

Fill out your bingo card for the Outlaws

Outlaws Together Bingo is scheduled for Monday, April 25.

Doors open at 5 p.m.; dinner starts at 5:30 p.m., and bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. in the Sisters High School Commons.

The event is a fundraiser for Outlaws athletic and co-curricular programs.

Buy-in for 11 games is \$15 — and this includes a game of Bingo Blackout with the grand prize of a 64 GB Apple iPad Mini 3. All proceeds benefit the Sisters High School Athletics Department.

A community dinner sponsored by Sisters Park & Recreation District and Three Creeks Brewing runs prior to the bingo for \$2 per person. The night will also include a silent auction.

For more information on contact Sisters High School Athletic Director Tim Roth at 541-549-4050 or tim.roth@sisters.k12.or.us.

RUMBLE: Some local runners turned out for the grueling course

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Nordell creamed the women's field on her way to 18th place overall with a time of 2:33:32. Ann Ciaverella of McMinnville finished second in 2:44:14 among women and thirty-third overall among 332 finishers.

Local finishers in the race included Vince Grace (3:07:48), Ramon Alonso (3:12:57), Jessica Slaughter (3:18:05), Jessie Durham (3:21:20), Winter Lewis (3:45:10), and Lucie Pronold and Shannon Beutler (4:19:46).

Rick Stilson of Bend won the 40-mile course in 4:26:05, while Kyle Ormsby of Portland finished second in 4:39:14.

Joelle Vaught of Boise, Idaho finished fourth overall and first among women in 4:57:05. Second place was a battle as four women finished within three minutes of one another, but it was Alice Nielsen of Portland who claimed runner-up honors in 16th place overall in 5:40:04.

A total of 120 runners completed the 40-mile

course. Two Sisters residents completed the 40-mile race. Kelley Moen finished in 6:08:10 and Dave Roberts clocked 6:44:22.

Meissner thanked the Sisters community for its continued support of the race.

"Since I don't live here anymore, I rely on all sorts of friends and volunteers to pull this event off every year," he said. "I got compliments all day yesterday about how well racers were treated at aid stations, at junctions and at the finish, which I know, along with the great trails and beautiful scenery, is what makes people want to come back year after year."

Meissner said that the comments he got over and over included two major themes: "People commented on how friendly everyone was and how unbelievably nice the trail system is here in Sisters."

The 15th annual race will take place in April, 2017, and Meissner, who works as a professional running coach in Durango, Colorado, hopes a few more locals will enter the race.

"If people start planning and training now there is no reason they can't take part in the 20-miler!" he said.

Oregon snowpack looks promising

Cold and snowy weather in the first half of March bolstered Oregon's mountain snowpack and delayed melting in most areas, according to the April Water Supply Outlook Report released last week by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Thanks to March snow storms, many monitoring sites across the state have reached or surpassed normal peak snowpack levels for this time of year—a much-improved outlook compared to last year, when more than half of these sites were snow-free on April 1.

Today's data shows snowpack levels ranging from slightly below normal to slightly above normal across all basins in the state. In western Oregon, snowpack is the lowest in the Willamette Basin at 80 percent of normal; while in eastern Oregon, the lowest snowpack is in the Malheur Basin, at 69 percent of normal. Today's cumulative statewide average snowpack is 92 percent of normal.

Snowpack in the

Deschutes/Crooked River Basin is 10 percent above normal.

Despite the cold weather in the first two weeks of March, the last two weeks have been warm and dry throughout Oregon — which has led to the onset of spring snowmelt in most locations across the state. NRCS hydrologists are still predicting near-normal or above-normal streamflows this summer, but they caution that those predictions hinge on air temperature.

"Air temperatures are critical right now — if we have a sunny and warm spring, the snowpack will melt faster and irrigation demands will start sooner," said Scott Oviatt, NRCS Oregon snow survey supervisor. "However, if we have cooler mountain temperatures and another wet month, we could preserve the snowpack for a few more weeks, delay irrigation demand, and boost reservoir levels in the regions of the state that are still recovering from the 2015 drought."

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