

# The Nugget

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from Sisters, Oregon

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## Fire severely damages BBR home

A nighttime blaze caused significant damage to an unoccupied home at Black Butte Ranch last Friday.

Firefighters with the Black Butte Ranch Fire District responded to a report of a structure fire Friday, February 26, in the Glaze Meadow area of Black Butte Ranch. The fire was reported at 9:07 p.m.

The home was in the final stages of a major addition, and no one was occupying the home at the time of the fire.

The fire was called in by a neighbor who heard loud popping from the house next door, and saw the large fire from his window. Firefighters arrived within 10 minutes of being notified to find a large volume of fire from the three-car garage and adjacent living space directly above.

Twenty-six firefighters and four engines responded to the fire, including firefighters from Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District and Cloverdale Fire District. Additional support was provided by Central Electric Co-Op Inc., Black Butte Ranch Maintenance, Black Butte Ranch Utilities, and by Bend Fire Department, who provided move-up coverage



PHOTO PROVIDED

Firefighters battled a significant house fire in Black Butte Ranch last Friday evening.

to the greater Sisters area with an engine and a medic unit.

The cause of the fire is not believed to be intentional, but remains under investigation at this time. Black Butte Ranch staff is being assisted by the Office of the State Fire Marshal to determine the cause.

"I am very proud of the efforts and teamwork of all three fire agencies to stop the progression of a well-seated fire in difficult winter conditions," said Black Butte Ranch Fire District Deputy Fire Chief Dave Phillips. "Getting sustained water flow onto the fire quickly helped to slow the

progress of the fire into the living areas and bought time for additional firefighters to arrive on the scene and assist with extinguishment and overhaul."

The initial damage estimate is \$900,000.

There was one minor injury reported. The home is not inhabitable after the fire.

## Alpine ski teams win league titles

By Charlie Kanzig  
Correspondent

The Sisters Outlaws alpine ski girls and boys teams both won league titles based on performances over four meets during the regular season of Oregon Interscholastic Ski Racing Association.

The Outlaws came out on top against squads from Redmond, Albany, Corvallis and Eugene and will finish the season with a strong contingent of skiers competing at the state championships scheduled for March 4 and 5 at Mt. Hood Meadows.

State qualification for teams is based on cumulative performances during the season for both slalom and giant slalom races, according to assistant coach Rima Givot.

Girls qualifying for state for the Outlaws include Presley Adelt, Charlotte Seymour, Hollie Lewis, Araiya Grummer, and Piper Adelt. These girls rank fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh,

See **SKIERS** on page 14

## Restrictions on school activities create confusion

By Jim Cornelius  
Editor in Chief

As COVID-19 restrictions ease and school activities resume, community members and school staff continue to navigate a confusing thicket of restrictions. One area of confusion surrounds what kinds of community uses are allowed in school facilities.

"It's not as simple and clear-cut as we're open or we're not open," Sisters Schools Superintendent Curt Scholl told *The Nugget*.

The school district has virtually no control over what they can and can't allow in their facilities — that all falls under state

mandates from the Oregon Health Authority, Deschutes County Health Department, and the Oregon School Activities Association. The mandates dictate what kind of activities are acceptable and what numbers of people are allowed to gather and participate.

And those mandates can be confusing.

For example, volleyball competition is currently allowed in gyms, meaning Outlaws teams and clubs alike are an allowed use. Basketball training is allowed, but competition isn't.

"Currently, basketball

See **RESTRICTIONS** on page 22

## Runaway horse found safe in creek

By Jim Cornelius  
Editor in Chief

It's every horse owner's worst nightmare: Your horse has broken through a gate and has taken off at a run. The air is chill; the sun is going down, and a horse accustomed to stall and paddock is long gone and in the wild.

You are facing the worst kind of trouble.

That's what happened to Ann Brewer and her horse Mister last month, but — thanks to the equestrian community rallying to assist in a classic Western example of neighbors helping neighbors — the tale had a happy ending.

The harrowing ordeal began at about 6 p.m. on Friday, February 19, at Ann

and Jon Brewer's ranch off Wilt Road northeast of Sisters.

"I heard somebody calling for help and looked out... and saw two horses running up my driveway, a truck behind them, and a woman yelling," Ann Brewer recalled.

Her neighbor's horses had gotten out. The horses were recovered quickly enough — but, unbeknownst to Brewer, the flurry of activity had panicked her 14-year-old Hanoverian/Thoroughbred dressage horse, Mister. The horse had bolted from its stall and ran over a gatepost, breaking it off at the ground. The gate was down, and Mister was gone.

Brewer and her family

See **HORSE** on page 21

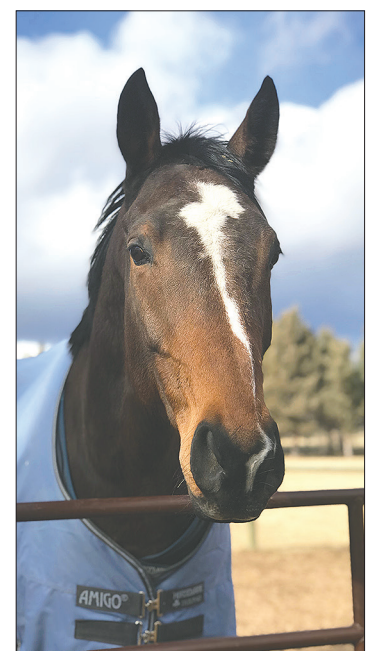


PHOTO PROVIDED

Mister had a harrowing adventure when he bolted from his paddock and took off, only to be found the next day more than 15 miles away, in the middle of Whychus Creek.

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