

Sports & Recreation

Outdoor briefs:

Salmon seasons to be set

SALEM – The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will meet in Roseburg on Friday, April 23 to consider ocean salmon fishing seasons.

The meeting will begin at 8 a.m. at the City of Roseburg Council Chambers at 900 SE Douglas Ave., Roseburg, Ore. 97470. Meeting agenda and materials can be found here:

http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/10/04_apr/index.asp

On Thursday, April 22 the Commission will tour several locations in southwest Oregon including the Rock Creek Hatchery fish ladder project, North Bank Habitat Management Area, and the Winchester Dam. Members of the public are invited to join Commission members on the tour, but must use their own transportation. To join the tour, be ready to depart from ODFW Southwest Regional Office, 4192 N. Umpqua Hwy in Roseburg by 10 a.m.

During Friday's meeting, the Commission will be asked to adopt 2010 ocean salmon seasons for sport and commercial fisheries for state waters in keeping with Pacific Fishery Management Council guidelines that will be adopted April 15.

The PFMC will adopt salmon fishing regulations for ocean waters from three to 200 miles off shore. The Commission will consider similar regulations for ocean waters within the three-mile nearshore.

South of Cape Falcon, the PFMC is expected to adopt the first significant ocean fisheries for chinook salmon since 2007. However, the fisheries will still be relatively restricted because stocks of Sacramento River chinook salmon continue to be weak for the third straight year.

North of Cape Falcon the PFMC may adopt larger quotas for chinook salmon due to higher forecasts for Columbia River chinook. Coho salmon predictions are down, however, and quotas will be smaller than last year.

The PFMC recommendations to be considered by the Commission will be posted on the ODFW Web site in the Commission meeting packet on April 19.

In other business, the Commission will be asked to formalize rules concerning how the department disposes of shed antlers it acquires. The proposed rules would allow antlers to be donated to non-profit organizations, schools and government agencies for purposes consistent with the agency's mission, such as for educational displays or to wildlife conservation groups to raise money for habitat projects. The proposed rules would also allow the department to sell antlers using state procurement processes.

Deer, elk and other ungulates naturally shed their antlers every year in late winter or early spring. Every year ODFW acquires a small number of antlers from its own ongoing operations or from other agencies, such as from Oregon State Police in the aftermath of criminal cases when antlers have been confiscated or from Department of Transportation cleaning up road kill.

SB 391, passed by the 2009 Oregon State Legislature, changed the agency responsible for regulating captive pure-bred gray wolves from the Oregon Department of Agriculture to ODFW. Staff will ask the Commission to adopt administrative rules in line with the new responsibility. There are only two active permits regulated by the state of Oregon and the proposed rules will allow these two current permit-holders to continue to hold pure-bred gray wolves. No new permit-holders or facilities for pure-bred gray wolves will be permitted by ODFW.

PHS Track schedule

- 4 p.m., Tuesday, April 20, Pacific Invitational, PHS
- 11 a.m., Saturday, April 24, Prefontaine, Coos Bay
- 4 p.m., Tuesday, April 27, Bandon Invitational, Bandon
- TBA, Friday, April 30, Jack Blum Invitational, Reedsport
- TBA, Saturday, May 15, Mountain Skyline District, Douglas High, Winston
- TBA, Friday/Saturday, May 21-22, IA State Track, WOU, Monmouth



PON photos by Matt Hall

The Blanco School Eagles held an Invitational Track meet at Pacific High last week with perfect weather.

SWOCC basketball player signs letter of intent

COOS BAY – Lindsey Sommers, a center for the Southwestern Oregon Community College women's basketball team the last two seasons, will sign a national letter of intent Wednesday to continue her playing basketball next year at University of Alaska Fairbanks, a NCAA Division II Great Northwest Athletic Conference school.

