



Gene Hellickson (white cap) meets with Rep. Greg Walden and other veterans in Washington, D.C.

HELLICKSON: Sisters veteran represented Oregon

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New scientific and medical procedures are needed to help veterans suffering from traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder. Creative measures are needed to address the growing backlog of appeals. Gender-specific care and services are needed to address the substantial growth in the number of women veterans. Electronic records need to be modernized to

ensure a seamless account from enlistment through end of life.

Many other areas beyond medical need congressional action and accountability as well. Approximately 422,000 veterans are unemployed. More than 40,000 are homeless.

One last key point is the Legion's drive to protect the American flag. The American Legion is driving for a Constitutional amendment to prohibit desecration of the U.S. flag. A complete understanding of all the American Legion does can be seen on their website, www.legion.org.

Girls tennis prepares to hit the courts

By Rongi Yost
Correspondent

The girls tennis team returns 11 players to their squad and will add seven new players. The team graduated their top two doubles teams last year, so this year boasts a relatively inexperienced squad. Coach Susan Fullhart told *The Nugget* that she has a great group of girls, and she's confident they will have good chemistry and a lot of fun as a team this year.

Mykaila Hartman returns for her third year and will be the only senior on the team who has played tennis before, and according to Fullhart, is already stepping up as a leader. Hartman played No. 2 doubles last year, but this year wants to give doubles play a shot.

"Mykaila will be a tough competitor with her powerful strokes from the back court," said Fullhart. "But she's a real team player, and will be willing to fill in wherever we need her."

Lacy Gilmore also returns for her third year on varsity.

Gilmore played No. 1 singles last year, and won several matches.

"Lacy has a solid all-around game, which is why she's strong in singles," said Fullhart. "She will return with all of that experience under her belt, and I'm excited to see what she does with it. She will probably move between singles and doubles in our first few matches before we decide where she will land."

Annika Stadeli also brings with her three years of experience. Last year, Stadeli played with great success at both No. 2 and No. 3 doubles positions. Fullhart noted that Anni is a good athlete, which gives her the versatility to play either singles or doubles.

Alana Lukens (sophomore) experienced tennis for the first time last year, and it was obvious from the start that she was a natural. She played doubles and won most of her matches.

"Alana loves to be aggressive at the net, which made her a coveted doubles

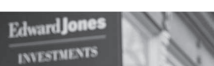
partner," stated Fullhart. "Her competitive spirit and positive attitude is a coach's dream. She will be looking for a new partner, as last year's graduated, and I'm confident that she will have lots of offers!"

Juniors Ashley Adams, McKenna Marshall, Devry Grace, Jessica Haugen and sophomores Engracia Diez, Mary Florian and Moriah Jones round out the returning players.

New to the team will be senior Taylor Eagen, juniors Ciera Aguirre and Emily Skalda, sophomore Trinity Smith, and freshmen Alesa Asson and Sofia Frack.

Fullhart is excited about the season ahead and is looking forward to seeing what her players do on the court.

The Lady Outlaws were to play against Mountain View on Tuesday, March 15, at home at Black Butte Ranch (BBR) in their first match of the season. On Thursday, the Outlaws will play at home again in a match against Redmond.




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