Putts pile up at annual Final Scramble

By Rochelle Danielson For the Chieftain

Two successful events took place at Alpine Meadows the next-to-last weekend of September: the annual Crab Feed/Final Scramble tournament on the 19th, and the Eastside Senior invite on the 21st.

The latter days of summer blessed both events with the sun's warm, bright rays.

The golf course has been a diamond-inthe-rough all season, but as fall approaches with cooler mornings, frosty greens, falling leaves and shorter playing time there's something about this small 9-hole valley of green that takes on a special softness and glow. Add



the beauty of the Wallowa Mountain backdrop with a thin blanket of snow draping Ruby Peak summit, and you've got yourself a place where happy, contented golfers can't think of anywhere they'd rather be.

The Saturday tourney pitted eleven 4-man/ woman combination teams against each other. Even with a scramble format it was a "forever" all-day golf day. Golfers were challenged with their putts. With cup placement situated in the most difficult spots on the greens, strokes added up fast. One foursome garnered 78 putts.

A putting contest and a crab feed were the highlights of the day along with the announcement of winners.

Tourney results: first low gross: Greg Oveson, Jeff Oveson, Terry Decker and John Decker, 61. Second low gross: Ray Harmon, Ray Piephoff, Sam Morgan, Jim Clegg, 68. First low net: Jim Davis Rod Spikes, Mel Jackson, Ron Rademacher, 59.44. Second low net: (in a tie with Ray Harmon team) Terry Lamb, Dean Duquette, Harlan Menton, Josh Kissinger, 61.25. Long men's drive, John Decker. Long women's drive, Sherri Currie. KP #1/10,

Terry Lamb. KP #4/13, Sherri Currie.

Sunday was a calm before another storm of players took to the Alpine Meadows fairways on Monday. The Eastside seniors came to town - all 94 golfers (including Enterprise) — and played their sixth northeastern golf course of the season. The 9-hole course hosted two tee times, one in the morning with 50 players, and another in the afternoon with another 44 golfers. Throughout the season each participant, within his flight, earns gross and net points that accumulate through their seventh and last game which will be held at Pendleton in October. Winners will be announced then.

Alpine Meadows closes its doors for the season in mid-October.

Lady Cougars volleyball team notches victory over Nixyaawii

Wallowa High's young volleyball team notched its first season win last week, 3-1 over Nixyaawii, bookended by losses to Echo and Griswold.

The loss at home to Echo was also something of a high note, however. Echo has a strong, winning team, and against those visiting Cougars, the home Cougars acquitted themselves well, scoring 23 points in the final set

"I expected Echo to be a strong team and they did not disappoint," stated Wallowa Coach Janea Hulse in an email message after the Sept.



25 match. "They have some strong hitters and are very scrappy. I was proud of these (Wallowa) girls because for the most part we were able to play well against them. The girls are working together more as a team and that shows in their defense."

> Oriana Wandschneider, returning to action after being down with injury for a week, led in total digs (15) and receptions (20). "All her passes were playable. She played a very solid game," Hulse remarked.

Beth Johnston led the team with 7 kills for the night. "She was aggressive on the net and was getting her block up to help slow Echo's offense down," Hulse stated.

Jordan Ferré was also consistent on the net and was Wallowa's leader for serves, totaling 16 with 3 aces and no errors.

Wallowa played both Nixyaawii and Griswold on Saturday at Griswold.

"In our game against Nixyaawii, I saw some great net play," Hulse said. John-ston's 13 kills led the team. Jordan Ferré had 9, Rylee Goller 5, Wandschneider 4,

and Mary Beth Hulse 3. Both Jordan and Beth had 2 solo blocks along with a couple of assists. Mary Beth played great defense, leading the team in digs with 27.

All the sets against Nixyaawii were close, and Wallowa's only loss was in the third set, a 27-25 battle.

In Wallowa's game against Helix (Griswold), Jordan Ferré went down with an ankle injury, and Coach Hulse said the team "had a hard time adjusting to one of our leaders not being on the court. I believe that they came around, it just took a bit. I had to move a couple of girls around into different positions that they were not used to playing."

Grace Pendarvis, who came off the bench to replace Jordan Ferré, was quite consistent, pleasing the coach. "I am proud of her play," Hulse said. She added that Rylee Goller also "keeps improving. Her confidence is growing. I like that she doesn't back down from any challenge."

The coach concluded, "I would like to work on confidence with a lot of the girls because I think that we could have done better if they all would have been working towards their own team goals rather than worrying about how the other team was hitting."

This week the Lady Cougars face



Past District Governor Dr. Dennis Wickham speaks to local Rotary members about the battle to end polio across the world.

Rotary redoubles efforts against polio

By Kathleen Ellyn Wallowa County Chieftain

Rotary Club of Wallowa County hosted Past District Governor Dr. Dennis Wickham on Sept. 17 and heard how the Rotary International "End Polio Now" campaign is beating polio around the world.

The good news is that 99 percent of the world's countries are committed to ending polio and keeping up the work that keeps it under control.

The bad news is that three of the world's poorest countries are still polio-endemic: Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria.

Pakistan has recently made a nationwide effort to "get on the ball and vaccinate their children," said Wickham. But the other two countries remain points of real concern.

The only real protection against polio is immunization and the countries that are most at risk often have no money for health care, have areas so remote that they are not reached by health care, or face violent opposition from political groups like the Taliban, which has banned the vaccine and murdered health workers.

Ignorance is also an issue. Rotary statistics indicate that two thirds of all Afghanis believe polio is curable and vaccines are not needed.

"Vaccination works and must continue," said Wickham, who has personally traveled to several countries to observe the effects of polio and the programs set up to eradicate the



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A Wallowa County (and maybe Oregon) record: five alphorns played all at once at Oregon's Alpenfest on Saturday night, Sept. 26, 2015

> Bratwursts eaten: 1,024 Pints of beer quaffed: 827 Glasses of wine sipped: 103 Gemutlichkeit furnished: Boundless

> > ... and our innumerable awesome volunteers in food service, safety and security, transportation, logistics, marketing, ticketing, decorations and go-fer duty.

Since the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the Centers for Disease Control and Rotary-supported worldwide effort began in 1988 the number of cases is at an all-time low, Wickham said. There were 350,000 cases of polio recorded worldwide in 1988 and as of 2012 there were 223 cases.

Rotary members cannot weaken in their resolve to "end polio now," Wickham warned. Polio is easily spread, and because polio is active within a host for up to six weeks and can have no serious symptoms during that time, the respread of polio worldwide is still a danger.

A carrier can get on an airplane in Nigeria and be spreading polio to an unvaccinated child within hours.

And, because inoculations must continue in every country for all time, there can be no slowing of the effort.

"We've been at this 30 years," he said. "If we stop, in 10 years the number of cases will be 200,000 worldwide."

The best practice for inoculations is now a three-step process of two oral doses, which work best to control the three viruses of polio in the gut; and one injectable, which gives the best protection in the blood.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has pledged to donate \$50 for every \$25 donated toward ending polio, up to \$35 million. Every Rotary Club is asked to donate 20 percent of its District Designated Fund to the fight.

Local contributions can be made to Rotary Club of Wallowa County by mailing donations to Rotary International, P.O. Box 242, Enterprise, OR 97828

Contacting your U.S. Senators and Representatives and letting them know this issue matters to you can also bolster support of the worldwide effort.

For more information, visit rotary.org/contribute