

RIBICH

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Western Oregon did not qualify as a team, so only Ribich and his coach will fly to Missouri on Wednesday.

The pair will have a few days to settle in before the meet, but don't call it a vacation.

"It'll be just like a business trip, I guess," Ribich said. "I'll just test the water and see what national competition has to offer."

There will be at least a

few Ribich fans cheering him on. His mother, Enterprise assistant coach Jenny Reinhardt, will take a separate flight to the event. And a few of Ribich's roommates, fellow WOU runners, will make the 29-hour drive to Joplin for the event.

And he knows that plenty of people in Wallowa County will be pulling for him as well.

"I just want to thank the community back home that always supports me and cheers me on from afar," he said.



Courtesy of ODFW

OR 22, a male wolf that separated from the Umatilla River Pack in February, is pictured walking through a Northeast Oregon forest on Jan. 26. The lone wolf spent several weeks in Malheur County before heading from Grant County. It was shot south of Prairie City by a man hunting coyotes.

SKI

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Cross country skiing is different than backcountry skiing, though, and Hustafa warns that wood and debris are either not fully covered or, worse, just barely covered and therefore a hazard.

The roads are pretty scary right now, too.

"The roads are packed, rutted and extremely slick," Hustafa said. "It's challenging driving."

Snow plowing will not begin until after the second elk rifle season closes.

The Eagle Cap Nordic Club does not have groomed trails. It's break-your-own trail, but maps of trails are available and the trail itself is marked with blue plastic diamonds along the route.

Nordic trails are all on "very safe terrain," Hustafa said. "However, the backcountry is by its nature in avalanche country," he warned. "You have to edu-

cate yourself, pay attention to the Avalanche Center and pay attention to weather and snow-pack conditions."

Kip Rand, who used to work for Wallowa Alpine Huts, already has begun reporting for the Wallowa Avalanche Center. Reports can be accessed at <http://wallowaavalanchecenter.org>.

FERGUSON RIDGE SKI PATROL

The Patrol has 15 members this year, according to Patrol President, Paul Arentsen. All members are volunteers.

The group is getting ready for its Outdoor Emergency Care Technician refresher course to be held at Joseph Charter School on Dec. 6.

"There will be close to 40 people from Oregon, Idaho and Washington ski patrol groups taking the course," Arentsen said. But if anyone wants to join the patrol and doesn't have the training, give him a call and he'll see what he can set up later this year.

"We're always looking for new members," Arentsen said.

Along that line, Arentsen was thrilled to reveal that ski patroller (and new Ag/FFA teacher at Joseph Charter School) Toby Koehn is working on the idea of creating an elective class in the high school for students to become junior ski patrollers.

The ski patrol's main duties are to monitor Fergi every day it's open, identify and repair hazards and get

people off the mountain and transferred to a higher level of care as needed.

Some members with back-country experience also are tapped by Wallowa County Search and Rescue to help with winter missions.

The tools the ski patrol uses (snowmobile, backboards, four toboggans and first aid) are funded through the Frostbite Film Festival, usually held in early February, which also funds the Wallowa Mountain Avalanche Center, the Eagle Cap Nordic Club, the Enterprise Ice Rink and Eagle Cap Ski Club.

"We also receive private donations," Arentsen said. "Last year Devco Industries of Enterprise donated enough money to buy a new toboggan."

WINTER COURSES OFFERED AT EOU

Eastern Oregon University's Outdoor Adventure Program offerings continue this winter with courses in beginning and advanced snowboarding and skiing, ski/snowboard instructor training, indoor gym climbing, avalanche fundamentals, winter camping and backcountry travel.

Requiring little to no experience, the courses are an opportunity for individuals to try a new outdoor sport, develop technical skill sets and take advantage of the winter recreational activities available in eastern Oregon.

The courses can be taken for credit — most are one

credit hour each — or participants can enroll as non-admits, meaning they do not have to take the class for credit or be graded.

Individuals completing the avalanche fundamentals class will also receive a Level 1 certificate from the American Institute for Avalanche Research and Education (AIARE). This two-credit course is designed for students with an interest in developing the skills and knowledge necessary to travel and lead groups safely through avalanche prone terrain with an emphasis on hazard evaluation, terrain management and rescue techniques.

The class meets from 4-6 p.m. every other Tuesday at EOU and will also hold field days on two Saturdays in January and February.

For more detailed course descriptions go to www.eou.edu/outdoor/out-courses.

