



The Nugget

News and Opinion from Sisters, Oregon

POSTAL CUSTOMER
PRE-SORTED STANDARD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Sisters, OR
Permit No. 15

Vol. XXXIX No. 5

www.NuggetNews.com

Wednesday, February 3, 2016

Sisters youth honored for Patriot Pen

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

Sisters veterans presented Sisters Middle School student Sydney Wilkins with the first-place Patriot Pen Award last week for her 100-word essay on "What Freedom Means To Me." (See sidebar, page 24).

Her essay was chosen from more than 30 essays submitted. The award of the Patriot Pen Medal, a \$100 check, and certificate were presented to her by Bill Anttila, commander; John Miller, quartermaster; and Jack Kinsey, trustee of VFW Post 8138, Sisters.

"I believe freedom is a force that should be for

See ESSAY on page 24

Rockin' the house....



PHOTO BY JAY MATHER

The Wood Brothers packed Sisters High School Auditorium in the first of this season's Sisters Folk Festival Winter Concert Series shows.

Refinance saves taxpayers \$715,000

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

A milestone occurred last week when a municipal bond issuance by the City of Sisters on its own behalf closed on January 28.

The bond issuance, which is an uncommon move for a city the size of Sisters, resulted in a savings to the taxpayers of approximately \$715,000.

The issuance of the bond will allow for the refinancing of \$6.7 million of City debt, at a more favorable rate than was being charged by the financial institutions that held the loans. The favorable rate was due to the recent

See REFINANCE on page 18

Is heading the ball safe? From Sisters to South Africa

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

One of the key questions raised in the discussion over the prevention and treatment of youth concussions is whether or not it is safe to head the ball in soccer.

While it trails football considerably, soccer — especially girls soccer — sees more concussions than many other sports. Since striking the ball with the head is an integral part of the game, it is natural to assume that heading and concussions are related. But it's a little more complicated than that.

The University of Washington explored the question and noted that "A study involving men's and women's college soccer

teams from the Atlantic Coast Conference found a total of 29 concussions in a two-year period. The most common cause of the concussions was when one player's head struck the head of another player. This was also the most common source of concussions in a group of soccer players at the US Olympic Sport Festival in 1993. The second most common cause of concussions occurred when a ball struck a player's head. These head-to-ball concussions happened when a player was hit in the head by a ball kicked from close range. In many cases, the ball traveled so quickly the player did not have time to react. None of the concussions were

See HEADING on page 30

By Craig Rullman
Correspondent

"If you see a baby rhino," says Alex Cyrus, "Run!"

This is one of the many lessons that local brothers William and Alex Cyrus learned on their recent experience at the Tsakane Safari Camp in South Africa.

"The babies are curious," older brother William explains, "and will come up to see what you are, but the mother will be right behind defending them."

Feeling an itch to travel, the Cyrus brothers decided on Tsakane, where their father, Matt Cyrus, had previously travelled. On his own safari, Matt had befriended Terry Schulze, owner of Tsakane, and a short time later the



PHOTO BY CRAIG RULLMAN

William and Alex Cyrus are returned from the adventure of a lifetime.

brothers found themselves deep in the African bush, inside the Balule private game reserve, on the edge of

the nearly 7.5-million acres of Greater Kruger National

See SOUTH AFRICA on page 31

Inside...

Letters/Weather	2	Obituaries	8	Announcements.....	12	Valentine's Day	15-17	Classifieds.....	26-28
Meetings	3	Sisters Salutes	10	Movies & Entertainment....	13	Crossword	25	Real Estate	29-32