

IEE: Interdisciplinary program offers unique experience

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spring. The fall trip is a mountain expedition up Middle Sister. In the spring the class does a raft trip down the Deschutes River.

For the fall expedition the junior class splits into groups of six people, including a senior intern who is the group's leader, as well as an adult leader. This trip was such an amazing experience, an opportunity to do and see so many things most young people don't. Stations were set up on different areas in the wilderness, including the hike up to Hayden Glacier. Hayden Glacier is approximately eight miles up from the Pole Creek trailhead and is quite the sight to see.

One of the IEE groups hiked up to the glacier in the early morning in time to see the sunrise from the glacier. The station required students to put on harnesses and crampons and then hike and belay on the glacier.

Students got an up-close look into the deep blue crevasses on the bright glistening ice that is slowly depleting, but still quite amazing to see. The group then hiked down steep rock gardens to the next station — rappelling down the side of a cliff.

Led by Laura and Garrett Campbell, the students felt very safe rappelling down the rock face. It was an opportunity to face a fear

and overcome it. Students then hiked over to Mr. Heron's little oasis — a beautiful natural waterfall spring where they filled up their water bottles with the coldest, freshest water you would ever taste.

They then walked all along the dense forest looking at different trees and vegetation that is in that area. Everything looks very different at high elevation.

“ To be able to get out of the normal school setting and go on an expedition for school is a true blessing in itself... — Sabrina Reifschneider

The action of the day was hiking over to base camp, where all the teachers and guests stay. The activities at base camp, led by Brad Tisdell, included writing journal entries about the experiences of the day, eating cinnamon swirl cake baked in a Dutch oven over coals, and doing song circles.

“To be able to get out of the normal school setting and go on an expedition for school is a true blessing in itself; definitely one of the best parts of high school so far,” said IEE participant Sabrina Reifschneider. “This trip is something I will remember forever, and I feel very lucky to have had the opportunity to experience this thanks to the IEE program.”

Sisters Rodeo names new queen

Alyson Fazzolari was chosen as Sisters Rodeo Queen in late September after an outstanding display of horsemanship on Zeus, her 13-year-old dark bay horse.

Aly Fazz, as she is familiarly known, grew up in Oregon City on acreage where animals have been part of her family her entire life. She began caring for dogs, cats, goats and horses at a young age. She entered the equestrian show ring at the age of 5.

“I was immediately hooked,” she said.

The results have been impressive. She won the Oregon State 4H Hunt Seat Championship her freshman year on a horse she trained. Her high school Cow Team Penning team qualified for the Oregon and Washington Regionals this year, and she was the Clackamas County 4H Barrel Racing Champion in 2014.

Fazzolari, with a dazzling smile and dark brown eyes that were complemented by a beautiful Western outfit, spoke to the rodeo crowd about patriotism and freedom. She noted that rodeo is the sport that represents “your freedom, my freedom, animals’ freedom, this country’s freedom and rodeo’s freedom.”

“I want to represent that feeling,” she said — in a sport, she believes, that shows respect for people and animals alike.

Aly successfully competed in horse show riding for nine years as a 4H equestrian and on the Oregon City High School Equestrian Team. At the beginning of her freshman year, she was bit by the horse “gaming” bug, especially barrel racing. She also played basketball and soccer and studied drama throughout high school, performing in many productions.

Her parents, Denise and Mike, said that this young woman is “a great kid, always happy.” She has an older brother, Vinnie, who is an OSU graduate. Aly gives youth riding lessons and is an events manager for Portland Party Works.

The family has spent many years in Central Oregon, snow skiing, snowmobiling and exploring the outdoors and Deschutes River.

Every family summer began with Sisters Rodeo, and, like most young girls, Aly was enchanted by the rodeo queens, noting “the chills I got as a child as the rodeo queens smiled and waved at me.”

“I’ve always had a connection to Sisters and Central Oregon,” said the future



PHOTO BY GARY MILLER

Queen Alyson Fazzolari.

queen. “I feel as if it’s been my second home.”

“ I was immediately hooked. — Aly Fazz

Sisters Rodeo will begin June 8 with Xtreme Bulls followed by four rodeo performances June 10-12. Ticket sales begin in December. Call the ticket hotline then at 541-549-0121 or 1-800-827-7522. For information visit www.sistersrodeo.com.

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