

Outlaws skiers medal at State

Outlaws skiers braved the wind and rain for their final races of the season at the Oregon School Ski Association 2016 State Championships at Mt. Bachelor last weekend. Giant Slalom was on Friday, Slalom on Saturday.

Typically the courses are set to challenge the racers skills, and are more demanding than the season races. The Giant Slalom race consisted of the entire length of the Cliffhanger run. Senior Betsy Ausman skied very aggressively on both runs, placing her 11th in the state finals. Senior Cammi Benson had a close call on her second run, but made an impressive recovery and managed to place 17th.

“Both girls worked hard this year on becoming the best racers they could be,” said Coach Greg Ausman. “Their improvement was very visible and I could not be more proud.”

Saturday was the grueling Slalom race for the Outlaws. The length was almost as long as a GS course, and consisted of 64 gates. Many racers did not complete the course. Cammi Benson placed 12th, and Betsy Ausman placed 13th in the seniors’ final high school race.

“This was by far the longest slalom course of the

year,” said Coach Kelly Davis-Martin, who watched from the finish arena. “The last 10 gates were the most difficult, but both girls skied strong through the finish line. I could tell they were exhausted.”

The capstone awards for the season are the overall season placings. Cammi Benson brought home the ninth-place medal in the Giant Slalom, and Betsy Ausman captured the 10th-place medal in Slalom.

State qualifiers Holland Hartman, Sam Lewis, Lachlan Wood and John Banks also competed in Friday and Saturday’s races, helping bring both the men’s and women’s teams to a seventh-place finish out of 13 teams from across the state.

This weekend was Coach Greg Ausman’s final race as a coach for the Sisters High School Alpine Team.

“I am so grateful I had the opportunity to be coached by Greg for the past four years. His leadership and sportsmanship made a huge difference in my life,” said senior Cammi Benson.

Coach Ausman is leaving a 30-year coaching legacy behind him as he passes off the reins to Coach Kelly Davis-Martin for next year’s alpine ski teams.

LOGAN MILLER: Youth is back home caring for his lambs

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Strong for Logan Miller” were made and sold by close friends. That phrase came from the Facebook page put up by family and friends giving information on Logan’s recovery. All the money from the bracelets went to Logan and his family to help pay for his medical bills.

Since going home to the family ranch east of Sisters, Logan has been tending to his lambs, resting, and doing physical therapy.

At the time of his accident, Miller was a student in the Pursue Your Passion entrepreneur class taught by Jon Renner and Bill Willitts. Due to Logan’s accident, he was not able to participate in the class’ final business presentations last week. However, he attended the presentations to support his fellow classmates. The original presentation was cancelled, and Logan attended the rescheduled presentation at Sisters High School last week (*see related story, page 7*).

Miller was presented with the class’ Courage Award. The class decided to come together and get Logan a box with his name engraved on, with a lucky silver dollar inside, a letter from everyone in the class and a chocolate bar. He also received a jacket with the PYP logo on it.

Class lead instructor Bill Willitts told *The Nugget*, “My



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Logan Miller received the Courage Award from Pursue Your Passion.

hope was that Logan would come full circle and find the courage and strength to attend the final presentations. What I didn’t know was to accomplish this he would need to gather his strength twice. He did. Courage is that inner voice that doesn’t allow you to give up. Logan has grit and defines the words ‘never give up.’”

Logan will continue extensive recovery work to overcome the effects of his head injury. There will be a fundraiser for the Miller family at The Cottonwood Café on

Sunday, March 13. It will be a four-course dinner, \$100 per person; all proceeds go to the Miller family.

Call The Cottonwood Café at 541-549-2699 to make reservations. Only 20 seats are available.

Logan told *The Nugget* he is very thankful for all the support he has been given throughout his recovery and looks forward to being involved in community events. He thanks the community for “Staying Strong for Logan Miller.”

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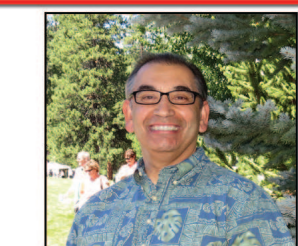
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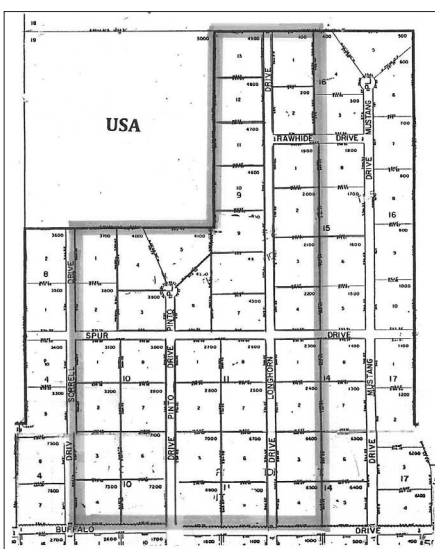
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