

FALLS

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To get to the trailhead, follow Hurricane Creek Road about 5 miles out of Enterprise. Instead of following the pavement at the Grange Hall, drive straight ahead onto the gravel. If you're traveling from Joseph, turn left just after passing the Grange Hall. The trailhead is about 3 miles up the gravel road.

The road is narrow, although turnouts are plentiful. On Dec. 12, most of the road had packed snow that had devolved into ice at some points, although it appeared it had been plowed up to the trailhead. The parking lot is large and contains a loading/unloading dock for livestock as well as a pair of hitching rails.

The dock looks as though it has a trail behind it, but this is not a trail. Facing the dock, the trailhead is marked to the left. The Hurricane Creek Trail at the start is rife with ice and it's a good idea to have traction devices on your footwear. About a tenth of a mile up the Hurricane Creek trail, the Falls Creek Trail is plainly posted on the right side. After a brief walk of about 150 yards through the forest the terrain opens into a small valley with Falls Creek running through its center. The trail winds through the north

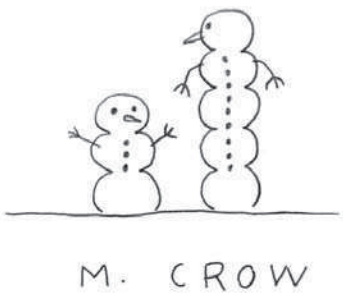
side of the valley and it doesn't take much of a walk before you realize how Falls Creek got its name — a beautiful 40-foot waterfall lies at the west end of the valley, pouring from the top of a stone cliff.

While the falls are not as spectacular as say, Multnomah Falls, it is a wonder because of its proximity to the trailhead. The mostly colorless winter hues of the landscape also lend a stark beauty to the falls itself.

Trails are difficult to discern under the snow, but it appeared one trail led along the north face of the valley, while another led along the north side of the creek bed. Much of the valley face trail is a sort of packed shale/gravel that is quite narrow at points and under snow contains the possible danger of sliding off down toward the creek. The creek trail is considerably less hazardous and is quite a pleasant walk with the creek murmuring alongside.

Eventually the creek trail leads to a small knoll perhaps 50 yards from and just to the right of the falls. From this point, the falls are spectacular.

Walking the trail without knowledge of the topography or even the falls itself was quite brief. Even with a stop of about 15 minutes at the knoll, the round trip from the parking lot was a little over an hour.



ROCKETS

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Then immediately after forcing an Outlaw turnover, Madison Dave dribbled the length of the court before making a quick pass to Kayla Deist left of the basket who nailed the short jumper to give Pilot Rock a 28-20 lead. The Rockets finished out the quarter well, holding a 33-20 lead at the end of the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter, the Outlaws' full-court press and the overall team length threw the Rockets out of rhythm. Numerous turnovers, missed free throws and blocked shots plagued Pilot Rock and gave the Outlaws a boost.

But with 45 seconds left, the Rockets held a 38-28 lead and thought they had the win in the bag as Wilson took out his main players for the reserves. But the Outlaws weren't ready to throw in the towel as a quick 3-pointer by Gasset and 3-point-play by Reece Christman cut the deficit to just 38-34 with 28 seconds remaining. Gasset led Enterprise with 15 points.

But the Rockets held on in the end, something that Wilson didn't envision when he made the decision to make the



E.J. Harris/East Oregonian
Pilot Rock's Madison Dave shoots the ball guarded by Enterprise's Reagan Bedard in the Rockets' 38-34 win against the Outlaws on Friday in Pilot Rock.

substitutions.

"A little closer than I hoped," he said with a laugh. "I thought 10 points (lead) was enough."

Condon/Wheeler 40, Enterprise 32: The Outlaws fell Saturday to the Class 1A Knights — state semifinalists from last season — at the Rocket Invite in Pilot Rock. No game details were available at press time.

Boys

Enterprise 63, Condon/Wheeler 53: The Outlaws trailed big early Saturday at the Rocket Invite in Pilot Rock, before battling back and pulling away in the end. Brett Greenshields led the way with 14 points and Jimmy Wells added 12.

"After being down by 12 in the first quarter and fighting back to win by 10 showed growth in a young team by believing in teamwork and an offense," said Enterprise coach Ron Lathrop.

Pilot Rock 52, Enterprise 40: The Rockets ended a long five-game losing streak with a 12-point win over Enterprise at the Rocket Invite on Friday. Enterprise was led in scoring by Wells with 18 points, Greenshields (9), Justin Exon (7) and Rylie Hayward (6).

"Pilot Rock returned the favor by beating us by 12 after we beat them last weekend by 13," Lathrop said. "The team is still learning to be patient and run an offense."

PREP

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Joseph finished the game with 30 rebounds (12 offensive and 18 defensive).