The 6'3" post player is originally from Eagle River High School of Eagle River, Alaska. She averaged 7 points and 7 rebounds per game last season, including games of 15 points and 15 rebounds versus Clackamas

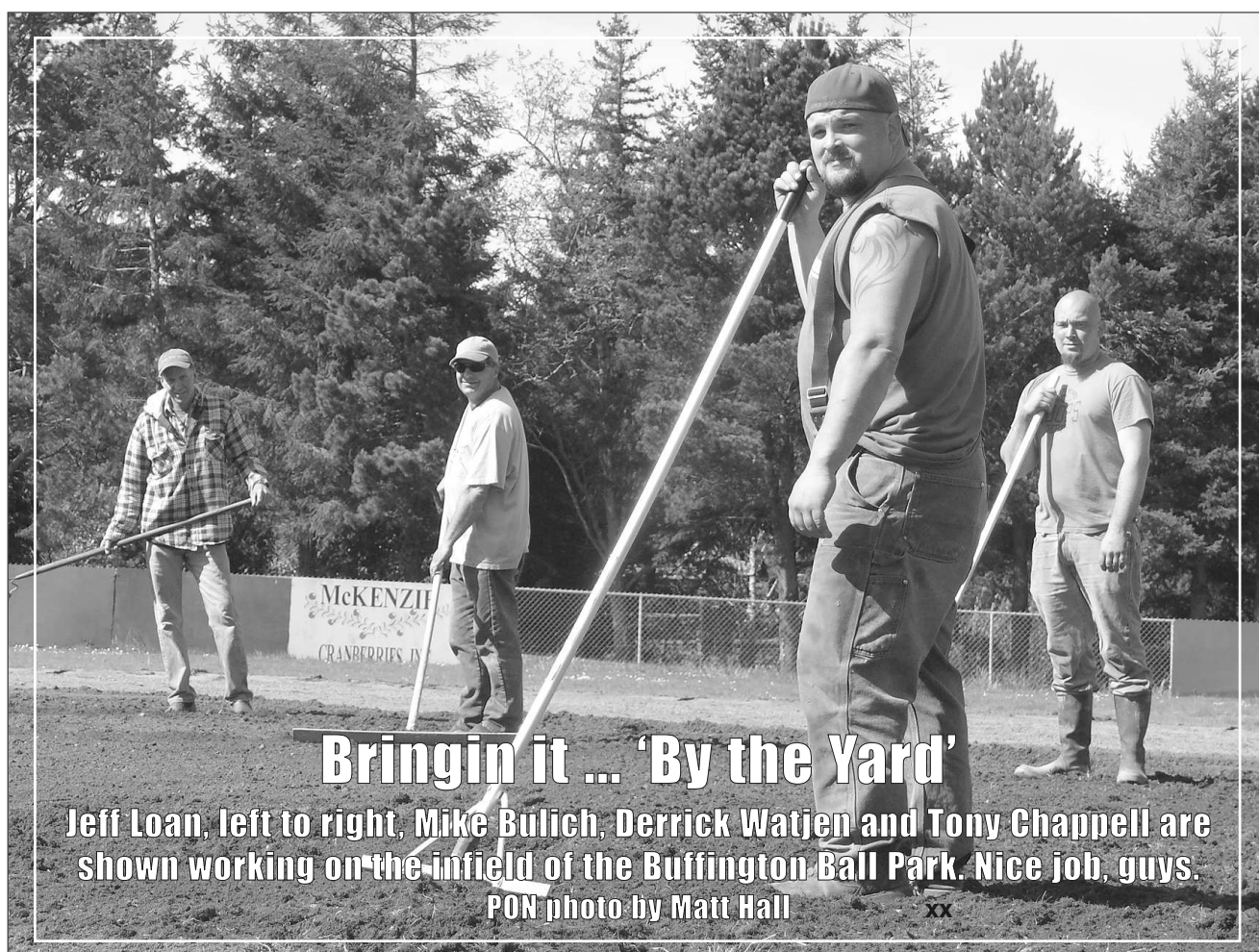
Community College and 12 points and 12 rebounds versus rival Umpqua Community College.

Sommers will graduate from Southwestern this spring with an Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer (AAOT) degree. A stellar student, she is attending Southwestern on an academic scholarship for maintaining a 3.75 GPA in high school. Her 3.15 Southwestern GPA earned her a spot on the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) All-Academic Team this last season. Sommers was also recently voted as the

Southwestern student of the month (April).

