



Photo by Mark Crompton

**CLAIRE DAVIES** cruises down the mountain on her way to second place finish in Saturday's GS race at Meadows.

## HRV ski team still unstoppable in league racing

Mt. Hood Ski League action continued on the slopes of Mt. Hood Meadows last weekend, where the resort's grooming staff has done a commendable job keeping courses up-to-speed despite an extremely limited snowpack.

As has been the theme all season, Hood River Valley High School ski team dominated league action Saturday in a sunny day of racing that included two giant slalom runs and one slalom run. Both HRV boys and girls teams won the race handily, with Lucy McLean and Austin Keillor

setting fastest times for their fields in both disciplines.

Complete results are below. The team continues racing through February in preparation for the state championships, scheduled for March 4-6 at Meadows.

### Girls GS

Lucy McLean, 1st, 53.28 (26.48, 26.80); Claire Davies, 4th, 58.08 (29.14, 28.94); Sarah Hall, 5th, 59.41 (29.71, 29.70); Nicolette Paulus, 12th, 1:02.87 (31.60, 31.27); Hannah Bergemann, 17th, 1:04.58 (32.35, 32.32); Avrie Van Tilburg, 30th,

1:08.53 (34.33, 34.20); Sophie Caldwell, 39th, 1:11.47 (36.19, 35.28)

### Boys GS

Austin Keillor, 1st, 51.88 (25.62, 26.26); William Lamer, 2nd, 53.74 (26.31, 27.43); Patrick Crompton, 8th, 56.15 (27.90, 28.25); Colson Zack, 10th, 57.81 (28.50, 28.68); Charlie Sutherland, 18th, 1:02.66 (34.61, 28.05); Bryce Donald, 20th, 1:03.64 (32.03, 31.64); Sam Stevenson, 26th, 1:06.80 (33.33, 33.47); Onar Smith, 27th, 1:06.88 (33.89, 32.99); Reese Carroll, 28th, 1:08.07 (35.06, 33.01)

### Girls slalom

Lucy McLean, 1st, 25.15; Claire Davies, 2nd, 38.69; Sarah Hall, 4th, 41.10; Nicolette Paulus, 10th, 48.28; Hannah Bergemann, 11th, 48.68; Avrie Van Tiburg, 17th, 50.95; Sophie Caldwell, 20th, 52.20

### Boys slalom

Austin Keillor, 1st, 31.60; Patrick Crompton, 5th, 36.81; Charlie Sutherland, 7th, 41.90; Oskar Anderson, 9th, 42.72; Onar Smith, 14th, 45.48; Thomas Mixon, 18th, 49.88; Reese Carroll, 22nd, 54.64.

# Hook project provides great new river access

*Should be done by the end of the month*

By **ADAM LAPIERRE**  
News staff writer

A welcomed addition to the Hood River Waterfront is quickly taking shape, and with a finish date of the end of February, the new river access at the west end of the Hook will be ready for windsurfers, kayakers and stand-up-paddlers who come out of the woodwork in droves as winter winds down and the river-recreation season rapidly approaches.

Crestline Construction was contracted for the \$130,000 improvement project, which was funded by the Port of Hood River (\$60,000), the Columbia Gorge Windsurfing Association (\$50,000) and the Hood River Valley Parks and Recreation District (\$20,000).

The project creates a gently sloping ramp from the top of the Hook down to the Columbia River, providing easy access to a well-used section of water that has excellent wind exposure but is safely out of the main channel of the river. The small path weaving between large boulders has been replaced with a concrete ramp wide enough for people to carry kayaks, SUP boards and rigged-sails down with ease.

Although a multi-use access, kite-board launching and landing will not be allowed from the site.

A second phase of the project will include a manicured seating and rigging area at the top of the ramp, with two patches of turf for people to set-up and break-down gear. This phase (contingent on funding) will be completed following the City of Hood River's sewage outfall relocation project, which was originally planned for 2014-15 but has been delayed at least a year. That project will route the new sewage outflow pipe under the Hook road and into the river facing Wells Island. Once the road is repaired, the Port's plan is to extend the waterfront trail to the end of the Hook and the new launch site.



