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'Anything goes' in winter forecast

By Ron Thorkildson
Correspondent

With the arrival of autumn, climate experts are weighing in on what kind of a winter we might expect here in the Pacific Northwest. After serving as a caldrion where one of the strongest El Niños in 65 years was brewed last season, conditions in the tropical Pacific Ocean have returned to more normal levels. What atmospheric scientists need to figure out now is where to go from here.

See FORECAST on page 38

Winning streak...



Keagan Greaney with a defensive header in a win that pushed the Outlaws' league record to 5-0. (See story, page 4.)

PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Breckel crowned Rodeo Queen

Emylia Breckel was crowned as the 2017 Sisters Rodeo Queen on Sunday, September 25, at Sisters Rodeo grounds. She gave a vibrant speech praising Sisters Country and the rodeo before riding her horse, Dutch, in an impressive display of horsemanship and training.

Six young women competed for the title. The judges felt that this may have been the most skilled group of contestants they have scored in many years.

"Rodeo queens are more

See QUEEN on page 36

Blum seeks election to her council seat

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

Andrea Blum is the only incumbent Sisters City Councilor running this November for election to one of the three available seats on the Council.

Blum was appointed a year ago to fill the vacancy on the Council created when Wendy Holzman resigned. Her year has been one of trial by fire, including the contentious resignation of city manager Andrew Gorayeb, the firing of longtime city attorney Steve Bryant, and resignations of the finance director and the senior planner, and the work of finding their replacements.

Blum has experienced first-hand the difficulty created with continual turnover of Council members and staff.

"It has been difficult for

the City to move forward with the community's and the Council's goals because of the continued turnover," Blum remarked, saying she will bring "continuity and historical memory" to the Council.

"Now that I have served a year on the City Council, I believe I am more able to understand the various alternatives that are available and will be better able to advocate for the community's concerns and priorities," Blum told *The Nugget*.

She believes that the first year as a member of the City Council is mainly a learning experience.

"I'm finally feeling like I can be proactive on the important issues that I hear about from the community, instead of just reacting

See BLUM on page 31

Brew fest gets Sisters hoppin'

By Jodi Schneider McNamee
Correspondent

The Pacific Northwest brewing scene is in full bloom, and when the aroma of fresh hops saturated the air around Village Green on Saturday, hundreds of folks flocked to the seventh annual Sisters Fresh Hop Festival.

The festival was hosted by Three Creeks Brewing and the proceeds benefited the American Cancer Society.

The Festival featured unique fresh-hop brews from 25 breweries around the state of Oregon. Each participating brewery had at least one fresh-hop beer.

Hops are the female flowering cones of the hop plant. Depending on the style of beer, hops supply flavor, fragrance and bitterness, which temper malt sweetness. And once a year, in September, regional hops are plucked fresh and added to brew



PHOTO BY JODI SCHNEIDER MCNAMEE

Zack, a rep from Crosby Farms, showing hops with another rep.

recipes by brewers.

Three Creeks Brewing has a great passion for fresh-hop beers and was excited to be the new hosts for the Festival.

"I think it was a great

opportunity for us to reach out to other breweries that haven't been to the festival before in order to get a really

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