Swim teams continue improvement

By Charlie Kanzig Correspondent

Another double-meet weekend for the Sisters Outlaws swim teams moved them one step closer to the district meet scheduled for later this month.

Results from the meet in Stayton Saturday, February 1 were not made available before press time, but Friday's seven-team meet at Lebanon produced some season bests for the Outlaws.

Lydia Bartlett once again provided a number of high points for her team as they placed fifth overall with 114.5 points. Sweet Home completely dominated the team standings with 382.5 points to easily outdistance the runner-up Lebanon Warriors, who scored 268.

Bartlett took second place in the 200-yard individual medley losing to Sweet Home's Malia Hewitt by just under half a second in a time of 2:15.72. It was Bartlett's best time of the season in the event by over six seconds. Laura Clem also set a season best, finishing seventh in 2:55.47.

Clem came back with a third-place finish in the 100yard butterfly in 1:17.33, her best of the year.

Hewitt got the best of Bartlett in the 100-yard breaststroke 1:10.23 to

1:12.89. The two are clearly the cream of the crop in the district as no one else came close to them in the race.

Bartlett, Clem, Iris Diez and Mary Root picked up a second-place finish in the 200-yard with a time of 1:58.5.

On the boys' side, the Newport Cubs won the meet with 289 points. The Outlaws finished fifth with 147 points.

Sam Mayes had a part in most of the team's highlights, including a third-place finish in the 50-yard freestyle in 25.05 and fifth in the 100yard freestyle in 57.29.

Mayes also took part in the 200-yard freestyle relay with teammates Austen Heuberger, Clayten Heuberger, and Osmond Bates where they placed third with a season best of 1:45.43. The same quartet also established a season best in the 400-yard freestyle relay with

G'm always impressed by how much their swimming skills improve, but equally impressed by how they support and encourage each other-**Bryn Singleton** a time of 4:02.07

In addition, Bates and Clayten Heuberger placed fifth and eighth respectively in the 50-yard freestyle in 27.39 and 27.79.

Bates picked up a season best in the 100-yard breaststroke 1:14.54 where he placed fourth.

Head Coach Bryn Singleton said, "These meets were after our hardest weeks of practice this season, and everyone did a really great job swimming hard when they're tired."

It was the final big weekend for the team before district, according to Singleton. "We have one more week before we taper for districts," she said.

Singleton reflected on the progress of her swimmers and the way the season has flown by. "They have really come together as a team, which is one of the best things to get to be a part of as a coach. I'm always impressed by how much their swimming skills improve, but equally impressed by how they support and encourage each other," she said.

The district championships are set for February 14 and 15.

Warfighter Outfitters to host annual fundraiser

Warfighter Outfitters is hosting its annual fundraising dinner and auction benefit this Saturday, February 8, at the Riverhouse Expo Center in Bend. Warfighter Outfitters is a veterans nonprofit that provides free of charge guided hunting, fishing and engagement trips to veterans. One hundred percent of the proceeds of the fundraiser go directly to operating costs as there are zero salaries in the organization.

In previous years, Warfighter Outfitters has hosted a crab feed and auction at Aspen Lakes, but due to selling out the event nearly every year, the move to Bend happened this year to provide the room and the logistics, according to Warfighter Outfitters founder Brett Miller.

"We moved to the Riverhouse in Bend so we can accommodate all those who want to come, as well as provide a space and location that can handle the dinner as well as the space needed for the auction," said Miller.

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Warfighter Outfitters was founded in 2014 by Miller after he recovered from injuries sustained in a roadside bombing while deployed in Iraq. Since then the organization has grown to 32 volunteers and merged with Team Overland and Veterans Back 40 Adventures that now reside under the Warfighter Outfitters brand but still operate independently serving veterans on four-wheeldrive/ overland trips and adventure motorcycle/enduro motorcycling trips.

This year the event has over \$200,000 worth of fair market value items in the auctions as well as a wall of guns, fishing trips, hunting trips and hundreds of silent auction items. Sisters Meat and Smokehouse has provided the tri-tip for the main course, and several dozen local businesses have contributed items to the auction and the cause.

Tickets can be bought in advance on the website at www.warfighteroutfitters.org and drink and raffle tickets are discounted if purchased before the event.





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