



Miss Outstanding Teen 2016 Abigail Hoppe is crowned during the Miss Oregon competition Saturday.

Miss Oregon: North Coast represented well

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Wallace was the second in her family to win the contest, as her mother Tammy Wallace was Miss Oregon in 1987. “It’s bittersweet because it’s been my identity for the last year, but I’m excited to accomplish my other goals in life,” Wallace said.

Prior to winning the crown, Wallace had never left the West Coast. Within the past year she’s been to New York, New Jersey and even Japan representing her home state. She took this last year of school off to make all the travel events and appearances, but has begun taking classes again at Portland State and plans on finishing up her degree this year.

Locals on stage

Mather wasn’t the only contestant to hail from nearby as Miss North Coast, Tess Rund, and Miss Clatsop County, Ryen Buys, also competed in the pageant.

Buys won the People’s Choice Award in votes cast prior to the event. The award qualified her to advance to the top 11, but her quest for the crown would end there. “I looked out and saw so many people and local businesses here to support me, that was really great,” Buys said. “It’s been a time consuming last few weeks, but amazing getting to know all these girls.”

Dana Phillips had been the director of Miss Oregon since 1986, but this was her first year not running the show. That’s not to say she wasn’t involved. Phillips and her husband, Steve, are in charge of the Oregon Scholarship Foundation, which oversees the scholarship money for the contestants. “I might have retired from the day-to-day tasks for Miss Oregon but I’ll always be heavily involved with the organization,” laughed Phillips.

Miss Outstanding Teen

The contest for Miss Ore-



Jack Patterson, 2, holds a sign with Miss Capital City Hannah Patterson’s face on it during the Miss Oregon competition Saturday.



Audience members applaud during the Miss Oregon competition Saturday.

gon’s Outstanding Teen was interwoven into the premier event with the younger girls participating in similar pageant disciplines. Abigail Hoppe, of Salem, took the crown.

Taryn Miller, Miss Teen Columbia-Pacific, won fourth runner-up. Also on stage were Miss Teen Clatsop County, Caitlin Hillman, and Miss Teen North Coast, Nikkole Sasso.



Contestants hold hands as they wait to hear the finalists called during the Miss Oregon competition Saturday.

Wolfe: She also keeps an eye on the umpires

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thing we expect from the spouses, is that they are as committed as the teachers are.’ I took that to heart, and I’ve loved it ever since.”

After coaching stints at Colton and Glide, Lennie and Michelle moved on to Warrenton in 1991, where Lennie coached the Warriors to their first state championship in 1994.

Up until a few years ago, he also served as an assistant coach in football and wrestling.

Then when the real (baseball) season begins, Lennie takes his spot in the dugout, and Michelle takes her spot in the concession stand, right behind home plate.

“I love this part,” she said. “I love cooking, and I love feeding people. It makes me happy.”

It’s also convenient for watching the action, and keeping the umpires in line (someone has to make sure they’re making the right calls).

“I talk with Butch (Johnson) a lot, and I work with



Gary Henley/The Daily Astorian
Michelle Wolfe was given the Terry Christensen Award (named after a former Warrenton assistant coach) Saturday for her 25 years of service to Warrenton sports.

Ken (Pearson), so I can get my jabs in at work, and then when he gets here.”

And on those few, rare occasions when the wrong call is made, it’s usually Michelle’s voice the umpires hear first.

As much as she knows baseball, however, Michelle doesn’t argue with the umps (much) or offer up advice to her husband on coaching.

“He stays out of my concession stand, and I stay out of his coaching,” Michelle

said. “The only time I say something is on a call, and I tell (Lennie), ‘I would have told that ump this or that,’ and he’ll say, ‘I didn’t want to get tossed.’”

Michelle’s regular job is serving as a barista for her “other family” at Columbia Memorial Hospital in the cafe pavilion.

“I make sandwiches, and — more of my favorite thing — I feed people,” including staff, patients and visitors, she said. “I get to be in the kitchen sometimes, helping out, and that’s a lot of fun.”

The games aren’t over yet for the 2016 season. Warrenton’s Junior State baseball team still has a few more doubleheaders over the next week-and-a-half.

Meanwhile, the couple’s daughter, Katie, is now a full-time mom, while Dan — an assistant coach at Monroe High School, is getting married July 16.

Which means another generation of games for Michelle Wolfe.

— Gary Henley

Gearhart: New rules could take effect in October

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affected by the rules, off-street parking and application fees. The Planning Commission is suggesting a \$500 vacation rental permit application fee, separate from a \$125 inspection fee. Fees will be used to offset the expense of the program. The Palisades, Highlands and East Pine Street neighborhoods would be exempt as they are not located in Gearhart city limits. Long-running retreat properties Breakaway Lodge and the Lodge at Gearhart’s Little Beach could also be exempt from the new licensing rules.