"We are very proud of Lindsey for her athletic and academic accomplishments at Southwestern," said Women's Basketball Head Coach Mike Herbert. "She has been a huge part of the turnaround in this program, and we can attribute our future success to the movement we made while she was a student here."

"As with any Southwestern student athlete, we wish her much athletic and academic success at the next level."



Bringin' it ... 'By the Yard'

Jeff Loan, left to right, Mike Bulich, Derrick Watjen and Tony Chappell are shown working on the infield of the Buffington Ball Park. Nice job, guys.
PON photo by Matt Hall

ODF&W STEP committee to meet April 23

SALEM — The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) Advisory Committee will meet in Hillsboro on Friday, April 23.

The committee will meet from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Jackson Bottom Wetlands Education Center, 2600 SW Hillsboro Hwy., Hillsboro, Ore. 97123. The agenda includes reports on STEP activities and projects, review of mini-grant applications, discussion of goals and priorities, and other program business.

The meeting is open to the public. The Oregon Legislature created STEP in 1981 to provide a way for volunteers to participate in the restoration of native stocks of salmon, steelhead and trout. Since then, thousands of volunteers have donated money, materials, equipment and countless hours of labor to improving Oregon fisheries.

The STEP Advisory Committee makes recommendations to ODFW and the Fish and Wildlife Commission on issues regarding its programs. The committee's 13 members are appointed by the Governor and represent all areas of Oregon.

Reasonable accommodations will be provided as needed for individuals requesting assistive hearing devices, sign language interpreters or large-print materials. Individuals needing these types of accommodations may call the Information and Education Division at (800) 720-6339 or (503) 947-6002 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

For more information on the Salmon Trout Enhancement Program visit the ODFW Web site at www.dfw.state.or.us, or call program staff at (503) 947-6211.

Hunters safety course offered

From 5 to 7 p.m., April 26 - 30, Monday - Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, May 1, a state-certified Hunters Safety Course, necessary to obtain a Oregon Hunting license, will be offered.

Ken Martin will teach the course, dependent upon interest, which will be located at in the Northern Curry County area.

Cost will be \$15, with tuition waivers available upon need. For more information and to register call (541) 332-2221.

Free hikes are being offered

Nature enthusiasts, those who love to hike, and folks just wanting an outing this spring will enjoy the free hikes being offered by Southwestern Oregon Community College in Curry County and led by Curry nature experts Walt Schroeder and Fred Bowen.

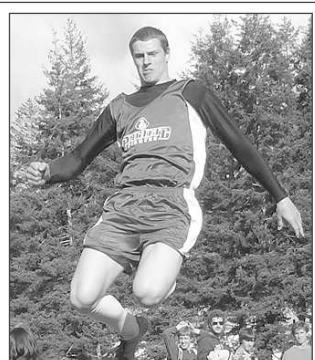
On May 29, hikers will meet at the Southwestern Brookings Center at 8:30 a.m., to travel by paved and rough gravel road to the trailhead by Vulcan Lake. This area, as well as Darlingtonia flycatchers, many other unique plants and historical mining activities.

Visit any Curry college location to register, or call 541-247-2741. Car pooling from the start location is encouraged, or those participating may meet the group at the trailhead.

Park reservation system is back up

Oregon's state park campsite reservations system is back in business April 14 after a two-week hiatus to upgrade its reservation software. Both online reservations (www.oregonstateparks.org) and call center services (1-800-452-5687) resumed at 8 a.m. April 14.

As of April 14, Reservations Northwest (RNW) is accepting campsite reservations for arrivals May 1, 2010 and beyond. State park camping for the rest of April is first come, first served at all parks.



Josh Valentine



Wren Carter

Triple jump and 1,500 meters
PON Student/athletes for track & field

Personal Injury • Social Security Disability • Worker's Compensation



541-347-3757

1010 1st Street SE, Suite 275 • Bandon, OR 97411 • www.blackchapman.com

Upcoming
Pacific High School
Boys and girls track and field

Track & Field

4 p.m., Tuesday, April 20
Pacific Invitational
@ Pacific High School track