**QUICK WORK:** Crews are nearly done with the Port of Hood River's latest waterfront improvement project. Funded by the Port, Columbia Gorge Windsurfing Association and HRV Parks and Rec Dist., the \$130,000 project creates much-needed improved river access at the west end of the Hook.

Photos by Andrew Jansky (above) and Adam Lapierre

## Luchsinger replaces Munk as head HRV boys lacrosse coach

By **ADAM LAPIERRE**  
News staff writer

With spring weather already in the air, high school athletes are about to gear-up and hit the great outdoors for the final season of the school year. New to the lineup of coaches for Hood River Valley High School, Matt Luchsinger will replace Jon Munk as head varsity boys lacrosse coach. Munk, a three-year head coach, completed his teaching degree last spring and is living in the Portland area. Luchsinger, who was Munk's assistant coach for the past three seasons, was hired from a pool of applicants to take over the reins.



**MATT LUCHSINGER**

"I'm excited for the opportunity to work with these kids," said Luchsinger, who owns and operates Northwest Balanced Dog Training in Hood River. "I love lacrosse and coaching is a way for me to get back into the sport and give back to the community. I've gotten to know these kids over the past few years and am looking forward to watch-

ing them, and helping them, grow up a little more."

Luchsinger brings more than ten years of lacrosse experience to the post; he grew up in central New York – graduate of Tully High School – where the sport is wildly popular.

"It's definitely way more serious over there," he said. "For some kids, that's all they do. We used to take our sticks everywhere, even in our classes. It's definitely another level over there."

Luchsinger says he's expecting good things from this year's lineup. Last year the team finished 8-8 overall and 2-4 in the Columbia League, which was just out of reach of a playoff spot.

"I'm expecting to give the division a good run for its money this year," he said. "We lost some good players last year, but have a lot of talented players ready to fill the gaps."

Assisting Luchsinger will be last year's JV coach, Gorge Dolac, and filling in for Dolac



submitted photo

**STREET CRED:** New HRV lacrosse coach Matt Luchsinger grew up playing the sport in central New York. As seen in this junior high portrait found on Facebook, he took the sport very seriously

as JV coach will be Dave Bigelow. Anyone else interested in assisting is encouraged to contact Luchsinger at [nwbalanceddogtraining.com](http://nwbalanceddogtraining.com)

## HRV boys bumped to CRC No. 2

*Final games of regular season are next week*

By **ADAM LAPIERRE**  
News staff writer

The Pendleton Buckaroos scored early and often to win a pivotal matchup Tuesday night on their home court against the Hood River Valley varsity boys basketball team. The 72-60 outcome, fueled by Buckaroo Wes Persinger's game-high 22 points, breaks the tie for the lead and establishes the pecking order in the Columbia River Conference with a week left in regular-season action. At 4-3, the Eagles sit in second place, behind Pendleton (4-3) and ahead of Hermiston (3-4) and The Dalles (2-5).

HRV is one the road again Tuesday night, where the team plays a key game against the Bulldogs before returning home Thursday to host The Dalles. The Eagles look to close out the season either in second or third place in the conference, which will ensure a play-in game on Tuesday, March 3. If HRV finishes second, it will host the March 3 game against Northwest Oregon's No. 5 team; if HRV is third, it will travel to challenge Northwest Oregon's No. 3 team.

Noah Noteboom and Dallas Buckley had a team-high 12 points each in Tuesday's game, but a slow start and a lopsided quarter proved to be insurmountable. After falling behind by three (18-15) in the first quarter and 11 by halftime (35-24), the Eagles matches paces with Pendleton for the rest of the game but were unable to recover from the deficit. Scottie Ziegner chipped in with 11, Colin Tegman had seven and Austin Clark had six to lead the team in scoring.

## STATE SHOOTERS

Headed to state

The Knights of Columbus held its annual district free throw contest earlier this month at Wy'east Middle School. Competitors at the contest qualified by winning their respective age groups at an event last month at Hood River Valley High School. Pictured here are district winners, who earned a chance to compete at the state championship March 15 at Marist High School in Eugene. From left to right are Grand Knight Jim Dummer, Dylan Santee (11), Jack Siekkinen (12), Izaiah Adams (front, 9), Robert Rowan (10) and coordinator Frank Wall. Not pictured is Greyson Losee (13).

Submitted photo

