

Tourney raises \$8K for Joseph athletics

By Rochelle Danielson
For the Chieftain



Birdies, Bogeys & Bunkers

Out of curiosity I drove to Alpine Meadows Saturday before last to check out the JAIP (Joseph Athletic Improvement Project) tournament. From the course's entrance on Golf Course Road to way beyond the cart sheds rigs were parked catawampus in a tight squeeze. It looked like Joseph's Main Street during the June car show.

After double parking I ventured in the gate to the clubhouse. A group of happy golfers were teeing off on No. 1, another quartet was waiting in the wings, while another foursome

was making the turn on No. 9. It was a sign of a slow — maybe seven-hour — golf day for the 92 players who entered the fun and lucrative event, but no one seemed concerned.

You've got to hand it to sportsman and coordinator, Lance Homan, in his quest to raise funds for Joseph athletics. The project's success can be attributed to not only Homan's

tenacity and quiet charm, but as he put it, "We feel lucky to have so many golfers who want to take part in something we feel is very special to our school, athletes and community."

A majority of the field were men's teams, with two women's groups and four youth. Michelle Homan, Gayle Stephens, Mandy Decker and Kendall Hayes teamed up, as well as Jary Homan, Courtney Clark, Linda Esplin and Kristin Albee. The Suto family (John, Billie, Tori and Blade) played as a foursome, and Sherri Kilgore, Tyler Homan and Kade Kilgore made up a trio.

"The JAIP tournament brought in an estimated net \$8K. The amount is about the same

as last year," says Homan. "This year's funds will be used for uniforms (except football) for each of the girls' and boys' sports activities. We plan to repair football helmets."

Lance added, "The tournament was a success, and we want to thank the crew at Alpine Meadows who made the course look wonderful and provided a welcoming environment."

The winners: First Place team of Tim Gilbert, John Hagan, Wayne Polumsky and Mac Huff shot a 60. Second Place — Dave Stephens, John Decker, Greg Oveson and Mike Crawford, 61. Third Place team of Doug McKinnis, Mike Harshfield, Jerry Cornett and Josh Kissinger, 64.

WHS having young moment

By Rob Ruth

Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA — After graduating four seniors from last year's second-place team, Wallowa Volleyball Coach Janaea Hulse figures it'll be a while before the 2015 squad can begin to approach the level of competitiveness the Cougars brought to the court in 2014.

The extent of the challenge isn't even fully expressed by mentioning the quartet of key players who've moved on. For 2015, the Cougars have only one returning varsity senior, utility player Marybeth Hulse. Three juniors — middles Beth Johnston and Jordan Ferré, and back row player Ashley Starner — make up the rest of that rather short list of experienced varsity returnees.

Ashley Campbell, a JV player last year who can play back row or setter, could break through to varsity this season.

New to Wallowa's program

is junior Oriana Wandschneider, who formerly played volleyball in Joseph and can play in both the front and back rows. "She's very aggressive," Hulse says. "She's very defensive" and possesses "good technique and fundamentals."

Wallowa is meanwhile rich in freshman and sophomore players, and several of the latter are back from last year's JV squad.

"We're a pretty young team," Hulse concedes.

She's pointedly upbeat about the situation, though, and confidently states the 2015 Cougars will be "aggressive." She adds, "They're very coachable right now. They want to learn. They want to get better."

Early-season team practices are concentrated mainly on defense and on basic skills of passing and hitting.

At this stage of the season, Hulse says, "we're just trying to come together as a team," and the coach stresses to her play-



Rob Ruth/Chieftain

WHS Volleyball Coach Janaea Hulse leads a drill in receiving during an Aug. 27 practice held in the Beth Johnson Room. At left is freshman Riley Ferré.

ers that they must "trust themselves and trust their team."

Some of the other members of the volleyball program's roster, mentioned by the coach in no particular order, include:

- Riley Ferré, a freshman who's "doing very well" at the setting position.
- Rylee Goller, a freshman outside who will probably make varsity.
- Grace Pendarvis, outside or right side, freshman.
- Defensive specialist Ashley Wilson, freshman.
- Middle Josie Scott, a sophomore in her first year of volleyball.

