

**LETTERS**

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business of determining true or false claims. We are required to report immediately to those who are responsible, even if we don't like what is being reported. No wiggle room, no excuses, no exceptions. Many of the children involved have been part of the community and the athletic programs for years. The coaches have been a part of the SSD family for mere months, and have not yet earned the right to be unsupervised in their behaviors and coaching methods.

It is also my understanding that the young female athletes in question were interviewed inappropriately and given inappropriate direction for "solving" the problem. Like so much of the country, older men, presenting as white, using their significant privilege are making decisions about how to treat young women and people of color. This is not acceptable. It is a much bigger problem than the related published commentary, but it is certainly sad to see that our little town doesn't behave better.

In returning to the specific topic, did *The Nugget* interview the parents who are concerned about the extreme coaching behaviors? Did those who wrote their letters reach out to them to hear both sides, or is this just an opportunity to stir up trouble without real investigation or commitment to children and their safety? Who will supply the missing information and share a balanced perspective?

Elizabeth Burns



To the Editor:

My name is Hallie Schwartz and I am writing this letter in regards to the girls basketball coaches of 2018-2019. I know that there has been some drama in relation to their coaching style over the year and that three families have altering opinions on the matter.

I was on the team this year, both the varsity and JV end, as I was a swing player. The coaches, especially Brittaney (Niebergall-Brown), showed an immense amount of care toward the girls on our team, and it was shown in every practice and game we had. They had the type of intensity that was needed in order to improve and better our team. I saw a major improvement, not only in our ability/skill but also with our togetherness as a team.

I had more fun in this year of basketball than I ever had the past 11 years, and that was because of my coaches. They were intense and honest about what we needed to do, but always with words of encouragement and reasons as to how we could improve. That's what I appreciated most about them. I knew that what they were telling me was going to be honest, so I was able to trust their words on how I could better my abilities.

I feel like some girls on my team weren't able to understand that the coaches cared about us enough to be honest, and that sometimes the truth isn't always sugarcoated to their liking. I don't believe that any of their

coaching was too extreme or rude, and that they were purposely trying to bring us down.

Needless to say, all three coaches did their jobs in teaching us the game of basketball and improving our team in a kind and caring way, with a passion for team togetherness. It would be unfair to see them go, as the majority of the team enjoyed the coaches, not only for how they taught but how they were as people. I genuinely hope to see them back with us again next year.

Hallie Schwartz



To the Editor:

On May 9, at the Sisters Library, Jamie McLeod-Skinner came for the fourth time at the behest of Indivisible Sisters to share a review of the past campaign, what is important now, and what's in the future. We deeply appreciated her visit and open communications.

For her past campaign, there was good and bad news. The latter first — she lost. Here's the good news: Oregon's 2nd Congressional District is open to change. Jamie bridged the political divide with her message of working together to fix what's broken. She won Deschutes County and won Representative Greg Walden's home of Hood River County by a 2:1 margin. She was able to raise \$1.3 million for her campaign, sans corporate PAC contributions, and built a district-wide network that engaged over 2,600 volunteers in the political process.

Representative Greg Walden had the smallest win of his congressional career (the spread from his last race dropped by 27 percent) and he was forced to use nearly all of his \$5 million war chest on our District. After the election, Representative Walden is now holding town halls again and votes more centrist rather than straight party line.

Jamie shared that what is important now is to engage within our communities. Vote in all elections. Be involved as citizens as frequently as our schedules allow. Contact our federal, state, and local representatives — by phone, email, post card or letter — to let them know what we think about upcoming legislation. Run for local offices and support those that do. Most importantly, make it a point to talk with those who do not agree with you politically. It will require listening more while trying to understand their point of view rather than trying to convince them of anything. We noted and encouraged participation in Let's Talk events, a branch of www.CitizensforCommunity.com (C4C) in Sisters, that attempts such communications work monthly.

Jamie was recently appointed to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), nominated by Governor Brown and confirmed by the Oregon Senate. She is being encouraged to run again against Walden and to run for Secretary of State. She asked for

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# Sun to shine on Sisters Farmers Market

Hello, sunshine. Move over, rain. The curtain of gray is expected to lift for opening day at Sisters Farmers Market.

"The weather forecast is calling for 'abundant sunshine' on Sunday," said market manager Rachel Kelleher. "It's going to be beautiful."

The market debuts its new day and time, Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. beginning this Sunday, June 2. The band Appaloosa will get people's toes tapping. Yoga, kids' activities, and lunch will also be on the menu.

Old favorites like Mahonia Gardens and new vendors including Seed to Table will bring fresh produce grown right here in Sisters. Jade's Mountain Farm will bring plant starts. Planter boxes, eggs, and Mama Celia's Gourmet oils and vinegars are among the products expected.

Lunch is a new offering at Sisters Farmers Market. The Caravana food truck will debut an eclectic menu of

fusion foods. Due to a death in the family, Kid Made Camp won't be bringing the Simple & Fresh food cart for Opening Day. The cart will offer ceviche, tostadas, and smoothies starting June 9.

The Market will present yoga on the lawn for the first time. Throughout June, Naji's Midtown Yoga of Bend will host a one-hour vinyasa yoga class beginning at 11:30 a.m. There is a suggested donation of \$5-10. Bring a towel to stretch out on.

While changing its day and time, the market has kept its fairly new location: Fir Street Park, on the corner of Main Avenue and Fir Street. The park features a bandshell stage and a splash pad for kids to play in on hot days.

Sisters Farmers Market takes place Sundays at Fir Street Park from the beginning of June all the way to the end of September, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, visit [www.sistersfarmersmarket.com](http://www.sistersfarmersmarket.com).

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