



Ronald Bond/The Observer

Parker Robinson waits for a ground ball during practice Wednesday afternoon.

Legends ready for state play

By Ronald Bond
The Observer

Head coach Parker McKinley said he doesn't know much about the opponents the La Grande Legacy Ford Legends will face as the team begins the American Legion state tournament Saturday night in Roseburg.

But he knows that the programs — including the Roseburg Pepsi Bottlecaps, which is La Grande's first opponent — seem to always be at state.

"The teams that are there are teams that consistently find their way back. Roseburg Pepsi is one that is always good," he said. "North Medford is competitive every year at the 6A level (in high school baseball). Central Point is another one (and) North Bend is always a team right in the mix."

"These are all the teams that are there, and we see them in this tournament year after year."

La Grande (20-7) is entering state on a seven-game winning streak, including a perfect run at its own wood bat tournament last weekend, which it wrapped up

with a 12-2 win over North Eugene.

Pitching and defense — which have become staples of any McKinley-coached team — are again facets of the game the team will need to hang its hat on to be in contention.

"We've got several guys who have the potential to be on the mound and go deep into games and give us the chance to win. I feel pretty good about where we're at with that," McKinley said. "We're (also) playing really good defense right now. You put those two things together, I think we can compete with any team down there."

The team has also been finding ways to win despite being relatively young, which was a surprise to the head coach.

"We've had some kids really step up this year. Some of our freshmen-going-to-be-sophomores are attacking the game. It's been good," he said.

Infielder Justin Frederick, though, wasn't shocked by that development.

"This program always has
See Legends / Page 8A

Another regional run for La Grande

By Ronald Bond
The Observer

For those baseball fans who notice patterns, the next few days could be in for a wild ride that takes them back to two summers ago.

The La Grande Juniors baseball team, which begins play in the regional tournament Sunday morning in San Jose, California, enters after winning several must-win contests following a loss in its first game at state.

Of course, that's what the La Grande

Little League team that nearly reached the World Series two years ago did — recover from an early loss to run the table at state, and then kept the proverbial snowball rolling at regionals.

And it just so happens five players from that team are on this squad.

"This team, from the beginning of the league to now, (has) been really rolling," head coach Doug Schow said of the team, which won five games in a row — including twice against Murrayhill in the championship round, 5-1

and 14-7 — to secure the state title July 17.

The strength of the team, which Schow said is "pretty well rounded," is likely its pitching. The coach said about half of the 13 players on the team can pitch. Developing pitching is a major focal point for Schow.

"I spend a lot of time on mechanics and basic fundamentals of pitching, really push these kids to throw strikes, and (teach them that) every pitch

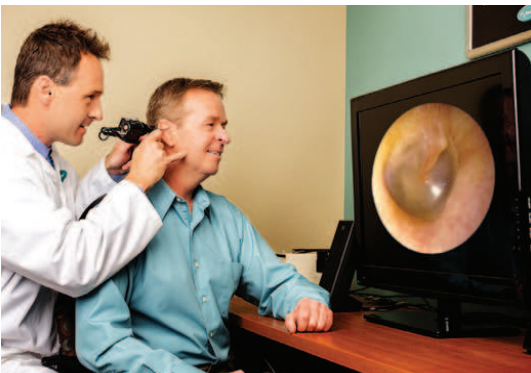
See Juniors / Page 8A

Losing Your HEARING or are your ears just plugged with EARWAX?

FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF!
You are invited for a **FREE** ear inspection using the latest video technology to determine if you could be helped by a hearing aid.

Now through July 31, 2019

Call for an appointment now to avoid waiting! **It's All FREE!**



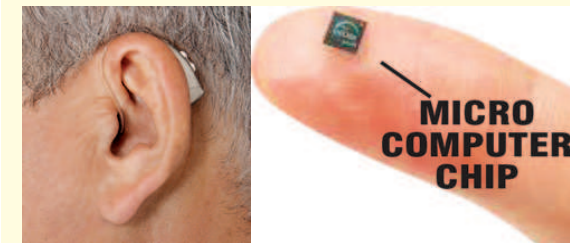
FREE Video Oscope Ear Inspection*
This show-all Picture of your ear canal is displayed on a color monitor, so you'll see exactly what we see to determine if you could be helped by a hearing aid.

