

Sisters Coffee Co. reopens Portland café

Sisters Coffee Co. re-opened their flagship Portland retail café last week after being closed since August. The residential unit above their space experienced a fire and subsequent flooding that caused water damage to much of their café. After four-and-a-half months of cleanup and restoration, the newly remodeled space has launched with many key upgrades. Sibling owners Jared, Jesse, and Justin Durham are excited to share the completely revamped café with the Pearl District community. Once again partnering

with original designer, Guggenheim Studio, the Durham family sought to rebuild the space and continue its premium hospitality experience by expanding on original elements in fresh new ways. “Lighting plays a central role in the design,” said Jeff Guggenheim, principal designer. “From the exterior looking in, the large suspended globe lights illuminate the large corner storefront, beckoning folks to pop in for a drink and a light meal. Once inside, the space is punctuated by glowing wall sconces

manufactured just down the street at The Good Flock. It is important to us to utilize the talents of local craftspeople and makers whenever possible.” The most prominent upgrade is the expanded espresso bar area. Next, the Durhams focused on increased seating by replacing the fireplace with a new 25-foot leather banquette seat. “It was tough to see the fireplace go, but once we realized we were going to quadruple the seating in that area, it was an easy choice,” said Justin. They also replaced the

built-in bookcase on the upper mezzanine with a long-bench that adds eight seats upstairs. In addition to improved customer flow, the remodel has a fresh new look that captures the traditional warm tones of the Sisters Coffee brand. The redesign utilizes white oak throughout. There’s a mural of the Three Sisters on the expansive east wall, crowned with a centerpiece photo of South Sister, taken by adventure photographer Tyler Roemer. The “surprise” remodel was a collaboration between the three Durham siblings who

run Sisters Coffee together. They put much thought into the design in order to improve the customer experience and hope it will provide a warm space, with a great coffee experience for anyone who comes to visit the Pearl District in Portland. Winfield and Joy Durham founded Sisters Coffee Co. in 1989. Their aim was to create a rare craft coffee experience in Sisters, while raising a family and building community. For more information about Sisters Coffee Company, visit www.sisterscoffee.com or call 541- 549-0527.

Outlaws swimmers getting faster

By **Charlie Kanzig**
Correspondent

The Sisters Outlaws swim team members continued their assault on personal and season records at a dual meet versus Madras on January 12 at the Madras Aquatic Center. Official meet results were not published in a timely manner, but Head Coach Bryn Singleton reported notable highlights from the meet and shared what the team’s focus has been as the squad moves beyond mid-season. “We have been working on more technical aspects of everyone’s strokes this past week, and everyone really did a great job putting those things into action in their races this weekend,” she said. “For example, Austen Heuberger dropped over a second off his previous best 50-yard freestyle time (28.46) and over 2 seconds off his previous 100-freestyle time (1:03.70). In short sprints, taking off time like that is so hard that it shows he’s really working hard on his technique,” she said. “Also, junior Laura Clem again dropped her 500-freestyle time, taking off another five seconds to finish in 6:52.51.” Some first-year team members showed great progress,

according to Singleton. “Cambrie Leaver, Maddie Busick and Felix Leahy, all new to the team this year, also did a great job and lowered their previous times...” For more advanced swimmers, this time of the season is when they get a feel for their fitness and start to focus on where they really hope to be for championship races. “Brooke Robillard and Lydia Bartlett continue to lower their times as they work towards returning to State this year,” said Singleton. Both girls, along with Meredith Mandal, played key roles in the girls’ state trophy-winning team of 2018. A dual meet allows swimmer and coaches to try new things, so Singleton invited some of her swimmers to move out of their normal races and try new events. “We had some kids really step up and take new challenges,” she said. “Junior Connor Crowe swam his first 500 freestyle, which is the longest distance race in high school swimming. It’s a tough race to pace when you’ve never done it before and he did a great job, finishing strong.” She added, “Mary Root and Maddie Busick also completed their first individual medley races.”

Singleton is pleased with the team’s progression as they prepare for this week’s competitions, a dual meet at Philomath Friday, January 18 and the South Albany Sprint Meet Saturday, January 19. “Overall, it was a great week. We are starting to solidify relay teams and individual events for District and will continue working and competing hard,” she said.





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