

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

★ OUTLAWS ★

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★★★ ELLA COLE ★★★ SAMANTHA SILVA ★★★

Ella Cole, a standout Outlaws cross-country runner, and Samantha Silva of the Outlaws varsity volleyball squad were selected as November Athletes of the Month. The athletes are elected by a poll of Outlaws coaches, who vote based not

only on athletic performance but on the student-athletes' leadership and teamwork qualities.

Volleyball Coach Rory Rush praised Silva:

"Sam was a vital part of our team's success this season and our third-place finish. Sam is an explosive hitter with power but smarts. She has established herself as a top player in the Oregon West League. She is not only an explosive player in the front row but also a force on defense. She is a quick defender and her ability to read the ball sets her apart in our league. Her serving is tough and has provided many serving runs for us in tight situations. She finished the season with 135 kills and 189 digs. She was voted first-team all-league for the Oregon West Conference, and second-team all-state.

"Sam also stands out as an exceptional student at Sisters High School. She spends time helping with Project Unified and our life skills class, all while maintaining exceptional grades. We are very proud of Sam and her hard work. Congratulations, Sam, on being Athlete of the Month!

Counselor and former cross-country Coach Charlie Kanzig covered Cole's stellar season for *The Nugget*. He had this to say:

"For anyone who ever wonders what the saying 'poetry in motion' means, all they need to do is watch Ella Cole run. She is a gifted and gutsy athlete with a kind demeanor, which makes her the kind of teammate everyone

loves."

Cole's coach, teacher Rima Givot, said, "Ella has been such an asset to our cross-country team. She is humble and dedicated, quietly leading by example day in and day out. Her calm, kind, consistent nature influenced our team helping to draw together a new group of girls. I have absolutely loved getting to coach Ella and will really miss her. I wish her the best!"



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK



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Dad accused of abandoning baby in woods apprehended in Bend

BEND (AP) — The father of a one-year-old boy who was left in the woods of Central Oregon has been apprehended in Bend.

KTVZ-TV reports 26-year-old Brandon Blouin was arrested Wednesday, November 28, at a Bend motel by Deschutes County sheriff's deputies acting on an anonymous tip.

A nationwide warrant was issued after he failed to appear in court earlier this month.

Authorities say Blouin and the child's mother took the boy last spring from his legal guardian in West Virginia.

Authorities say Blouin, who was living in an SUV, had left the child alone for at least six hours in the woods. He allegedly told authorities he'd set the child down but couldn't find him.

A detective found the child cold but OK.

Blouin was indicted in May on charges that include abandonment of a child, custodial interference, child neglect and endangering the welfare of a minor.



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