

# Enjoying sports, sunshine, good company as spring sports seasons unfold

By Andy Taylor

After a few days of sunshine everyone is “ready” for spring and summer, and that means it’s officially time for outdoor sports to begin! Whether you like baseball, softball, golf, track and field or soccer, the anticipation of beautiful weather is torture. Most people agree that their favorite part of watching a game is visiting with people, although sun bathing and eating their favorite snack come in a close second.

When you support your chosen team, take pride in witnessing the athletic growth our youth make year after year, seeing the passion they show for each game and watching them pass that on to the underclassmen.

This year, Siletz Valley Early College Academy and Siletz Valley School offer baseball, softball and lacrosse for the local youth to play.

This is what the teams had to say during practice ...

Tyson Rilatos and his brother, Ryan Rilatos, are Siletz Warriors. They agree that baseball is their favorite sport. Tyson would like to have a great winning season and Ryan would like to see his team “go big” this year.

JJ Russel, an Eddyville Charter student who commutes to the field every day, is the pitcher for our Warriors. This is his last year of playing before he graduates and joins the U.S. Marines. He wants to invite the whole community out to watch and support the team.

Tye Wawrak also attends Siletz and his favorite sport happens to be basketball, although baseball is on the list of favorites. After he graduates this year, he wants to attend Oregon Coast Community College (OCCC) and get his criminal justice



Photos by Andy Taylor

Members of the Siletz Valley lacrosse team at practice

degree to become a police officer. Right now he says he is the GOAT, meaning he is the greatest of all time.

Gus Garcia is one of the younger players on the team who also attends Siletz. He says wrestling is his all-time favorite sport. He wishes for a great season this year and says, “We’re the best.”

Anthony Simmons is a Siletz Warrior and his favorite sport is basketball, where he is a shooting guard. While he is only a sophomore, he plans to go to OCCC and become a personal trainer. He wants to be a mentor and help others accomplish their fitness goals. Anthony says, “Just come on out and watch the game and support our team.”

Austin Buckley of the Siletz Warriors loves wrestling for the intensity and says

it is a lifestyle sport. He likes baseball for its more relaxed features. He plans on going to community college at the end of the school year.

Healyah Butler of the Lady Warriors plays softball because the sunshine and team spirit make her happy. She is a senior this year and when she graduates she wants to go to college to start getting her degree to become a dentist.

Alex Kaiser is a senior Lady Warrior attending Siletz who plays softball and volleyball every year. Her plans after school are to be successful at life and get her degree to become a counselor.

Maddy Metcalf may be small, but she isn’t new to the game. She attends Siletz and loves playing softball, volleyball and basketball. She wants to be a good leader

for the team and a good mentor for the younger members until she graduates high school, after which she plans to go to college. She would like to thank the community for coming out and showing their support.

Julia Trachsel is a Lady Warrior senior who got started in softball at an incredibly young age. She thanks her papa for showing her the sport and always being there to coach her. She is crossing her fingers to make it to the playoffs this year. When she graduates, she will attend the University of Oregon for her degree in journalism. Julia would like to invite more folks to come and support the team, saying “It’s exciting having fans.”

Kelsey Nelson loves to be outside, so it only makes sense that softball is her favorite sport. Playing outfield for the Lady Warriors, she hopes they have a really successful season this year. She plans to go to college to be a social worker when she graduates and to continue playing softball in an adult league.

Get outside and support a local team. You can sit, stand or jump to cheer them on in whatever sport they’re playing. It won’t matter if it’s a kid’s recreation team, high school or college, they will be excited to know you’re out there as a fan. So relax in the sunshine and adore every moment of this time with your families and your local community.

A huge “thank you” to all the coaches and team volunteers for their guidance and all the work they put into the game.

*If you or someone you know is doing something commendable and want to share it, contact Andy Taylor at andreas@ctsi.nsn.us; 800-922-1399, ext. 1293; or 541-444-8293.*



Alex Kaiser looks for a good ball to hit in a game against Oakridge.



Ryan Rilatos rounds the bases after getting a hit against Oakridge.

## Attention Siletz Contract Health-eligible Tribal members!

If you receive Contract Health Services approval to see providers/facilities outside of a Tribal clinic, please be sure to inform them at your visit that you have Contract Health Services as a form of payment.

We have seen a number of patients billed for services from their medical/dental/optical providers because the patient did not inform the office that they have Contract Health Services. If you have primary insurance (through employment, Medicare, Medicaid, etc.), we would be secondary to the primary insurance.

If you fail to provide this information to your providers and they don’t bill us in a timely manner, you could be liable for the charges. Please let your providers know that they can submit claims for payment to Siletz Contract Health, P.O. Box 320, Siletz, OR 97380.

## General Council Meeting

May 5, 2018 • 1 p.m.

Siletz Tribal Community Center • Siletz, Oregon

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|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Call to Order       | Programs                 |
| Invocation          | Culture – Alfred Lane IV |
| Flag Salute         | Tribal Members’ Concerns |
| Roll Call           | Chairman’s Report        |
| Approval of Agenda  | Announcements            |
| Approval of Minutes | Adjourn                  |