



DECEMBER 12

ODFW RECREATION REPORT

Fishing

Grand Ronde River: Steelhead season is in full swing on the Grande Ronde and anglers are finding fish consistently, with the most recent creel report indicating catch rates of about 10 hours per fish caught. Similar to other Columbia basin runs, the Grande Ronde stock is tracking below expectations this year. On the upside, a large majority of the returning fish are two-salt meaning larger average size. Harvest is limited to three hatchery steelhead per day and must be recorded on the Combined Angling Tag. A Columbia River Basin Endorsement is also required.

fish in the 8 to 9-inch range and some fish as large as 12-inches.

Wallowa River: Trout fishing should continue to be good through late winter and early spring. Mountain whitefish are also very abundant in the Wallowa and are readily caught on small bead-head nymphs.

Steelhead season opened Sept. 1. Best fishing is in late winter and early spring. Harvest is limited to three hatchery steelhead per day and must be recorded on the Combined Angling Tag. A Columbia River Basin Endorsement is also required.

Hunting

Forest Grouse: Some ruffed grouse can still be found in draw bottoms with dense brush. Blue grouse are now moving up high into conifer trees to find buds to eat for the winter and so will be hard to find.

Cougar: Populations are moderate throughout Wallowa County. Most lions are taken incidental to other hunting. However, calling with fawn bleat, or locating a cougar kill and waiting for a cat to return are often successful techniques.

Coyote: Good numbers of coyotes can be found throughout Wallowa County. Calling coyotes with rabbit distress type calls has been effective for hunters. It is important to choose areas with abundant coyote sign and little human activity.

ENTERPRISE GIRLS ROLL TO TOURNEY WIN

Enterprise boys lose to LaGrande in finals

By Tim Trainor

Wallowa County Chieftain

The Enterprise girls stormed past two over-matched foes to win the Enterprise Winter Classic.

Coach Mike Crawford said he was pleased with the team's performance.

"I was just super excited about how we played," said Crawford. "There was a lot of good and not much bad."

They opened with a 59-6 win over a Pine Eagle team that brought just five players. Crawford gave all players considerable time on the floor, and sophomore Karli Bedard led all scorers with 9 points. Gracie Carlsen scored 8, as did sophomore Shelby Moncrief. The Outlaws were in charge throughout, leading 15-0 after the first quarter.

In the finals, the Outlaws (4-1) dispatched league foe Elgin 62-29.

Crawford said last year, the two squads played some tight games. But this year, Enterprise is more experienced and carry a deeper bench.

"You go through all those years where you don't have (a bench) and this year we've got one," Crawford said.

The 12-player rotation was led by Ashley Exon, who scored a team-high 15 points off the bench. Tiffanie George chipped in with 9 points and Darby Gassett added 8. Everyone on the team scored in the game, said Crawford.

The team travels to Pilot Rock this weekend, where they will play multiple games, including Condon/Wheeler and Mac-Hi. Crawford said that he thinks his girls can compete with any team, no matter if the school is 2A or 4A.

"I'm not really afraid of playing most any team," he said. "We've got decent size and speed and work hard."

The Enterprise (3-2) boys team lost in the finals of the home tournament, falling



Staff photo by Tim Trainor

Chris Bathke hangs in midair as he tries a jump shot against La Grande JV Dec. 10. La Grande won 53-41.

53-41 to the La Grande JV team Saturday night.

The Outlaws started fast, scoring the first three baskets of the game, but La Grande settled down and forged to a 10-8 lead after the first quarter. They led 24-13 at halftime and the Outlaws were never able to regain momentum.

Junior Brett Green-shields led the team with 10 points. Jimmy Wells added 7 points and Rylie Hayward scored 6. Braden Bell scored 10 points to lead La Grande.

Enterprise made it to the finals after skating to a 46-8 first round win over Pine

Eagle. Junior Rylie Hayward led the way with 11 points in that game. Kobe Ketcher and Trent Walker each chipped in 8 points.

The team travels to the Pilot Rock tournament this weekend.

