

Boys golf competes at Prineville Country Club

By Rongi Yost
Correspondent

The boys golf squad competed against four other Central Oregon teams at the Prineville Country Club on Tuesday, April 18, and posted a team score of 374. The competition was primarily a JV match but a good fit for the Sisters squad.

Bend finished at 416, Ridgeview posted a 434, and Crook County shot a 438. Summit rounded out the scores at 636.

Wyatt Hernandez paced the Outlaws with a score of 90. Hernandez played a very consistent round and posted a 45 on both the front and back nine. Andrew Mayes was just two strokes back at 92. Kade Owen shot a 95, Austin Lake carded a 97, and Ryan Waddell shot a 108.

Coach Bill Mitchell said, "Wyatt has really been working hard on his game. Both his ball-striking and putting have improved.

"It was a fun course to play," said Mitchell. "It's a small nine-hole course that you go around twice, which is unique. I was happy with the boys' scores today. It was a great effort by all of them."

Boys tennis splits matches

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The boys tennis squad was only able to tally one win in their match against Cascade on Tuesday, April 18, but they bounced back two days later with a 6-1 victory at home against Stayton.

In Tuesday's match against Cascade, Jonny Gurney, at No. 1 singles, was the Outlaws' lone winner. Gurney defeated Sam Anthony 6-3, 6-3 in a very solid match.

Coach Gander said, "I can see that Jonny's confidence is building with each district match that he plays. He's now 2-1 against district opponents, and we expect that record to improve during the coming weeks as we look forward to the district championship next month."

Gurney hopes to secure one of the top four seeds in the district draw, which is something no other Sisters singles player has achieved since Paul Fullhart in 2014.

Two days later, after a couple of long rain delays, the Outlaws finally completed their scheduled match against Stayton at 7:30 p.m.

Sisters top two singles

players and top doubles team easily won their matches.

Jonny Gurney (No. 1 singles) defeated Matt Gerlens in two quick sets, 6-1, 6-1, and Josh Kizziar (No. 2 singles) beat Caleb Belliard 6-0, 6-1. Jed Kizziar and Jacob Gurney (No. 1 doubles) beat Liam Briles and Junior Velasco 6-1, 6-1.

Elijah Gurney and Isaiah Chapen had to work a bit harder to beat Logan Moore and Ivan Ochoa at No. 2 doubles. The combo battled back from a first set loss (5-7) and won the next two sets 6-4, 6-4.

Gander said, "Ivan Ochoa had an unbeatable serve, so our guys had to find a way to break his partner without losing any service games themselves. When Isaiah held serve from 30 all in the last game, we all breathed a collective sigh of relief!"

George Bates (No. 4 singles) and Sam Meyes and Aaron Johnson (No. 3 doubles) won their matches by default.

The Outlaws were to play at Crook County on Tuesday, April 25. Sisters will play on Thursday, April 27, at home against Philomath.

Leadership and spirit earn Smith recognition

Sisters softball standout Amanda Smith won acknowledgement from Outlaws coaches as Sisters High School's Athlete of the Month for April.

Smith is an ace pitcher who helps her cause with a powerful bat for the Outlaws. But according to Kerry Mooers, one of Amanda's coaches, it is leadership and a spirit of sportsmanship that elevates Smith beyond merely being an excellent player.

"It's one thing to bring yourself as an athlete to another level with hard work and dedication," Mooers said. "It's on a complete separate plane to raise your teammates and the next generation of players' level of play."

He cited Smith's



PHOTO PROVIDED

Amanda Smith.

participation in clinics for Little League and junior-level players and "uplifting teammates with enthusiasm and pure love of the sport. Softball in Sisters, Oregon, (once thought dead) is now alive and well, thanks in part to this athlete!" Mooers said.

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