• Sophomore returnee Teagan Miller, who can play middle and in front.

• Caitlin Robb, a returning sophomore JV setter.

• Alley Shane, outside or utility, a junior beginning her first year of volleyball.

• JV outside Claudia Poudereux, a sophomore exchange student.

Fashioning this group into a cohesive unit will take time, but Hulse also knows there has been balance among the Old Oregon League volleyball teams, so it's not as if a younger team can't soon gain a competitive foothold.

Wildfires may limit archery opportunities

By Kathleen Ellyn

Wallowa County Chieftain

Juanita Jacobson of Lostine has an elk tag for archery season that's good for Sled Springs.

Well, that's a gimme, isn't it?

But Jaunita isn't going to try to fill it.

"The smoke is so heavy that my husband can't breathe in it," she said. "Wenaha is closed, and there's no way we could get in to the woods," she said.

Even if they got up into the woods in what they think is a safe area, Juanita said, it might not be safe for long.

"We're scared to death to have our trailer out there (as a base camp)," she said. "There's going to be more fires and people out there and I don't care how careful you are, someone is going to do something stupid. We could come back to camp and find it on fire."

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is not canceling archery season (Aug. 29 – Sept. 27), but hunters may be limited in where they can hunt — or, like Juanita Jacobson, may limit themselves because of safety issues.

"Because of the extreme fire danger, hunters should be aware that there are fire restrictions throughout Oregon and some local closures of public land associated with active fires and firefighting," said Ron Anglin, ODFW wildlife division administrator.

Hunters need to know what those fire restrictions and closures are before they go afield.

The InciWeb website (inciweb.nwcc.gov/) has information on fires and closures due to firefighting, plus maps of closure areas in some cases. Currently, there are active fires and related closures on the Malheur, Rogue-River-Siskiyou, Umatilla, Umpqua, and Wallowa-Whitman national forests. Closures are also in effect on some BLM lands where there is fire activity.

All state, federal and industrial forests are also under public use restrictions to prevent more fires. Restrictions vary by area but some key rules to follow are:

- No smoking except in vehicles on improved roads, in boats or at designated locations.

- No open fires such as campfires, charcoal fires or cooking fires except in designated locations. (Currently campfires are prohibited, even in designated fire pits, in all Oregon state parks, Tillamook County and in some national forests, too.) Portable cooking stoves using liquefied or bottled fuels are allowed.

- No off-roading by motor vehicles, including motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles. Vehicles are only allowed on improved roads. Keep your vehicle off vegetation, it could start a fire!

- No exploding targets or tracer ammunition.

- Carry firefighting tools (one gallon of water or 2.5 pound fire extinguisher and one shovel at least 26 inches long with an 8-inch blade) when traveling in a motor vehicle in timber, brush or grass.

Hunters should also consider that many private forestlands are currently closed to public access, including hunting.

For a partial list of these closures, visit ODF's website at Oregon.gov/odf under Wildfires /Forest Restrictions & Closures / Landowner / Corporate Closure Chart. This chart is updated frequently and also contains a phone number to get the latest information about restrictions directly from the timber company. If the land where you hunt is not represented, call the landowner directly for access information.

"Private landowners will reopen their land when conditions significantly improve and it is safe to do so," says Mike Dykzeul, director of forest protection at the Oregon Forest Industries Council.

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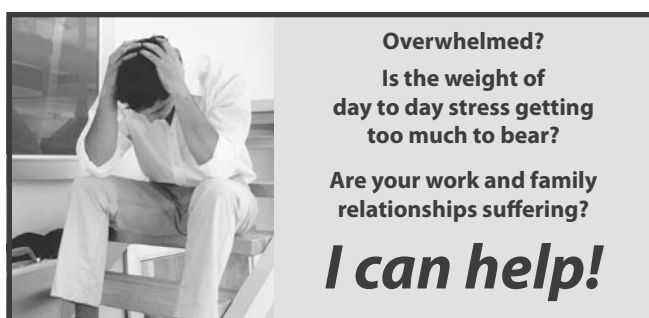
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