FREE Complete Electronic Hearing Test*
This Audiometric evaluation will precisely show you what you've been missing and if you can be helped by a hearing aid.

FREE Package of Hearing Aid Batteries
If you now wear a hearing aid, you will receive one **FREE** package of Hearing Aid Batteries. If we test your hearing to see if you could be helped by a hearing aid you will receive another **FREE** Package.

FREE In-Office Repairs
All in-office hearing aid repairs shall be **FREE**...and factory repairs, regardless of make or model shall be **50% OFF** the total cost of the repair.

Introducing the **NEW Chip in the Ear**



Open Fit/Receiver-In-The-Canal

Advanced, powerful technology allows even more options to wear this more natural sounding and comfortable hearing aid.

Open Fit hearing aids fit securely behind the ear and have a thin tube that directs the sound into your ear canal. The RIC (Receiver-In-The-Canal) provides more targeted sound with a speaker added to the end of the clear, thin tube.

More RIC Advantages:

- Smaller than ever
- More natural sounding
- Discreet and comfortable
- Best-in-performance features that reduce or eliminate feedback and whistling
- The most versatile model - able to fit most levels of hearing loss Most models are compatible with wireless Bluetooth® Technology

In-The-Canal Advantages



- Individualized
- Sizes to meet your lifestyle
- Uses the ear's natural ability to locate sounds
- Comfortable to wear
- Most models compatible with wireless Blue tooth® Technology

Receiver-In-The-Canal Advantages



- Versatile
- Utilizes the most advanced technology
- Uses the ear's natural ability to locate sounds
- Rechargeable options
- Most models compatible with wireless Blue tooth® Technology

ANOTHER GREAT WAY TO SAVE!

Save on our advanced line of digital hearing aids.

BUY 1 GET 1 50% OFF!

Manufacturers Suggested Retail Price All ME-1, ME-2 and ME-3 Solutions Hearing Aids

Good only from participating Miracle-Ear® Hearing Aid Centers. One coupon per purchase. No other offers or discounts apply. Discount does not apply to prior sales. Offer valid on ME-1, ME-2, ME-3 hearing aids. Cannot combine with any other offers. Cash value 1/20th cent. Offer expires 7/31/19.



LIMITED TIME OFFER!

OPEN FIT TECHNOLOGY

\$995.00

MSRP \$3090 SAVE \$2095

Offer valid on Model **ME2400** 100% Digital & 100% Programmable

Valid at participating Miracle-Ear® Hearing Aid Centers. Limit one hearing aid per customer at the promotional price.

May not be combined with other offer and does not apply to prior sales. Cash value 1/20th cent. Offer expires 7/31/19.

Some **FEDERAL WORKERS** and **RETIREES** may be eligible for Hearing Aids at **NO COST** That's Right...**No Co-Pay!** No Exam Fee! No Adjustment Fee! Most Insurance Plans are accepted including **BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD**!**

AT THESE PARTICIPATING MIRACLE-EAR HEARING AID CENTERS ONLY!

CALL FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT!

LA GRANDE
111 Elm Street
La Grande, OR 97850
541-605-2109

ENTERPRISE
603 Medical Parkway
Enterprise, OR 97828
541-239-3877

BAKER CITY
2021 Washington Ave.
Baker City, OR 97814
541-239-3782

Mention Code:
19JulLosing



Ronald Bond/The Observer

Riley Miller delivers a pitch during a bullpen session at Wednesday's practice.

*Hearing test is always free. Hearing aids do not restore natural hearing. Individual experiences vary depending on severity of hearing loss, accuracy of evaluation and ability to adapt to amplification. Hearing test is an audiometric test to determine amplification needs only. These are not medical exams or diagnoses. If you suspect a problem please seek treatment from your physician. **Blue Cross Blue Shield, The Blue Cross, The Blue Shield, BCBS and Federal Employee Program are registered trademarks of Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Blue Cross Blue Shield Association and its independent licensees are not affiliated with nor do they endorse or sponsor the contents of this advertisement. Trademarks relating to specific providers are used by Miracle-Ear for non-affiliate purposes only. To faithfully identify the source of the services about which information is provided. Such trademarks are solely the property of their respective owners. The aids must be returned within 30 days of delivery pursuant to terms of your purchase agreement and 100% of the purchase will be refunded.