

Outdoor Rec / Sports

Special Olympics athletes do well at regional competition



Submitted Photo.

L-R: Tommy Huntington, Caitlyn Calaway, Janet stout, Sherri Koeff, Paula Moe, Jennifer Glerup and Melanie Rhodes. Paula and Melanie are the coaches.

BY GINA K. SWARTZ
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On Sunday, October 25, 2015, the Baker County Special Olympics Aquatics Team competed in the Aquatics Fall Regional Games at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham, Oregon.

In all, 10 teams made up of 12 Oregon counties competed.

A regional meet in Corvallis with teams representing the remaining Oregon Counties will be held and a quorum will then determine which, if any Baker County competitors will be invited to compete in the State meet held November 21, 2015 at THPRD Howard M. Terpenning Aquatics Center in Beaverton, Oregon.

The Baker County Team, which has been attending the games for five years in aquatics, is composed of five competitors five-year veteran Sheri Koeff, second-year competitors Jennifer Glerup, Janet Stout and Caitlyn Calaway and first

time competitor Tommy Huntington.

The team members were involved in a variety of events that included the 25 yard freestyle and 25 yard backstroke as well as the 50 yard freestyle and 50 yard backstroke. Glerup, Huntington, Stout and Calaway also competed in a team 4x25 yard Medley Relay in which they placed 3rd, gaining a bronze medal.

The Aquatics Team is coached by YMCA aquatics director Paula Moe and Melanie Rhodes.

Practices for the swimmers usually begin about “Eight weeks before the meet, but a lot our competitors are also on my USA swimming team,” said Moe.

With the scheduled upcoming pool resurfacing and installation of new sand filters closing the facility in November.

Moe explained, “Once I know who will be competing we will go to La Grande (to continue training.)”

Moe wanted to remind our community of two up-

coming events—first, the “Serve It Up Hot” event on Thursday, November 5, from 5-8 p.m.

This fun event has local firefighters serving at Barley Brown’s with 100% of all the tips going to support local Special Olympics teams.

A friendly competition between the Baker City Police Department, who hosts Tip- A-Cop in the spring also benefiting the local Special Olympics teams, and the Baker Fire Department has ensued.

Then on November 7, 2015, at Desert Lanes in Hermiston the Bowling team will be competing in regionals for that event.

Moe also said, “We are always accepting donations as well.”

The Knights of Columbus recently contacted her and made a generous donation.

She also urges, “Visit our website soor.org/baker county or call me directly if you have any questions at 541.910.0591.”

Moe also invited anyone who may want to become an athlete or knows

someone who may want to become an athlete to contact her directly.

Coaches and volunteers are always welcome too. Results from the meet for the Baker County Team were as follows:

Sheri Koeff
25 yard Freestyle - 3rd place, Bronze medal
25 yard Backstroke-3rd place, Bronze medal
Jennifer Glerup
25 yard Freestyle - 2nd place, Silver medal
25 yard Backstroke - 6th place

Janet Stout
50 yard Freestyle - 5th place
50 yard Backstroke - 5th place

Tommy Huntington
50 yard Freestyle - 1st place, Gold medal
50 yard Backstroke - 1st place, Gold medal
Caitlyn Calaway
50 yard Freestyle - 3rd place, Bronze medal
50 yard Breaststroke - 1st place, Gold medal
4x25 yard Medley Relay Team - 3rd place, Bronze medal

Jennifer Glerup, Janet Stout, Tommy Huntington and Caitlyn Calaway.

Lions Club installs fitness equipment on Parkway



Submitted Photo.

The Lions Club installed exercise along the parkway near Kirkway for public use.

Baker City has a new way for residents to add to their exercise routine, thanks to the collective efforts of the local Lions Club, the Leo Adler Community Fund, and many other local contributors. A group of Lions recently installed exercise equipment next to the Leo Adler Memorial Parkway near the Baker Sports Complex.

The equipment in the Leo Adler Fitness Zone, includes ellipticals for low impact running in place, leg press machines and a rowing machine, as well as stations for push-ups, sit-ups, and pull-ups. While they are similar to equipment found in fitness centers, all are specifically made for outdoor use.

A \$3,500 Leo Adler grant and donations from local clubs, businesses and individuals were used to fund the project. Natural Structures gave a 15% discount on the equipment and staff time to guide the installation. The City provided the light pole, excavation, and wood chips for the area, and Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative installed electrical service to the pole for a light and surveillance camera.

The Lions club contributed \$1,000, and club members poured concrete and put the equipment in place. Lions member Blake Marlia, who wrote the Adler grant request, coordinated the project. Lion Steve Fiddler made the sign.

Seventeen other sponsors contributed from \$250 to \$1,000. A list of those contributors will be posted at the Fitness Zone.

Ladies golf and bridge scores

The season year end Quail Ridge Ladies Bridge Winners were:

- 1st Della Steele
- 2nd Janice Smull
- 3rd Zena Edwards
- 4th Dianne Ellingson
- 5th Judy Karstens
- 6th Lavelle Wodcock
- 7th Marlene Cross
- 8th Margo Kenworthy

Sign-up encouraged

Baker County will use its mass notification system, Code Red, to alert residents of any weather advisories, including those during debris, flooding, etc.

If you have not signed up for Code Red, please do so by going to the Baker County Consolidated Dispatch center website baker911.org.

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