

HAYDEN: Will attend a 37-day wilderness EMT course this summer in Washington

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Later that afternoon, Lewis gave the keynote address at a banquet in honor of the athletes. He told the audience of 5,000 about how dealing with adversity in life reveals character. Suddenly, he was talking about Hayden.

"Carl said, 'Today I saw a lot of courage and a lot of grit in this little kid. That kid was burning up and he gave it his all,'" Paul recalled. "Hayden doesn't remember much of the speech. He was so sick and curled up in our arms."

Hayden stuck with running. He currently leads state 2A rankings in both the 800 and 1,500. He hopes to run collegiately for one of the country's elite military academies. This summer he will attend invitation-only West Point and United States Air Force Academy Summer Leadership programs.

In a few weeks, Hayden will test for his pilot's license. As part of his senior project (which he started this year as a junior), he plans to provide honor flights over the Blue Mountains to veterans who are disabled former pilots. Hayden calls the project "my way of honoring those who served before me."

"I will rent a plane for a whole day," Hayden said. "Each flight over the Blue Mountains will last 30 to 45 minutes. I can take several veterans at one time."

Additionally this summer, he will go to Leavenworth, Washington, to attend a 37-day wilderness EMT course. He will also again volunteer for a week at the Portland Air National Guard Base to help assemble care packages and do other tasks for military families transitioning home from overseas.

Trying to organize all of Hayden's activities into a 24-hour day could confound a competent time management expert. His busiest days, Tuesday and Thursday, take precise preparation. After rolling out of bed, Hayden packs his flight bag, devours his to-go oatmeal and heads to school with his younger brother, Kirkland. At school he attends an array of classes: weightlifting, U.S. history, English, chemistry, psychology and pre-calculus. He uses his last period to study for his pilot's license.

When the final bell sounds, Hayden hurries to track practice. Some days, he runs for distance, racking up about 35 miles each week. Other days, he does intervals and speed work.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris
Weston-McEwen junior Hayden Scott does a pre-flight check on a Cessna 172 before taking off Wednesday out of the airport in Walla Walla.

After practice, Hayden jumps into his old Toyota Land Cruiser and points it toward the airport in Walla Walla. For a couple of hours, he guides a Cessna 172 through a series of maneuvers, such as steep turns, slow flight and emergency landing procedures. Afterwards he heads home, finally pulling into the family driveway in Weston at around 9 p.m.

"I put my homework off until the next day," he admits.

That's all right, though. He still pulls down a 4.0 grade-point average.

As a freshman, Hayden sought out Debbie McBee, who is West Point's Oregon admissions representative, for advice.

"He wanted to know what the academies are looking for. He wanted to make himself competitive," McBee said. "He's one of the most driven teenagers that I've ever come across."

McBee isn't alone in describing Scott this way. Sen. Bill Hansell, R-Athens, wrote letters to Oregon Congressmen Jeff Merkley, Ron Wyden and Greg Walden on Scott's behalf to aid him in getting accepted at an academy.

"He is tough, smart, focused and disciplined — all traits I believe an officer in the military should possess," Hansell wrote.

These same traits help on the track.

"Hayden is kind of a student of the game," said Weston-McEwen head track-and-field coach Loran Monaco. "He's probably one of the most efficient runners I've seen. He has really high expectations and he doesn't back down from them."

Hayden considers the late long

distance runner Steve Prefontaine a role model. He has watched the move "Pre" about 40 times since first watching it as a fifth or sixth grader.

"I learned how he overcame disadvantages and became a legend," Hayden said. "I wasn't the most talented kid in Weston, Oregon. I could relate to Pre."

Hayden has parlayed much that he learned from athletics into the rest of his life — or perhaps he has simply internalized the family mantra.

"Since he was a little boy, we've said, 'Shoot for the moon and if you miss, you're still among the stars,'" Paul Scott said. "He always shoots big."

Hayden, who plans to serve as a combat medical officer or casualty evacuation pilot in a branch of the Armed Forces, hopes to hone his leadership skills at one of the academies.

"The academies are basically officer training schools on steroids," Hayden said.

Some of his friends are curious as to why he wants to subject himself to the rigor of academy life.

"My friends ask, 'Why?'" Scott said. "Someone has to step up. Why not me? I want to be a leader in this country. I'm willing to make that a goal."