Other updates to Planning Commission recommendations include 24-hour notification and contact information for the owner’s representative, which could be provided to neighbors by the city.

A plan to require applicants to provide proof of state lodging tax payment is “problematic,” Sweet wrote. “The state will not share tax information with the city and the state is not interested in knowing what homes are rentals.”

The plan could also compromise personal information that “shouldn’t concern the city.” However, the city could require proof of payment of Gearhart taxes.

All other regulations provided in the Planning Commission draft should remain “to lessen the impact of tourism,” he said.

At Planning Commission hearings this spring, opponents called the rules “ruinous,” with “arbitrary and capricious” limits.

Letters received by the

city after the Planning Commission meeting weighed heavily in opposition.

“If the city has a problem with the actions and policies of some rental occupants, owners or businesses, address them with the parties involved,” wrote Gayle Pedemonte.

“Imposing these restrictive regulations on existing homeowners is infringing on the freedom and rights of property owners in a democracy,” Lonnie Kiser said. “Adding these regulations ... is punitive and limits the inherent freedoms that we enjoy.”

Steve and Melissa Heuser said they strongly oppose the proposed rules, calling them “unenforceable and ill-advised.”

“Please do not chart a path which could lead to the slow disappearance of Gearhart,” wrote Jim Whittemore. “These recommendations will do just that.”

However, Peter Brix said he fully supports the proposed regulations, as did Ann Taylor of Portland, who asked her support be placed into the public record.

At Tuesday’s meeting, the City Council may either direct staff to prepare an ordinance based on the recommendation or with changes. The council could take its first vote on the ordinance in August and second and final vote in September.

New rules could take effect in October. A sign-up period would begin once homeowners have been notified of the new ordinance. The Tuesday meeting begins at 6 p.m. at the Gearhart firehouse at 670 Pacific Way.

Grant: Columbia River has a quickly growing marine highway

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“We just don’t want to see state dollars — in this case lottery dollars — facilitate the shipping of mill jobs to Asia,” said Chris Smith, executive director of the forest coalition.

While the coalition has not formally testified against the project, he said, it is reaching out to core activists. He said the group will likely testify on the application.

A place to tie up

Paul Langner, the waterfront manager at Teevin Bros.’ Rainier yard, said this year’s application would only have a microscopic effect on log exports and the company’s bottom line.

“Our project is to put in mooring dolphins that can be used by any tug and barge that needs to tie up,” Langner said.

The Columbia River has a quickly growing marine highway, he said, but not many places for tugs and barges, which usually have no anchor, to tie up in bad weather and during other delays.

In addition to exporting about 300 million board feet of timber a year from Rainier, Langner said, Teevin Bros. takes in 75 million board feet that goes to local mills for processing and exports 200 million board feet of processed lumber a year to California and Hawaii. The logs come from private land, as export of raw timber from state-owned lands has largely been prohibited since 1990.

Teevin Bros. is Oregon’s only direct connection to Hawaii, Langner said, shipping anything from Sheetrock and reinforced steel bars to airplane kits and light rail components. “If its a building commodity, it ships out of Rainier to Honolulu every two weeks,” he said.

Teevin Bros. has received more than \$9 million over the past decade through ConnectOregon, including grants

in four out of the program’s five funding cycles. In 2010, the company received nearly \$3.7 million to support rail-to-barge operations. Langner said the project helped create 73 jobs in Rainier in the midst of a recession.

“I believe we’ve been successful (with getting grants) because we are a true transportation project,” Langner said.

Critics may not like the state investing in privately owned infrastructure, he said, but it is those public-private partnerships that have benefited the economy.

Choosing the winners

Local, regional and modal committees made up of appointed members score grant applications based on considerations outlined in state law. Winning projects reduce transportation costs for businesses, improve access to sources of labor, benefit the economy statewide, provide critical links in the state’s transportation system, are largely funded by other sources and are ready for construction.

The state Transportation Commission will hold a public hearing July 21 to release a list of the 75 projects seeking grants, ranked by a final review committee. The state will fund \$45 million worth of requests. The winning grant applications will be announced in August. Along with Teevin Bros.’ project, the Port of Astoria has requested more than \$1.5 million to help pay for rehabilitation of the western dock on Pier 2, where seafood is transferred from fishing boats to processors.

The state Transportation Commission is taking comments on the projects until the meeting later this month through ConnectOregon@odot.state.or.us or by mail at: Oregon Transportation Commission, 555 13th St. N.E., Salem, OR 97301. For more information on the projects, visit <http://tinyurl.com/aaky8az>