

Ham operators train for emergencies

Central Oregon ham radio operators continue their training for emergency communications this week.

The High Desert Amateur Radio Club (HIDARG) and the Deschutes County Amateur Radio Service (DCARES) are hosting a joint meeting that will include hams and county emergency managers from the tri-county region. The meeting will be on Thursday, March 3, 7 p.m. Deschutes County Service Building, 1300 N.W. Wall St., in the Barnes & Sawyer Room.

The purpose of the meeting is to introduce Central Oregon hams to the ARRL and ARES management leaders for our section and to help everyone in the area concerned with emergency communications to know all the people involved so that further dialogs and coordination can be directed appropriately. ARES is part of a much larger national organization called the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).

The ARRL provides the management structure of ARES, mandates training

standards, and binds local ARES groups into a national organization that can provide mutual aid to other ARES groups around the country and around the world when the need arises.

At the local level, ARES groups also meet county standards and take direction from the agency being served.

The ARRL is sending two presenters to the meeting:

Everett Curry of Hillsboro is the Oregon section manager and is the ARRL top official for all of Oregon. He directs all ARRL activities involving amateur radio, including emergency communications.

Bruce Bjerke of Florence is the ARRL Oregon emergency section manager.

He appoints and supervises various assistants that monitor and evaluate all aspects of ARRL emergency communications activities in Oregon.

The goal of the meeting is to ensure that officials and hams at the local and state levels are all in agreement about the roles of everyone involved in the emergency communications effort.

Girls basketball all-league selections

By Rongi Yost
Correspondent

The Lady Outlaws had two players earn spots on all-league teams. Senior Olivia Stewart was voted first-team all-league, and senior Nina Horner was an honorable-mention all-leaguer.

Stewart averaged 11 points per game for the Outlaws. She shot 49 percent of the team's freethrows this season, and averaged 70 percent from the line. Her freethrows kept the Outlaws in games and contributed to their wins.

"Liv is certainly not a tall post, but she plays much bigger because she has a good combination of determination, hustle, and technique," said Coach Casey Pallister. "This year she played all positions, from point guard to post, and she rarely sat out. I asked a lot of her, and she stepped up, giving all she could and helping lift us to victories in league competition."

Horner led the Outlaws in rebounds and blocks, and broke the school record for single-game rebounds (16). Nina faced adversity at the start of the season with an injury, but bounced back and

became a real force in the post position.

"Nina is physically strong, and can score in the low post, but she also has a nice mid-range shot and drive to the hoop that gave taller, slower posts some trouble," stated Pallister. "Her post strength was much needed for our team. I'm not sure what we would have done without that. On top of that, she was always a vocal presence for our team, and eager to teach other players."

First-year Coach Pallister knew this season would be a challenging one in terms of their record, but he told *The Nugget* he wanted to define the Outlaws' success in different ways – most importantly by beginning to develop a mentality as a program that prided itself in solid, fundamental defense.

"I think we took big strides in certain areas, especially in defense," said Pallister. "We certainly struggled to score, and finished as one of the lowest-scoring teams in the state, but we were 11th overall in terms of points allowed. We were second in our league in points allowed, and most teams that allowed less points were in the top 10.

"We had a challenging pre-season schedule, so I think our defensive stats are good indicators of improvement from last year. We also had a younger and less experienced lineup this year. We will continue to build a culture of hard work, grit, and fundamental defense as we look to up our scoring numbers."

Pallister said he was proud of the effort from both his varsity and junior varsity players.

"They could have quit many times, but chose to keep fighting, and this is an attitude I know we can build on," he said. "I am especially excited about the way our freshmen players improved through the course of the season. They stuck together as a team and became a solid defensive force."

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