



Bronc rider Mark Lally of the Botts Ranch takes a spill during the 2015 CJD Ranch Rodeo.

Steve Tool/Chieftain archive

READY TO RIDE

LOCALS SET TO COMPETE IN ANNUAL CJD RANCH RODEO

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

The 7th Annual Chief Joseph Days Ranch Rodeo, part of the 71st Annual Chief Joseph Days Rodeo, kicks off Friday at the Harley Tucker Memorial Grounds.

The activities start with a trail ride at 2:30 p.m. Friday from the Harley Tucker Memorial Grounds to the Wallowa Lake moraines and back through Joseph.

The roast beef dinner begins with happy hour at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. at the rodeo grounds. Tickets are \$15 each for adults; \$7 for children ages 5 to 10; and

free to those age 4 and younger.

Advance dinner tickets are available at the Joseph Chamber and the Sports Corral in Joseph.

A limited amount of tickets will be available at the door.

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EHS grad to compete at national PGA event

Wallowa County Chieftain

A Northwest PGA pro with Wallowa County roots will be heading to New York this week to compete in the PGA Professional National Championship.

2000 Enterprise High School graduate Clint Ables will be representing his course — Tri-City Country Club in Kennewick — during the four-day tournament that runs Sunday through Wednesday at the Turning Stone Resort in Verona, N.Y. All four rounds will be televised on the Golf Channel.

The 2016 PGA Professional Championship features a \$550,000 purse, and 312 PGA pros from across the nation are expected to compete. The 2016 champion's name will be inscribed on the Walter Hagen Cup, which is enshrined at the PGA Gallery at PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie, Fla.

The tournament format is four rounds of stroke play, 18 holes daily on two courses. The final 36 holes, conducted on one course, features the low 90 scorers and ties after 36 holes; followed by a 54-hole cut to the 70 scorers and ties prior to the final round.

Ables was a member of the Enterprise golf team for four years and was a member of two Class 2A state champion teams. He was a state individual silver medalist during his senior year.

Ables intends to write a daily diary from the event and publish online at the Tri-City CC Facebook page: @TCCountryClub.

Ables' parents, Bill and Judy Ables, reside in Enterprise. Judy is a retired Enterprise teacher and Bill is retired from the State Police.

Hayes Brothers Racing shines at 2016 debut

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

The Hayes Brothers Racing team roared to a best-ever fifth-place finish in their first season race at Meridian, Idaho, on June 11. The race was part of the Tri-Track Challenge series and was a makeup race for a rained-out May 21 event.

The Hayes team is composed of brothers James Hayes, primary driver, and brother Jerry, who serves in the pits. Brian Finch serves as chief mechanic.

Jerry Hayes said that despite good track conditions and favorable weather, the race presented a number of obstacles for the team.

"It was a rough night. There were some pretty fast cars that didn't make it."

The Hayes team didn't leave the track unscathed.

"We had a heat race early in the day," Jerry said. "This guy got us from behind, got us loose, then jammed into the side of us. He said his foot slipped off the brake and onto the gas."

The team ended up starting the race in the back, partially because of the wreck.

About 15 cars started the 50-lap race on



Courtesy Photo

The Hayes Brothers Racing car (22) leads at the Tri-Track Challenge in Meridian, Idaho, on June 11.

the quarter-mile banked oval track and problems started quickly.

"There was one pretty good wreck that took out at least two of the fastest cars there and two others," Jerry said. "They had to forklift some of the cars off the track because of the heavy damage. Then another guy blew

a piston."

Exciting times were yet to come for the Hayes team.

"The track officials had a red flag out (temporarily stopping the race) to clean up the track," Jerry said. "Within a couple of laps after that, our air cleaner blows off. We

"IT WAS A ROUGH NIGHT. THERE WERE SOME PRETTY FAST CARS THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT."

Jerry Hayes

only had 15 laps left to go, and on a quarter-mile track, those go quick."

Because the pit crews and drivers were not allowed two-way communication, Jerry hoped that his brother would read his mind and finish the race without a pit stop.

That's exactly what happened, as James passed another car and into fifth place to stay.

"For the first time during the race, up pops the 22 (The Hayes car number) on the leaders board," Jerry said. "It was a pretty cool milestone to get out of the way."

The next race for the Hayes team is Saturday in Pocatello, Idaho.

"We've got a quick turnaround time to fix the car, get it set up for that track and get down there," Jerry said.

Fairways open for weekly junior golf clinic

An Oregon Community Foundation Grant has made it possible for AMGC to conduct a Junior Golf Free Clinic at Alpine Meadows one day a week all summer.

Heather Bruce already has contacted the schools to announce the program and lessons recently began for three age groups. It is not too late to sign up. If you have clubs, bring them. If not, Alpine Meadows has additional junior/adult equip-

tee time

Rochelle Danielson

ment for use.

Here's the free clinic golf lesson Tuesday schedule:

- Grades 3-5, 4:15 to 5 p.m.
- Grades 6-8, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

- Grades 9-12, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The grant will be used to help award prizes, provide travel to tournaments, golf club supply and instructor's wage. The kids will be taught the proper club grip and stance, the basic swing, putts, rules and golf etiquette.

"It's a wonderful game," Bruce said. "I'm looking forward to teaching the kids. By the end of the summer each individual should

feel comfortable with a golf club in hand, and also have good summer stories and memories to recall."

Dan Cornett spoke enthusiastically about the program.

"It's an opportunity for our youth to get started early in learning the game, to build confidence and score well, and Heather is the perfect teacher to relate to their needs. My real excitement is that we are introducing the game to future

members."

Gals from the ladies golf group are making summer golf memories every Tuesday. Golf ball winners for May: Judy Ables, fewest putts (18 holes, 29 putts). Cheri Lamb, low gross — 100. On June 7, Heather Bruce shot a 68 gross, which should qualify her for a Baker's dozen.

Rochelle Danielson is an Alpine Meadows member who resides in Enterprise.

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