Tough course challenges Outlaws

By Charlie Kanzig
Correspondent

The Jere Breese Memorial Ranch Stampede, hosted by Crook County High School, provides a challenge unrivaled among cross-country courses in Oregon.

Mosquito-infested irrigated cow pastures, rockladen single-track, a creek crossing at the start and finish, a never-ending hill, and an unrelenting sun greeted runners from Sisters, Redmond, Mountain View, Summit, and La Pine in the inaugural race of the 2016 campaign.

For new runners, it is an initiation of sorts to a sport in which no two courses are the same and mental toughness is as important as physical stamina. For veteran runners, it is a chance to see if summer training has paid off.

For two Outlaws, the latter was certainly the case. Jordan Pollard led the boys race from start to finish on his way to garnering his first-ever varsity win, while Anna Bartlett, a member of last year's second-place state team, looked tougher than ever in earning a fourth-place finish among a high-quality field.

The approach to the race for the team, according to Head Coach Joshua Nordell, was to take it as a high-quality workout, given that official practices started August 15 and very few runners are



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOC

Jordan Pollard finishes first overall at Jere Breese Run.

race-ready.

"It's a fun, low-key meet on a challenging course that all the runners can learn and benefit from," said Nordell.

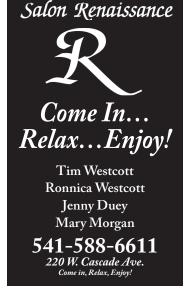
After running in the open race, he concurred that the course, especially the hill, presented a great challenge to the runners.

"That was one tough hill," he said.

Team scores and individual results were not immediately published due to some technical difficulties, but Nordell felt pleased for the team members who took on the course and made it through.

"We have a lot of training ahead of us, but the Stampede provided a good test for us and a chance to experience the meet atmosphere."

The team races next on Friday, September 2 at the Pine Nursery at a meet hosted by Mountain View High School.







Live music on tap for holiday weekend

Summer will ring to a close on a high note over Labor Day Weekend with many local venues serving up live music.

On Thursday night at 6 p.m., Mike Biggers and Jim Cornelius will play at Rio Restaurant. Their band, The Anvil Blasters, will follow that up with music at Black Butte Ranch at 5 p.m. on Friday, September 2, and ring out the season with their traditional rousing performance at the Camp Sherman Store on Saturday, September 3. The barbecue at the Store starts at 5:30 p.m.

Brent Alan and His Funky Friends will help you get your groove on with a mash-up of Central Oregon's elite performers in a night of good company and rockin' dance tunes at Angeline's Bakery at 7 p.m. Cover charge is \$5-\$10 On Friday September 2, Sisters Saloon will host Bobby Lindstrom from 8 to 11 p.m. out on the patio, and will follow on Saturday September 3, with Riley's Range Benders from 7 to 10 p.m. Riley and the Rangebenders return on Saturday, September 3, from 11. a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Food Cart Garden at Eurosports.

Smudge will play jazz at the Food Cart Garden at Eurosports on Friday, September 2. The combo features Elise Franklin & Warren Zaiger, who used to play bass in Barbara Mandrell's band. Music runs from 5 to 7 p.m.

Cork Cellars will feature Melanie Rose Dyer and Daniel Cooper playing from 7 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, September 3.

The Sisters Fall Street Festival will also offer live music.

