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Hoodoo Winter Carnival celebrates season

By Cody Rheault
Correspondent

Hoodoo's premiere annual event kicked off on Saturday, February 8, amid winter's fury, but that didn't deter the crowds.

Festivities began at 9 a.m. where families participated in a number of activities ranging from face-painting, pie-eating contests, axe throwing, tubing, and the famous Dummy Downhill contest.

For those seeking the pleasures of the mountain, skiers and boarders enjoyed a fresh powder day after the previous night's and early morning snowfall.

Experienced powder-chasers and first-time skiers took to the mountain and more than a dozen free events entertained the crowds. Kids ran around in their fluorescent ski suites with hand-tied balloon animals and fresh-spun cotton candy hanging from their hands. Adults either congregated at the fire pit or folded a hand at the poker table over a glass of Three Creeks Knotty Blonde and laughter with friends or strangers.



PHOTO BY CODY RHEAULT

A bonfire lit up the slopes during Hoodoo's annual celebration of the spirit of winter.

The much-anticipated Dummy Downhill contest took place late that afternoon. Participants flung unmanned

contraptions off a jump, drawing hundreds of people to the north slope to watch the ensuing carnage. Fat snowflakes

came in thick, hindering the speed and descent of most

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Limited wilderness entry starts this spring

Beginning this May, the Deschutes and Willamette national forests will implement the limited-entry permit system for day and overnight use in the Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Washington, and Three Sisters wildernesses. Permits will be available on Recreation.gov beginning April 7.

The two forests hosted a public comment period on an associated special recreation permit fee that began in October 9, 2019 and ended January 10, 2020. A wide range of public comments was received on the special recreation permit fee.

The forests have decided at this time, though the limited-entry system will be implemented, no special recreation permit fee will be charged.

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Shooting is major forest recreation activity

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

Recreational target shooting is an increasingly popular activity on the Deschutes National Forest. That popularity has an impact on local residents who are not happy hearing frequent gunfire.

Shooting is allowed across the Sisters Ranger District, except within 150 yards of residences or developed campgrounds and across roads. The Forest Service does not maintain shooting ranges or even recommend specific shooting areas — but it has identified numerous areas as suitable for safe, responsible shooting.

A good backstop is the top

criteria for a safe shooting environment, District Ranger Ian Reid told *The Nugget*.

"The height of the berm... is the major factor," Reid said.

The identified areas are all cinder pits. The Sisters Ranger District office has a list of suitable areas and a map identifying their locations.

"Every one that's on (the list) our law enforcement has looked at," Reid said.

The areas have clear sight lines, tall backstops, and are away from or shielded from other activities — "all of the things that responsible shooters should want," as Reid

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Awards mark high achievement

By Jodi Schneider
Correspondent

Sisters' talented art students had their work judged against a fierce statewide competition — and came out winners.

Last Saturday, Sisters middle and high school students were celebrated at the Scholastic Art Awards in the

Pence Pinkney Art Gallery at Central Oregon Community College (COCC), where they received their award certificates.

This year, there were over 800 entries in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards in Central Oregon alone.

The annual Scholastic Art & Writing Awards is the nation's longest-running

recognition program for artistic teens grades 7-12. The awards give students opportunities for recognition, exhibition, publication, and scholarships. The program awards around \$300,000 in scholarships each year to the top award.

Since 1923 the annual

See **ART AWARDS** on page 18



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sisters art students made a big mark in the Scholastic Art Awards held last Saturday in Bend.

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