



Strong return of spring chinook anticipated

Rules released last week account for projected run of more than 300,000 springers

Anticipating another strong return of spring chinook salmon, fishery managers from Washington and Oregon recently set the initial 2015 fishing season to run through April 10 on the lower Columbia River.

Under guidelines approved for this year's season, anglers fishing below Bonneville Dam will be allowed to catch an estimated 11,500 spring chinook before an updated run forecast is available in early May.

Another 1,200 adult upriver chinook are reserved for anglers fishing upriver from Bonneville Dam to the Washington/Oregon state line, 17 miles above McNary Dam. Additional fish have also been reserved for the Snake River sport fishery.

Those catch guidelines are based on a pro-

jected run of 312,600 adult spring chinook to the Columbia River, just shy of last year's banner return, said Ron Roler, Columbia River policy manager for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

"The stage is set for another great fishery this year," Roler said. "Not only is the run forecast well above average, but water conditions also appear to be favorable for the upcoming season."

From March 1 through April 10, anglers fishing downriver from Bonneville Dam may retain one marked, hatchery-reared adult spring chinook as part of their daily catch limit. The sport fishery will close in that area on three Tuesdays – March 24, March 31, and April 7 – to accommodate potential commercial fisheries.

Spring chinook fishing is currently open on a daily basis from Buoy 10 near the mouth of the Columbia River upstream to the Interstate 5 Bridge.

Under the new rules, the fishery for boat and bank anglers will expand upriver to Bea-



Photo by Adam Lapiere

BANK FISHING for spring chinook at the mouth of Tanner Creek, just downstream of Bonneville Dam.

con Rock on March 1, with bank fishing also allowed from Beacon Rock upriver to the fishing boundary just below Bonneville Dam.

Upstream of Bonneville Dam, the fishery will be open to boat and bank anglers on a daily basis from March 16 through May 6 between the Tower Island powerlines (six miles

below The Dalles Dam) and the Washington/Oregon state line. Bank anglers can also fish from Bonneville Dam upriver to the Tower Island powerlines during that time.

Anglers fishing upstream of Bonneville Dam will also be limited to one marked, hatchery-reared adult spring chinook per

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Photo by Ben Mitchell

JUNEUARY

Patches of grass and rocks poke through the snow below the Mt. Hood Express chair lift at Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Area Saturday afternoon as sunny skies and warm temperatures continued to melt the already dismal snowpack. With a dwindling snowpack far below average for this time of year and a potential pineapple express weather system on its way later this week, the outlook for the ski season remains fairly grim. All hope is not lost yet, however; last year's weather followed a similar pattern until a series of storms dropped 134 inches in the first three weeks of February.

Prep basketball roundup: HRV boys poised for historic season, Hawks continue streak

By **MIKE WEBER**
For the News

HRVHS Boys

The Hood River Valley High School varsity boys basketball team is enjoying one of its finest seasons ever. With an 8-8 record, the Eagles have averaged 68.6 points per game, which ties them with No. 1 ranked Mountain View (15-2) of Bend as the state's highest-scoring 5A team. The team's eight wins is the most in ten years – since 2005, when it posted an 8-15 record – and if the boys can manage another win in their seven remaining regular season games, it'll be the most successful season in team history.

HRV (6-2 home record) hosts the next three Columbia River Conference games – Tuesday vs. The Dalles (1-1 CRC, 2-15 overall), Friday vs. the Pendleton Buckaroos (0-2, 10-7) and Feb. vs. the Hermiston Bulldogs (2-0, 5-11). The Eagles (1-1 CRC) split their first two league contests, including a 69-58 road loss Friday against Hermiston Bulldogs.

"We didn't rebound very well and we didn't have very good outside shooting, which were the main reasons that we lost to Hermiston," coach Steve Noteboom said of Friday's game. "I'm very pleased about how well we've played in our first two league games, especially since we won our first contest over Pendleton. With the style of up-tempo basketball that we're playing, our opponents usually get a lot of scoring opportunities, so we're obviously going to have games like this sometimes."

After leading 12-11 at the end of the first quarter, HRV fell behind 33-25 at halftime. The Bulldogs extended the margin to 54-37 after three. The Eagles responded with an offensive outburst in the fourth, outscoring the Bulldogs 21-15 to trim the final margin to single digits.

The Eagles shot 22 percent (4-for-18) from the three-point line and 37 percent from the field, which was below their season average

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Big names headline free girls wrestling clinic Wednesday

Hood River Valley High School will be one of just two locations on the west coast to host a special girls' wrestling clinic on Wednesday, Feb. 4 as part of USA Wrestling's goal of raising awareness and participation in female wrestling across the country. The clinic will run from 6:15-7:45 p.m. in the HRV wrestling room and is open to all females ages 5-25, no wrestling experience required.

Headlining the event are clinicians Kelsey Campbell and Whitney Conder. Campbell is a former Olympian and US Open champion originally from Milwaukie High School and Conder is a US World Team Trial and US Open champion from Payallay, Wash. Both wrestlers are currently living and training at the Olympic Training Center on Colorado Springs.