At the Wallowa Lions tournament on Friday and Saturday, the Joseph Eagles girls continued their undefeated streak, winning games against both the Baker City junior varsity team 54-39 as well as Monument/Dayville 46-27. Coach Lance Homan was impressed with his team's performance.

"The most impressive thing that I see with them is that they play together and for each other, and that's been nice to see as a coach," he said.

Junior Alexis Sykora led the team in scoring on both nights scoring 24 points against Baker and 15 points against Monument/Dayville. "She's been the leading scorer all year," Homan said.

The wins leave the Eagles 4-0 on the season. The team plays its first league games this week with a Dec. 16 game at Cove and a Dec. 17 contest at home with Powder Valley.

Eagles boys take two in tournament

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

The Eagles boys team doubled up on the girls winning efforts going 2-0 at the Wallowa Lions tournament on Friday and Saturday against the Baker junior varsity and Monument/Dayville by scores of 62-12 and 58-31 respectively.

The boys roared out of the gate in both games according

to coach Olan Fulfer. "We were up 22-2 to start the game before we started going bench. We stalled out a little bit as the bench started to play more and more, but that's what we want, to get the bench in there and get their feet wet."

Cayden DeLury led the way with 16 points followed closely by Aaron Borgerding with 15 and Jake Chrisman with 14. "We did a good job spreading the ball out, and that's what we want to do,"

Fulfer said.

The Dec. 10 game against Dayville/Monument saw more of the same with the Eagles sauntering to a 35-10 lead by halftime. "I started mixing the bench in during the first quarter, and they played through most of the second half. They got to play, play, play, which was awesome," Fulfer said. He added he planned to do more bench substitution as circumstances allow in order to have a re-

liable bench to go to in lean times.

DeLury again led all scorers with 16, followed by Borgerding with 11 points and Caevan Murray with 10.

The wins left the Eagles 3-1 overall. Joseph played Enterprise High School Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. followed by their first league contests at Cove on Friday at 7:30 p.m. and back on their home perch against Powder Valley on Saturday at 4 p.m.

SCOREBOARD

FRIDAY, DEC. 9

Girls Basketball
Monument/Dayville 33, Wallowa 31
Joseph 54, Baker JV 39
Enterprise 62, Pine Eagle 6
Boys
Monument/Dayville 42, Wallowa 34
Joseph 62, Baker JV 31
Enterprise 46, Pine Eagle 8

SATURDAY, DEC. 10

Girls Basketball
Baker JV 53, Wallowa 22
Joseph 46, Monument/Dayville 27
Enterprise 62, Elgin 29
Boys basketball
Baker JV 44, Wallowa 35
Joseph 58, Monument/Dayville 31
La Grande JV 53, Enterprise 41

SPORTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, DEC. 16

Wrestling
Enterprise and Joseph at Elgin Invitational, 1 p.m.
Girls Basketball
Wallowa vs. Nixyaawii, 6 p.m.
Joseph at Cove, 7:30 p.m.
Enterprise at Pilot Rock Tournament
Boys Basketball
Wallowa vs. Nixyaawii, 7:30 p.m.
Joseph at Cove, 7:30 p.m.
Enterprise at Pilot Rock Tournament

Girls Basketball

Joseph vs. Powder Valley, 4 p.m.
Wallowa at Griswold, 4 p.m.
Enterprise at Pilot Rock Tournament
Boys Basketball
Joseph vs. Powder Valley, 5:30 p.m.
Wallowa at Griswold, 5:30 p.m.
Enterprise at Pilot Rock Tournament

MONDAY, DEC. 19

Girls Basketball
Wallowa at La Grande Optimist Tournament
Boys Basketball
Wallowa at La Grande Optimist Tournament

SATURDAY, DEC. 17

Wrestling
Enterprise and Joseph at Elgin Invitational, 10 a.m.

WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN
GRIDIRON CONTEST
WEEK 11 WINNER IS
JIM CLEGG
WITH 13 CORRECT PICKS
The \$200 grand prize will be drawn from the weekly contest winners on
Wednesday, December 21, 2016

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