EQUIPMENT SWAP DEC. 5

The annual Ski, Snowboard & Ice Skate Swap is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5 at Odd Fellows Hall in Enterprise. Skis, boots, poles, snowboards, ski/snowboard clothing, ice skates and hockey gear will be available. To sell gear, drop it off Dec. 5 from 8 to 10 a.m. at the Odd Fellows Hall. If unsold, pick it up before 2 p.m. Items not picked up will be donated to Soroptimist Thrift Shop. The swap is a fundraiser, with 50 percent of proceeds going to Eagle Cap Ski Club and Wallowa Valley Community Ice Rink.

COUGARS

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It wasn't to be. The clock ran out with Wallowa at mid-field.

The Cougars racked up 129 yards passing with quarterback Koby Frye connecting on 5 of 14 passes. Noah Allen rushed for 90 yards on 13 carries, while Gus Ramsden rushed for 80 yards and two TDs on just three carries. Cole Hafer led Wallowa receivers with two catches for 44 yards.

Defensively, Ramsden led

WITH THESE KIDS WE'VE CHANGED THE CULTURE OF WALLOWA FOOTBALL.

Coach Brockamp

the Cougars with nine tackles and nine assists, followed by Noah Allen with seven tackles and three assists.

Despite the loss, Wallowa coach Matt Brockamp focused on the positive.

"The kids played hard, and I'm proud of them," Brockamp said. "We played physical and tackled well, but you can't lose players like Corey Hafer and Chandler (Burns) without it affecting you. Even so, we made it

to the quarterfinals two years in a row and we're league champions two years in a row."

The team's turnaround from its 0-8 2013 season was a point of pride for Brockamp.

"With these kids we've changed the culture of Wallowa football, and that's the job we set out to do," he said.

The Cougars ended the 2015 season with a 7-3 record and 4-0 league record. The P-rates improved to 10-0.

FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

Class 1A

Quarterfinals (Nov. 14)

- No. 1 Adrian 53, No. 8 Powers 8
- No. 4 Crane 50, No. 5 Hosanna Christian 6
- No. 6 Perrydale 42, No. 3 Wallowa 36
- No. 7 Dufur 74, No. 2 Yoncalla 72

Semifinals (Nov. 21)

- No. 1 Adrian vs. No. 4 Crane, 3 p.m. at Hermiston
- No. 6 Perrydale vs. No. 7 Dufur, noon at Hillsboro

GUN - ANTIQUE - CRAFT SHOW (400 Tables)
November 21st & 22nd
Nez Perce County Fairgrounds
1229 Burrell, Lewiston, ID
Sat. 9-6 & Sun. 9-4
Admission \$7



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
Athlete of the Week for this week is Wallowa Cougars football offensive and defensive lineman Wyatt Prince. The 6-foot-2-inch 208 pounder played a stellar game in the Cougars' 42-36 quarterfinals loss to Perrydale.
Coach Matt Brockamp lauded the play of the freshman guard and nose guard saying, "He made some great blocks, some key blocks, at guard, that really helped us with the running game. He also played nose guard pretty tough," he said.
Brockamp also noted that Prince separated his shoulder in pre-game warmups and had it popped back in before game time. With the aid of a brace, Prince played the entire game. Prince is the son of Heath and Angie Prince of Wallowa.

WYATT PRINCE

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Thank You to Everyone Who Helped Raise over \$70,000 at the 20th Annual Healthy Futures Dinner Auction!

Emcee Matt Kurtz & Auctioneer Jake Musser • Wallowa Memorial Hospital Auxilliary Glenda Underhill, Darlene Johnson & Gail Hillock for flowers
Special thanks to GG Johnson & Suzi Brown • Entertainers Carolyn Lochert & Gail Swart Sound engineer Bob Webb • Registration crew Karen Josi, Sue Womack, Kathy Webster, Patti Underwood, Kari Carper, Sarah Kissinger
Special thanks to IT Kathy Ward • Nancy Greene & Tamarah Duncan & EHS FCCLA Aaron Gray, Tyler Stucki, Marcus Lynn, Chris Stauffer, Wade Isley
Backyard Gardens Catering & La Laguna bar
Joe & Chelsea Dawson; Kazzie Dawson & Dustie Pickard
Dan McCarthy, Pete Beaudoin & Hospital maintenance crew • Mark Green & Jay Hinds Sarah Johnson & Josie Conrad • Eastern Oregon Nursery
US Congressional Representative Greg Walden

Special thanks to the Don Hubbard, Sr. Family Estate for your especially generous gift of \$10,000
To all of our donors, bidders & attendees... We could not do this without you!

The Wallowa Valley Health Care Foundation Board
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