

Skiers race at Hoodoo

By Rongi Yost
Correspondent

The Outlaws ski teams raced in a slalom race on a hard, fast surface on Duba's Descent at Hoodoo on Wednesday, January 12. Conditions were sunny and clear and turned to beautiful starry skies under the night-lights. Both the boys' and girls' teams finished strong in the first Emerald League slalom race of the season.

On the girls' side, Presley Adelt took first place with a combined time of 1:20.46. Charlotte Seymour took fourth with a combined time of 1:25.59, and Piper Adelt finished sixth with a time of 1:30.95. Other scores were: Ella Eby — seventh place (1:35.34), Annie Cohen — 10th place (1:42.42), and Ava Riehle took ninth with a combined time of 1:45.47.

Araiya Grummer did not finish on her first run, but logged the first-place finish on the second run with a time of 40.05 for the single run. Freshman Tallis Grummer pushed hard out of the gate in her very first high school slalom race and first time in slalom gates in two years. Grummer was hoping for a competitive finish but suffered technical difficulties on both runs.

Bela Chladek earned a first-place finish on the boys' side with a combined time of 1:07.60. Corbin Fredland took second (1:09.96), and freshman Styopa Myagkov took third with a combined time of 1:15.81 in his first-ever high school slalom race.

Jack Turpin finished

15th (2:09.59), and Kellen Petke finished in 18th place (2:26.25). Brody Duey did not finish his first run, but had a fifth-place finish on his second run. Cooper Merrill also didn't finish his first run, but earned 10th on his second run. Gus Patton tallied an eighth-place finish on his first run, but disqualified on his second. Emerson Backus had a seventh-place finish on his first run, but missed a gate on the second. Keegan Kroytz also disqualified on the first run, but took a 20th place finish on his second run.

Coach Chladek commented on his team's performance.

"Bela and Presley's runs were fast because they both kept very clean technical lines through the course," said Chladek. "All the top racers from the Outlaws team finished as well as they did due to being aggressive and fast from start to finish."

"Overall this big team of Sisters Outlaw athletes is skiing really well this season," added Chladek. "The returning racers are in growth over their previous season and the new racers on the team are really exceeding my expectations for skiing performance. Most importantly, the team seems to be bonding and really having a lot of fun with each other at trainings and competitions. Also, racing conditions this season have been sunny and clear so far, making for really enjoyable competitions."

The skiers' next race will be a giant slalom at Willamette Pass on Saturday, January 22.

PROGRAM: New career track opens for local youth

Continued from page 1

children that need it. That's a big burden on working families, and Heart of Oregon hopes to add to the available pool of qualified providers.

The YouthBuild program has proven a successful model, providing practical education and credit recovery to many students for whom the standard education model just doesn't fit. YouthBuild has worked on Habitat for Humanity homes in Sisters.

Some of the youth move on from the program to careers in the trades.

Sisters Schools Superintendent Curt Scholl was on hand for the open house.

"We have several Sisters youth in here," Scholl said. "We've been partners with YouthBuild since I've been here, actually."

Sisters schools administer the school credits earned by local students who work through the program.

The ability to recover credits through the program is critical.

"Their credit recovery program is amazing," Lopez said. "I was able to make up so many credits — for which I am so grateful."

The Sisters senior said that she had originally planned to make up enough credits to get her GED, but now she's almost certain she will be able to get her high school diploma.

Jennifer Lopez of Tumalo (no relation) has a



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Jennifer and Evelyn Lopez (no relation) have both thrived with YouthBuild.

similar story. She's been in YouthBuild since October 2021.

"When I was back in high school, I was really behind in my credits," she said.

A teacher told her about YouthBuild.

"What really caught my attention was the hands on," she said. Hearing (about) youth building homes

— honestly, that was mind-blowing to me."

That's the difference that YouthBuild makes for students who aren't best suited to a classroom environment.

"I learned things that school couldn't teach me," Sisters student Mark Holden told the assemblage at the open house.

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