

Eagles’ Hite named Old Oregon Coach of the Year



1 Wallowa, 3 Joseph players make all-league list

Wallowa County Chieftain

Joseph and Wallowa combined to place four players on the final Old Oregon all-league team, and Joseph’s Jill Hite was named Coach of the Year fol-

lowing balloting by the league’s coaches.

Eagles senior Satori Albee was the lone first-team honoree. She also was named to the all-tournament team at districts in La Grande in late October.

Albee’s teammates, freshman Emma Hite and senior Natalie Williams, received second-team honors.

Wallowa junior Beth Johnston was listed among the league’s honorable mentions.

Joseph finished fourth in the league with an 8-4 confer-

ence record, 12-9 overall. The Eagles’ season came to an end with a five-set loss to Powder Valley in the opening round of districts, followed by a three-set loss to Echo later the same day.

The Cougars went 1-11 in league play and 1-21 overall.

SEASON PREVIEW

Basketball Tip-off: WHO WILL RISE TO THE TOP?

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

The 2015-16 basketball season is upon us with many of the county’s teams sporting young rosters and embarking on a “building” season. Some storylines we’ll be following:

How will the Joseph boys and Wallowa girls capitalize on a trip to the first round of state playoffs last year?

Eagles coach Olan Fulfer has his team spending more time in the classroom, banking on the mental edge it might provide. Will his focus on Xs and Os pay off?

Wallowa coach Greg Oveson served double duty last season, coaching both boys and girls varsity. He took the girls team to state. This season he’s guiding just the boys. A woeful initial turnout already has forced a forfeit. Can the Cougars boys bounce back?

Almost to a person, each coach emphasized that a large portion of a team’s success depends on fan support, so get out and support your favorite schools.

Enterprise Boys

Coach: Ron Lathrop; first year as Enterprise head coach, 25 years total.

Projected starters: Still up in the air.

Last year: 6-11 overall, 2-8 (6th) in 2A Wapiti League

Since last season: Four senior starters graduated. Returning starters: Senior Justin Exon.

League opener: Jan. 2 at Grant Union

Circle the calendar: “Every game’s a challenge this year,” Lathrop said.

Burning question: “Whether we can play defense and rebound. If we don’t do those things it’ll be a long season.”



The Outlaws are looking to rebuild after losing four starters from last season.

Steve Tool/Chieftain

Salmon come home for the holidays

Returns break record at McNary Dam

By George Plaven
East Oregonian

A record number of fall chinook salmon returned up the Columbia River past McNary Dam in 2015, continuing on to spawning grounds at Hanford Reach, the Snake River and

Yakima Basin.

More than 456,000 of the fish were counted at McNary Dam, breaking the facility’s previous record of 454,991 set in 2013. An estimated 200,000 fall chinook made it back to Hanford Reach, the most since hydroelectric dams were first built on the Columbia nearly 80 years ago.

Both federal and tribal leaders hailed the impressive run as a positive sign of their efforts to improve both

fish habitat and passage at the dams. The Bonneville Power Administration is especially pleased with recent projects at McNary Dam, re-routing its juvenile fish bypass channel to provide better protection from predators. Crews also installed weirs at two of the dam’s spillway gates, which lets certain species of fish pass through closer to the surface.

Overall, 2.3 million adult salmon passed through Bonneville Dam near

Portland, making it the second-strongest year on record for the entire Columbia Basin.

“When you look at how well salmon did overall in this year, it’s clear the approach of restoring critical fish habitat and improving dam passage is working,” said Lorri Bodi, vice president of environment, fish and wildlife at BPA.

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SPORTS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2

Basketball

Joseph Girls @ Cove, 5 p.m.

Enterprise Girls @ Wallowa, 5:30 p.m.

Joseph Boys @ Cove, 6:30 p.m.

Enterprise Boys @ Wallowa, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 4

Basketball

Wallowa Girls vs. Imbler, 3 p.m. (JEF Invitational, Joseph)

Wallowa Boys vs. Imbler, 4:30 p.m. (JEF Invitational, Joseph)

Joseph Girls vs. Wilder (ID), 5:30 p.m. (JEF Invitational, Joseph)

Enterprise Girls vs. Lone, 6 p.m. (lone Basketball Bonanza)

Joseph Boys vs. Wilder (ID), 7 p.m. (JEF Invitational, Joseph)

Enterprise Boys vs. Lone, 7:30 p.m. (lone Basketball Bonanza)

Wrestling

Enterprise High School Kickoff

Visitors: Wallowa, Joseph and TBD

SATURDAY, DEC. 5

Basketball

Wallowa Girls vs. Wilder, 1 p.m. (ID) (JEF Invitational, Joseph)

Wallowa Boys vs. Wilder (ID), 2:30 p.m. (JEF Invitational, Joseph)

Joseph Girls vs. Imbler, 4 p.m. (JEF Invitational, Joseph)

Joseph Boys vs. Imbler, 5:30 p.m. (JEF Invitational, Joseph)

Enterprise Boys vs. TBD, 7 p.m. (lone Basketball Bonanza)

Enterprise Girls vs. TBD, 7 p.m. (lone Basketball Bonanza)

MONDAY, DEC. 7

Basketball

Wallowa Girls @ La Grande JV, 4:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 8

Basketball

Joseph Girls @ Elgin, 5 p.m.

Joseph Boys @ Elgin, 6:30 p.m.

Annual ski gear swap slated for Saturday in Enterprise

Wallowa County Chieftain

The annual Ski, Snowboard & Ice Skate Swap is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday 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 from 8 to 10 a.m. Saturday at the Odd Fellows Hall, 107 NE 1st St. Pick up unsold equipment by 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.

EDITOR’S NOTE on the WEATHER

LOOKING FOR OUR WEEKLY SUNRISE AND SUNSET INFORMATION? WE’VE MOVED IT TO OUR WEATHER GRAPHIC ON PAGE A2.

THAT’S WHERE YOU’LL FIND IT FROM NOW ON.

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