

# Von Stein takes reins as girls basketball coach

By Rongi Yost  
Correspondent

Alan Von Stein is the new Sisters High School girls varsity basketball coach. He is ready to begin the 2016-2017 season. Von Stein brings years of experience to the girls basketball program.

He grew up in Ohio and was a three-sport athlete. He played football, basketball, and track, but basketball was by far his favorite. However, while playing football, he tore his ACL and MCL, which ended his sports career.

Von Stein started coaching 22 years ago while living in Indiana, a state which takes its basketball very seriously. He has coached girls at all levels, including junior league, competitive AAU, middle school, junior varsity, varsity assistant, and as an interim varsity coach.

He coached for 18 years in Indiana, and then took a break so he could enjoy watching his three daughters play basketball at the collegiate level.

Alan and his wife, Rebecca, moved to Sisters from Indiana in 2014 for the weather and the outdoor lifestyle. The couple enjoys hiking, biking, kayaking, and playing tennis. Alan is a retired surgeon, but still does some physician volunteering through Volunteers in Medicine in Bend.

Von Stein stepped back into coaching this past year, and coached Sisters' eighth-grade girls basketball team, which went 7-3 in league and finished second in the Sisters Shootout tournament.

Von Stein was hired for the head coach position last

spring, and this past summer took nine of his players to a basketball camp, where they spent 13 hours a day playing basketball.

Von Stein said, "These are great young women who deserve the opportunity to improve their skills in a sport that they are passionate about. High school athletics are not

only about points, but are about helping to develop great citizens, who understand time management and the importance of teamwork."

Von Stein recognizes the potential in his student/athletes, and told *The Nugget* he is excited to have the opportunity to assist them in realizing their potential.

"My goals, all of which

I've shared with the girls, are to improve fundamental play, to work hard, practice hard, to be a good teammate, and most importantly to have FUN! All the girls will have a clean slate with me. Playing time will be determined on the girls meeting the previously mentioned goals, not seniority. This is a varsity sport, so we will do our best to be as successful as

we can be.

"Fundamentals are critical for the girls to be successful," added Von Stein. "If you watch the WNBA or women's collegiate basketball, successful teams play good team defense, set good picks, block out, and score points. We will need to accomplish all of the above in order to be successful."



"Partnering with organizations like St. Charles makes this program possible."

~Mary Kimmel, Jericho Road

In Central Oregon, one-third of children are considered "food insecure," which means they don't often know where they will get their next meal. This fact frightens Mary Kimmel, a retired elementary teacher in Redmond.

Although a high percentage of children in Redmond qualify for free lunches at school, many would go hungry over the weekend if not for Kimmel and other volunteers from Jericho Road. Each week during the school year, the group fills more than 70 backpacks with enough food to help hungry children get through the weekend. During the 2015-2016 school year, Jericho Road distributed 1,932 food backpacks to children in need.

## Oregon coach Altman gets 7-year extension

EUGENE (AP) — Oregon basketball coach Dana Altman has a new seven-year deal worth \$18.45 million that keeps him under contract with the Ducks through 2022-23.

Altman has led Oregon to six straight seasons with 20 or more wins, and four consecutive appearances in the NCAA Tournament.

Last season, the Ducks won a school-record 31 games and took both the Pac-12 regular-season and tournament titles.

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