



Contributed photos

Tribal member Matt Hofenbredl, left, defeated Clackamas Community College's Marckis Branford 5-4 on Sunday, Feb. 16, to win the West Region Wrestling Championship at 141 pounds for Southwestern Oregon Community College. The win qualified Hofenbredl to wrestle in the National Junior College Athletic Association's wrestling championships being held March 6-7 in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Hofenbredl was a three-time state champ while attending Dallas High School.

Hofenbredl heading to wrestling nationals

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

COOS BAY – Tribal member Matt Hofenbredl, 23, is heading to the National Junior College Athletic Association nationals in Council Bluffs, Iowa, on March 6-7 after winning the West Region Wrestling Championship held in Coos Bay on Sunday, