



Steve Tool/Chieftain

Christopher Noble of Wallowa High School drives to the hoop during the Cougar's 53-27 loss to Joseph on Feb. 4.

BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Teams making final pushes prior to District matches

Enterprise girls, Joseph squads win the weekend

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

Wallowa County schools had a busy weekend over the Feb. 3-4 weekend with six games among the boys and girls teams.

Enterprise boys

The Outlaws boys team split a pair of games over the weekend, winning at Elgin on Friday while losing at Union on Saturday.

The Outlaws started out strong against Elgin going into the second quarter with a 19-8 lead and into halftime leading 29-20. Maintaining momentum in the second half, the Outlaws prevailed, 57-45. Brett Greenshields led the Outlaws scor-

ing with a 21-point effort. Jimmy Wells followed with 14 points including two three-pointers. Chris Bathke, who also had two from outside the line, scored 12 points total.

"I thought we played really well, kept our composure," said coach Ron Lathrop. "Everyone contributed, and it was a really good game."

Saturday's game yielded different results with the Outlaws on the losing end of a 46-26 score.

The first quarter saw the boys down, 13-2, and things did not improve.

"We didn't shoot the ball well. I think we missed our first three layups, and I had a feeling it was going to be a tough shooting night – and it was," Lathrop said.

Greenshields again led the scor-

ing with eight points while Wells scored seven and Brycen Locke had six points.

The weekend left the Outlaws with a 3-3 league record and 10-9 overall. They next play at Imbler on Friday and home against Grant Union on Saturday.

"Our destiny's in our hands. If we can play well this weekend and win both games, we're in District," Lathrop said.

Enterprise girls

The lady Outlaws handily won their weekend games against Elgin and Union. Friday's game saw the Outlaws cruising to an easy 46-27 win at Elgin.

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ODFW RECREATION REPORT

FISHING

Weekend fishing opportunities:

- Wallowa Lake has frozen for the first time since 2013 and anglers have been catching kokanee and trout in good numbers and size.
- Moderate weather and water temperatures should allow steelhead anglers to get back on the Umatilla River this week.
- Anglers fishing through the ice at Kinney Lake have reported good catch rates.
- Enough ice has melted on the John Day River that steelhead anglers will have access to most of the river.

If your favorite fishing spot is no longer listed, it could be the area is closed, inaccessible due or currently offers limited fishing opportunities. These water bodies will return to the recreation report when conditions change. If you believe something is missing, contact us and we'll find out why.

Send us your fishing report

We'd love to hear about your recent fishing experience. Send us your fishing report through ODFW Fishing Reports — the information will be forwarded to the local biologist who may use it to update various ODFW resources such as the Weekly Recreation Report.

ALDRICH PONDS (Roosevelt and Stewart Lakes): trout

Aldrich Ponds are located on the Phillips W. Schneider Wildlife Management Area which is currently closed to all access from Feb. 1 –April 14 to protect big game wintering.

BULL PRAIRIE RESERVOIR: rainbow and brook trout

The reservoir has frozen and ice fishing is available. Fishing should be fair since trophy sized trout were stocked in September but no reports have been received. Road access may be limited due to snow.

GRANDE RONDE RIVER: trout, whitefish, bass, steelhead

The Grande Ronde ice is beginning to break up and a few anglers are trying their luck and a few fish are being 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.

HOLLIDAY PARK POND: rainbow trout

The pond has frozen but ice is likely to thin to support anglers. Holliday Park Pond was stocked with trophy sized trout the last week of September and fishing should be fair once ice thaws. An ADA fishing dock for anglers with disabilities is available.

IMNAHA RIVER: trout, bass

The Imnaha is currently affected by ice but a few areas may be fishable. A few steelhead are typically present throughout the winter but the best fishing tends to start in late February and early March. 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 they are 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.

WALLOWA COUNTY PONDS: rainbow trout

Kinney Lake was stocked at the end of September and should fish well throughout the winter. Anglers have recently reported good catch rates through the ice of healthy fish range 12 to 14-inches. This is the first year Kinney has been open for ice fishing and pressure has been very light. While driving access in not possible, a short walk on snowshoes or drive via snow machine will get you there.

WALLOWA LAKE: rainbow trout, kokanee, lake trout

Wallowa Lake has frozen for the first time since 2013. Fishermen have started taking advantage of the rare opportunity to ice fish. Trout and kokanee are being caught on bait and jigs. Anglers have reported catching kokanee to 13-inches which is much improved from previous years.

WALLOWA RIVER: steelhead, mountain whitefish

The Wallowa River ice is mostly broken up. A few anglers have tried they're luck for steelhead with some success. Look for fishing to begin picking up into February. Remember, trout fishing is now available on the Wallowa all year and can produce some large fish. 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.

NORTHEAST ZONE HUNTING

OPEN: COUGAR

Wolves in Northeast Oregon

Wolves are protected by state law and it is unlawful to shoot them. Coyote hunters in northeastern Oregon need to take extra care to identify their target as wolves can look like coyotes, especially wolf pups in the mid-summer and fall. Please report any wolf sightings or wolf sign to La Grande office (541) 963-2138 or online with the Wolf Reporting Form.

Use the Oregon Hunting Map to see where to hunt.

BAKER COUNTY

Cougars can be found throughout Baker County but hunters should target areas with high concentrations of deer and elk.

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