebrated five years in business with a block party, which was packed with locals and folks arriving early for the race.

Meudt spent his Sunday morning dispensing air and advice to racers, wistfully contemplating all the other cyclists who were out for a run on his home course.

Eric Roth of Portland stopped by for a quick question.

"I ride mostly north," he said. "I don't ride this stuff



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Mike Chappel and Wyatt kicked off the Sisters Stampede. Riders were off like a shot.

down here. What tire pressure should I use?"

Meudt set him up, noting that the Peterson Ridge Trail is usually "loose," but that recent rains had firmed it up a bit.

Roth was among many who were running the Sisters Stampede for the first time.

"My wife wanted to ride the McKenzie Pass with her club team and I just figured I'd ride the race 'cause

it looks like a lot of fun," he said.

Fun was the order of the day, even for the most serious cyclists. More than 500 riders

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Schools narrow field to two in supt. search

Two candidates have made the final cut for the post as Sisters Schools Superintendent.

The school board and a community search committee read 42 applications for the post and the board interviewed 10 candidates in whittling the field down to two finalists.

They are Curtiss (Curt) Scholl of Salem-Keizer School District and Joseph (Joe) Wehrli of St. Paul School District.

Currently, Scholl is the principal at Sprague High School in the Salem-Keizer School District, a position he has held since 2009. Before moving to the Salem-Keizer

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Council gets a look at Creekside fixes

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

The Sisters City Council, in their May 21 workshop, took its first look at the comprehensive Creekside Campground improvement package forwarded to them by the City Parks Advisory Board (CPAB), following more than a year of meetings, discussions, public comment and deliberation.

The total package has planning-level cost estimates for the various improvements and ingress/egress revisions of approximately \$456,100 (including \$10,000 for a

traffic study). A three-phase plan was recommended due to the scope and cost of the entire package.

After more than an hour of discussion, Council requested that staff return the package to the CPAB, with some recommended changes. Council also directed staff and the CPAB to proceed with the traffic study, as the information gleaned from the study would inform how to proceed with some of the recommended improvements to the campground, specifically the ingress/egress issue, which

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Sisters remembers the fallen

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

In an event that has become an important ritual in the Sisters community, 250 people came together at Village Green Park on Monday to commemorate those who have fallen in conflict in the service of their country.

Local veterans groups organize the Memorial Day observances, which always feature music from the Sisters High Desert Chorale, prayerful moments with local pastors, and remarks from military veterans from Sisters Country.

This year, a Junior Marines ROTC unit performed the ceremonial folding of the flag as Col. John Miller (U.S. Air



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Russell B. Williams, Army Air Corps veteran, was the keynote speaker.

Force) described the symbolic import of each of the 13 folds.

The keynote speaker was Russell B. Williams, a 92-year-old veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps, where he served in the European Theater as a bomber navigator in B-24s.

Williams described his journey into service after being drafted in 1943, going through extensive training to do his job in the skies over Germany.

He marveled at the team

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