

Hoopla Champions



Jayson Smith/Spilyay

Former Madras High School basketball guard Lynden Harry (second from left) played on the All-Indian Ladies Basketball Champion team at the in 2019 Hoopa tournament. Lynden now attends and plays for the College of the Siskiyous.

For MHS track and field

For their first fund-raiser for the Madras High School track and field teams, the athletes are sending out letters asking for pledges for laps.

The pledge is for the number of laps you run in one hour. Date of the event is Friday, March 22.

The goal of each member of the track teams goal is \$50 per athlete. The money raised will go towards the following items:

Bussing to and from track clinics, and track scholarships, helping kids who can't afford fees. Other items:

Equipment, team dinners, assistant coaches not paid by the district, the District meet and State meet in Eugene.



"We are asking family and friends for a per lap donation or a flat donation," said team captain Alex Lewis.

If your interested please contact Alex at 541-777-1209. Or email: alexlewismmxix@gmail.com

The White Buffalos teams will travel to Crook County on March 21 for relays. After spring break, the teams will travel to the Willamette Falls Invitational.

Tribal fishery extended

The four Columbia River tribes have set the following fishery plan, and the Columbia River Compact concurred:

The commercial gillnet fishery at the Bonneville Pool only will be extended until 6 p.m. on Wednesday March 20.

Allowed gear includes gillnets with no mesh size restriction. Allowable sales:

Sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length, salmon (any species), steelhead, walleye, bass, carp, catfish, shad, and yellow perch may be sold or kept for subsistence purposes.

Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes.

Sanctuaries: River mouth and dam closed areas applicable to gillnet gear are in effect. The Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary is not in effect this time of year.

If you have any fishing enforcement problems or need assistance or information, day or night, contact the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Enforcement Office, 4270 Westcliff Drive, Hood River. Phone 541-386-6363 or toll-free (800)-487-FISH (3474).

Please show pride in your tribe's treaty rights by carrying your tribal ID.

Please consult your tribal Fisheries Department for additional details on tribal regulations.

Warm Springs Nation Little League sign-ups

Registrations for 2019 Warm Springs Nation Little League—baseball, softball and t-ball—are now open. You can register any time from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

Baseball and softball tryouts will be this Tues-

day through Thursday, March 19-21. Practices begin April 1.

Coaches and umpires need to complete forms and background checks. For more information call 541-325-3856. Or reach the Community Center at 541-553-3243.

Cougars tourney taking entries

The Twenty-Sixth Annual Warm Springs Cougars All-Indian High School Boys & Girls Basketball Championships are coming up in early April.

Warm Springs Recreation will host the championships

April 5-7 at the Community Center.

Recreation is taking entries up until March 22.

Contact tournament director Austin Greene at the Recreation Office for more information, 541-553-3243.

Can drive for Warm Springs artists

The Tananawit community of Warm Springs artists is having a fundraising can drive through March 15. Any donations can be brought the Community Action Team office on campus.

Warm Springs Higher Education reminds students who plan to apply for the Tribal Scholarship that the Tribal Scholarship Early Bird deadline is May 1. Students who turn in application packets by this date will be eligible for certain school supplies. The regular deadline is July 1. Talk to Carroll at the Higher Ed office for more information, 541-553-3311.

MADRAS HIGH SCHOOL

HOME OF THE WHITE BUFFALOS



Madras High School 9th Grade Orientation Night

**Thursday, March 14th
5:30-7:00pm**

**Dinner will be served and
transportation provided.**

**We encourage every
8th grade
Student to attend!!**

Sea lions at Bonneville dam below 10-year average

The number of sea lions at Bonneville dam is below average, and most are the larger steller sea lions.

California sea lions had been more prevalent over the past decade. Each spring they would feast on hundreds of salmon and steelhead.

So far this year, though, the fish predation has been by steller sea lions, with no

observed predation by California sea lions. This is according to the first 2019 monthly pinniped status report released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

During the period of December through January, just one chinook salmon, four coho salmon, 11 steelhead and one white sturgeon were observed by the Corps

being eaten by pinnipeds in the dam's tailrace.

A spike in the number of coho salmon passing Bonneville Dam in December raised salmonid passage at the dam to above the 10-year average for the month; but January's passage of salmonids was below normal.

Also during the December-January period, 11

'other' fish were taken. Those include: one small mouth bass, four chum salmon (listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act), one walleye and five unidentified fish. A separate category 'unidentified' added 13 more fish for a total predation of 43 fish.

During spring 2018, the last sea lion departed from

the dam June 2, but the first steller sea lion arrived back at the dam July 14; and some number of the animals have been present at the dam ever since.

The first California sea lion arrived November 5 last year. The study says that steller sea lions arrived 14 days earlier than in the previous year and their numbers have been increasing at

a greater rate.

According to the Corps' final pinniped report for 2018, steelhead were hit hardest by steller and California sea lions in the fall of 2017 and the spring of 2018, but most of that predation was by a rising number of steller sea lions in the spring and fall.

U.S., Canadian negotiators have 'frank' talks on Columbia Treaty

A British Columbia cabinet minister monitoring negotiations with the United States over the future of the expiring Columbia River Treaty says talks have been 'frank' around operations and benefits. The treaty covers the three dams that were placed on the Columbia River in B.C. for flood control down river in Washington and Oregon. In return for the dams, Canada received half of the electricity generated

from the project.

When treaty negotiations began last year, the Americans said the electricity entitlement for Canada is too large and they want to add environmental measures to the agreement, allowing them to increase water flow to protect salmon habitat.

Katrine Conroy, the B.C. cabinet minister responsible for the treaty, says everything is on the table, including reducing Canada's electricity entitlement and cutting downstream benefits to the United States. Conroy

says there has been some frank conversations about operations and benefits that are on both sides of the border. "I know from our perspective, the operations on this side are incredibly important, especially the lake levels in both east and west Kootenay. It's always an issue for people on this side of the basin," she says.

Conroy says the current requests from the United States for increased water flow means fluctuating lake levels in British Columbia and has also prompted com-

plaints from Okanagan apple growers that their American counterparts are being favored.

Extreme weather in recent years has also made flood-risk mitigation top of mind, she says.

"Because of climate change and the fluctuating levels of our rivers in the last few years and some of the floods that have come about, we do need the flood control and we do need that flood control downstream."

In major reversal, Washington agrees to gillnets on Columbia

The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission has agreed to allow the use of gillnets during the fall salmon fishery on the Lower Columbia River, while state fishery managers work with Oregon counterparts to develop a joint long-term policy for shared waters.

The commission, appointed by the governor to set policy for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, took that action and received public comments on the proposal in early March.

The commission's action to extend the use of gillnets was one of a number of recommendations for Columbia River fisheries developed by a joint committee with members of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission. Oregon's full commission will also consider the recommendations when it meets later this month.

Commissioners from both states are working on an overhaul of their respective Columbia River salmon management policies.