Medical school, he said, will come later.

In the near future, Scott is coming to some difficult forks in the road as he plots his path. One has already arrived, said his dad.

"He has been contacted by the Navy track and field coach," Paul said. "He's got a decision to make."



Staff photo by E.J. Harris
Warren Hinrichs, 75, of Spokane hangs from his homemade rigging while painting the flagpole in front of the Umatilla County Courthouse on Thursday in Pendleton.

PAINTER: Loves the gratitude people have when they see his work

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Although he likes to joke that "you only fall once," he did have a close call while working on the William O. Douglas Federal Building in Yakima, Washington in July 2014.

Working on a flagpole on top of the building in triple digit heat, Hinrichs fainted for a moment and fell back while tied to the pole.

While local emergency personnel were able to rescue him while hanging upside-down, the fainting episode presaged something more dire than a simple case of dehydration.

Hinrichs recalled the event to his doctor in February 2015, who ordered a round of tests. The tests revealed that Hinrichs had a potentially fatal

heart condition that would require a valve replacement. In his case, the doctor's used pig skin to do it.

"Somebody else got the pork chops and the bacon and I got the pig skin," he joked.

Following five months of recovery, Hinrichs returned to flagpole painting, telling his doctor that he wanted to do it until he was 95.

Even though the paint jobs are just supplementary income to his social security payments at this point, Hinrichs said he continues to do it because he loves the gratitude people have when they see his work.

Although he couldn't resist another joke.

"People say, 'Warren, why do you do this?' I say, 'Well, people look up to you.'"

GOP: Ryan said his only goal was party unity

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capped a remarkable week that began with Ryan, the GOP's top elected office-holder and its 2012 vice presidential nominee, turning his back on his party's presumptive presidential nominee just days after Trump had effectively clinched the nomination.

Ryan said at the time he was not yet ready to back Trump, who had succeeded in insulting women, Latinos, disabled people and many conservatives in the course of a brutal primary season. He also has alarmed the Republican establishment with proposals including deporting millions of immigrants and barring Muslims from the country.

Yet in the days since, many GOP lawmakers — and voters themselves

— have made peace with the reality that Trump is their candidate and therefore their only hope of defeating likely Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton. Although some in the GOP fear Trump could spell election disaster and cost Republicans control of the Senate and seats in the House, recent polls have shown a closer race, helping their comfort level.

Ryan himself insisted from the beginning that his only goal was real party unity. His allies in the House have predicted he will get behind Trump in the end, and on Thursday Ryan sounded like he was well on his way.

"We talked about what it takes to unify, where our differences were and how we can bridge these gaps going forward," Ryan said.

WRITE-IN: Rep. Smith also running unopposed

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same strategy, and so far he has only been challenged by Barb Dickerson, who is running as an Independent. Several prominent local Democrats — including Pendleton Mayor Phillip Houk and Gary Burke with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation — already pledged their support to Hansell in a recent ad in the *East Oregonian*.

Hansell said the two party nominations would save him time and money campaigning against what he would consider to be less serious candidates.

"If the individual and the party were serious about running somebody, they would have done it by the deadline," Hansell said. "I don't mind a campaign. I'm

willing to do it. But nobody filed."

Likewise, Hansell said he is not concerned with people confusing his affiliation with the Republican Party.

"I'm not a big partisan politician anyway," he said.

State Rep. Greg Smith, R-Heppner, finds himself in the same situation, running unopposed for his House seat in this year's primary with nobody filed on the Democratic side. While not advertising for write-in votes, Smith said he is reaching out to his Democratic supporters within the district.

"We take it as a badge of honor to get bipartisan support," Smith said.

Even with the major party nominations, the candidates could still face a write-in campaign during the general election. Other minor parties

can also nominate candidates, so long as they are established within the district, and unaffiliated candidates have several avenues to get their name on the ballot.

The first is to complete a nominating petition with the Oregon Secretary of State. To qualify, it takes signatures from at least 1 percent of votes cast in the district in the last presidential election. Candidates could also be nominated by an assembly of electors from June 1 to Aug. 30, where at least 250 registered voters come together to form a nominating committee.

Details on both processes can be found online at www.sos.oregon.gov.

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