Don't miss spring baseball signups

HRV Little League players from Odell, Hood River and Parkdale can sign up now at www.signup.hrvll.com for early registration discounts. Practices start in mid-March. For more information e-mail hrrvllittleleague@gmail.com.

Babe Ruth registration is open now and runs every Wednesday evening at the HRVHS indoor hitting facility, from 7:30-9 p.m. Birth certificates needed to register. For more information e-mail Yzhough@yahoo.com.

Marquez wins Elks Invite, HRV girls shine

By **ADAM LAPIERRE**
News staff writer

Hood River Valley wrestling had four top-five placers and finished fifth overall in the 18-team Elks Memorial Invitational tournament over the weekend at HRVHS. Highlighting the all-day affair for the Eagles were Jason Shaner, Christian Marquez, Junior Manzo and Steven Swafford, who placed third, first, sixth and fourth, respectively.

HRV fielded wrestlers for all but one weight class and finished with 114.5 points, good enough for fifth place; Churchill dominated with 206.5 points to claim the team title, followed by Newberg with 163, West Albany with 139 and Centennial with 130.

The Eagles also hosted Mountain View the night before the tournament for an annual dual coined Grapple for the Griffin. In an exciting evening of action, each team won five matches, but HRV finished with a 46-24 win due to having a full roster and picking up four forfeits.

"It was a very tough tournament," Coach Trent Kroll said of the Elks, which has grown steadily in size and esteem over the years. "There were lots of superstars in the weight classes; I bet about half of the All-Americans in the state were there. Teams are now begging to get into the tour-



CHRISTIAN MARQUEZ, ranked 5A No. 1 at 126 pounds, swept the competition Saturday to win the 132-pound Elks title.

nament; it's one of the best tournaments in the state for that weekend."

HRV senior Christian Marquez breezed through the competition on his way to a second straight win at the tournament. After sitting out the last couple weeks due to injury, the defending state champion and 5A No. 1 ranked Marquez seemed back in stride as he picked up a first round bye, an impressive 15-second pin, a first-round technical fall in his second and a 2:16 pin in the finals claim the tournament's unique and coveted first-place award – a customized model truck.

In his first appearance at HRV's home tournament, Shaner started with a bye, won his second match by injury default, lost his third then finished with a 9-0 win to claim third place. Junior Manzo and Jorge Ortega both

took the long road to the podium with three wins and two losses to finish fifth and Steven Swafford picked up three pins and a close 5-3 loss to make it to the consolation finals, where he lost 13-0 to finish fourth.

"One thing we learned over the weekend is the importance of being able to pick ourselves up after a loss, reevaluate our goals, recover and get back out there on the mat and wrestle up to our potential every single time. That's a life lesson wrestling teaches well."

Eagles at Elks Memorial:

106 Jessica DeHart: 1-2 (WBF, 9-1 loss, 4-2 loss); **120 Jason Shaner:** 3rd place, 2-1 (bye, win by injury, LBF, 9-0 win); **126 Dylan Peterson:** 2-2 (WBF, 6-5 loss, WBF, 5-2 loss); **132 Christian Marquez:** 1st place, 3-0 (bye, WBF, 17-1 win, WBF); **138 Junior Manzo:** 5th place, 3-2 (14-6 win, LBF, WBF, 4-2 win, LBF, DFF); **138 James Estes:** 2-2 (LBF, WBF, 9-8 win, 16-1 loss); **145 Jorge Ortega:** 5th place, 3-3 (11-3 win, LBF, WBF, 5-2 win, 9-0 loss, DFF); **152 Chris Castro:** 0-2 (bye, LBF, 3-2 loss); **160 Ian Rand:** 2-2 (WBF, LBF, 14-3 win, 3-0 loss); **160 Trystan Fisher:** 0-2 (LBF, bye, LBF); **170 Steven Swafford:** 4th place, 3-2 (WBF, WBF, 5-3 loss, WBF, 13-0 loss); **182 Oscar Villegas:** 2-1 (LBF, WBF, LBF); **195 Mark**

Reyes: 0-2 (LBF, bye, 4-2 loss); **220 Max Lane:** 2-2 (WBF, 13-0 loss, 4-3 win, 4-2 OT loss); 285 Justin Wilson: 1-2 (LBF, WBF, LBF).

Team top five (18 total): 1st Churchill, 206.5; 2nd Newberg 163; 3rd West Albany 139; 4th Centennial 130; 5th Hood River 114.5

Girls tournamnt

In a first of its kind in Oregon, HRV wrestling hosted a separate female tournament alongside the Elks. Among the field were six from HRV, and living up to their reputation as a powerhouse in the fast-growing sport of female wrestling, four of the six went undefeated to win their brackets.

"It worked out great and our girls wrestled great," Kroll said of the tournament, which, to his knowledge, is the first of its kind in the state. "We met our goal of getting 30 girls for the tournament; next year we'll try to double that and have 60."

Sarah Sullenger picked up three pins to finish first at 114-117, Joanna Endow was second with a loss and two pins at 121-132, Beatriz Najera was third at the same weight class, Martika Lane won two and lost one to finish second at 126-132, Monique Yanez won all three of her matches by fall to win her bracket and Payton Rigert won the 152-169 class with three pins.