Satori Albee and Lauren Maken each contributed nine points for Joseph, while Emma Hite added eight.

Griswold 42, Wallowa 14: The Cougars struggled in their second league game of the season. No game details were available at press time.

Nixyaawii 67, Wallowa 10: The Cougars took a loss Friday in their Old Oregon League opener at Nixyaawii.

No game details were available at press time.

Wrestlers roll at John Rysdam tournament

All the county's wrestling squads came away from Elgin's John Rysdam Memorial Tournament with high placings and the laudatory comments of their coaches. Nine teams participated in the tournament, which took place Dec. 18-19.

Enterprise placed third in the tournament with 84.5 points and Joseph was close behind with 82. Wallowa placed ninth, with 35 points.

Enterprise had five wrestlers place in the top three in their weight classes, including two firsts. Coach Troy Farwell said things were looking good for his team.

"My small guys did well, and my big guys are still learning," Farwell said. "Johnny Sarbacher (195 lbs) hadn't

had a win and got three wins this weekend. These smaller meets are good for my younger kids."

Joseph placed five in the top three of their weight classes as well with one first in the group. Coach Tim Kiesecker said some of the kids had tough matches, citing Steven Beckman, who weighs 96 lbs but has to wrestle at 106 because it's the lightest class.

"He'll be fighting that all year," Kiesecker said.

Wallowa brought three wrestlers to the meet who scored in second, third and fourth places. Coach Mel Byers said Gus Ramsden, who wrestled at 145 lbs, earned his second place at the best and longest match of the tournament, which went into four overtimes.

"Rarely does a match go into four overtimes," Byers said.

No one scored points in the

overtime rounds, so after the fourth round, Ramsden's opponent was declared the winner because he had scored first in the match.

Both Joseph and Enterprise are traveling to Pomeroy, Wash., for a Dec. 27-28 tournament.

John Rysdam Memorial Day Tournament results

106 lbs: 1. Shane Lund, Enterprise. 2. Steven Beckman, Joseph. 120 lbs: 1. Cole Farwell, Enterprise. 2. Evan Johnson, Enterprise. 126 lbs: 2. Clayne Miller, Enterprise. 138 lbs: 3. Austin Brockamp, Wallowa. 145 lbs: 2. Gus Ramsden, Wallowa. 160 lbs: 1. Raymond Seal, Joseph. 3. Zylar Hermens, Enterprise. 182 lbs: 3. Rylie Warnock, Joseph. 195 lbs: 2. Benjamin Lopez, Joseph. 3. Cole Kiesecker, Joseph.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

This week's athlete of the week is Wallowa wrestler Gus Ramsden. The freshman athlete wrestles at 145 lbs. and placed second in his weight class at the John Rysdam Memorial Day tournament held Dec. 18-19 in Elgin. In the championship match, Ramsden finally lost after the fourth overtime 2-0 against La Grande wrestler Hakan Strommer. The match was given to Strommer because he had scored first in the regulation match that ended in a 5-5 tie.

Ramsden's coach Mel Byers called it the finest and longest match of the meet. He added that the rulebook had to be consulted after the third OT because no one had seen a match last that long.

Ramsden is the son of Mark and Amy Ramsden of Lostine.



GUS RAMSDEN

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TAGS

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The popularity of the Wenaha elk hunt has a lot to do with its high success rate.

"We don't have this year's data yet, but it's usually about 60 percent success,"

Matthews said.

In contrast, some of the least popular hunts are antlerless elk hunts. Matthews said people pick them up as "leftover" tags or second- and third-choice tags opportunities. Matthews added that some elk hunts, such as the archery spike bull-only hunts in the Wenaha unit, are

generally the least successful hunts. About seven percent of those tags were filled in 2014.

Matthews said several seasons are still in progress, including cow elk hunts and an antlerless deer hunt. The elk hunts will stretch into January.

"The big hunts are over, and these are the smaller hunts with a smaller number of tags," Matthews said. He said ODFW also issued a fair amount of bear and cougar tags, and that a high percentage of bear tags were filled but a much smaller percentage of cougar tags were filled.

"On the whole, we had a successful year for elk hunting with an average year for deer tags as deer hunting goes."

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Thank You!

Joseph Charter School would like to thank the following community members for teaching our Charter Art Program (CAP) classes this fall.

Jennifer Connolly - Mural Project
Jennifer Klimsza - Visual Art
Laura Skovlin, Devin and Reba Patton - Dance
Karyl Kolb - Photography
Kristin Albee and Esther Petrocine - Yoga
Tanya Collier - Jewelry Design
Dave Yost - Leather Making
Carl Sanders - Fly Tying
John Moro - Guitar
Deni Kehl- Blacksmithing
Kiyomi Oliver, Hillary Valentine, Jim Hite, Christine Eaves, Arrowhead Chocolates - Culinary

