

Equestrian team competes in first meet of new season

By Charlie Kanzig
Correspondent

The Sisters High School equestrian team got the 2020 season underway with a strong start at the first Oregon High School Equestrian Team (OHSET) meet of the year at the Redmond Fairgrounds on February 21-23.

With more than 20 different events — which involve individuals, pairs, and four-person teams — the meet requires multiple days to complete. Some event names are more familiar than others, according to Head Coach Annie Winter.

“A fan’s appreciation of the competition is enhanced when they understand what the names of the events mean and what is required of the riders and their horses,” she said.

She explained that at an OHSET meet, competitors take part in both performance events and gaming events. Participants can do up to five individual events if they choose.

Overall team scores are determined by total scoring

in individual events added to the events that include pairs or quartets.

Sisters placed third overall among the medium sized teams. Bend won the meet (448), followed by Mt. View (435), Sisters (409), Lakeview (350) and Hermiston (316).

Ridgeview, one of two large-sized schools, won overall with 530 points.

Shea Robertson, a junior, led the scoring for Sisters by placing highly in four individual events and two relays.

Robertson placed second in dressage (a performance event in which the horse and rider must perform a sequence of around twenty movements and is judged). She finished second in trail equitation and third in hunt seat equitation. In equitation events judges score the horse’s movement and form as well as the rider’s ability. Robertson also placed sixth in reining and fourth in Western horsemanship.

Chloe Winter also had a strong showing, placing second in hunt seat over fences (jumping) and third in saddle seat equitation, while Sidney



PHOTO PROVIDED

Equestrian team members and their charges pose for a picture prior to their first meet of the year.

Sillers took second in working rancher, fifth in reining, and fifth in keyhole.

Working rancher requires contestants to replicate things that you would do while on the job at the ranch, including roping a dummy calf head, sort cattle, and ground-tie the horse. Keyhole is a timed event in which horse and rider gallop into a key-shaped area, turn about and race back out.

Sillers and Winter came through with the team’s lone win of the meet as they scored 77 points in the working pair competition. The working pair ride a pattern together which could be likened to synchronized dancing, according to

Winter. Sillers later paired with Hailee Kennedy to take second place in team sorting, which requires a pair of riders to sort calves into pens.

Other high finishes for the Outlaws included Josie Berg, who placed fifth in barrels and sixth in steer daubing, as well as Hailee Kennedy and Madilyn Larrabee who placed fourth and fifth respectively in pole bending, which is a timed race requiring weaving through six poles spaced just over twenty feet apart. Steer daubing requires horse and rider to chase down a steer, and get a daub of paint on it for time.

four-person events as well. In the hand obstacle relay, Sillers, Robertson, Berg, and Winter got second overall, while the team versatility group of Sillers, Robertson, Berg, and Kennedy got fourth place.

The in hand obstacle relay is when the contestants lead their horses through an obstacle course. Team versatility is also a relay race in which each contestant takes a turn at a challenge including in hand, trail, equitation, and gaming.

According to Winter, the team has been practicing hard since mid-November.

Sisters held its own in two *See EQUESTRIAN on page 21*

bliss
HAIR AND NAIL DESIGN

Hair, Skin & Nails

541-549-6566
484 W. Washington Ave. Suite B

Fun events throughout the week. See Facebook for details!

Fika Sisters
COFFEEHOUSE

201 E. Sun Ranch Dr.
7 a.m.-4 p.m.
Mon.-Sat.
541-588-0311

**It's Been a Year!
Come Celebrate With Us!**

Gypsy Wind Clothing

Comfortable, affordable clothing!
Sizes small to 2X.

Open Wed., Thurs, Fri. & Sat., 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Closed Sun. - Tues.
351 W. HOOD AVE., SISTERS

Your passport to a world of fine cuisine...
FRANCE
Wednesday, March 11, 3-4 p.m.

Enjoy a demo of some tasty food, play trivia, and win prizes!

RSVP to 541-549-5634 by Thursday of the prior week.

Your presence at each dinner earns you \$250 credit as a future Seasons resident.* Attend three consecutive dinners and double your credit; bring a friend and triple it!

Free to everyone; invite a friend!

*Must be 62 years or older and move in before 12-31-20.

The Lodge in Sisters
An Independent & Assisted Living Community

Luxury Senior Assisted & Independent Living

541-549-5634
Come for free lunch and a tour!

411 E. Carpenter Ln., Sisters
www.TheLodgeInSisters.com

Special Limited-Time Offer!

HURRY Move in by March 31!

Studio Apartments only \$2,995 a month

This is your kind of living. The Lodge in Sisters is a welcoming, supportive and nurturing community, where seniors and friends can live, relax and have fun. With attentive nurses and a loving staff, you can rest assured that we'll always be there for you.

Move in by March 31st, save up to \$600 per month and up to \$5,400 for the full year.

Contact us TODAY for more details and to set up a tour of our community! 541.549.5634

Care costs not included. Limited-time offer. Terms and conditions apply. New residents only.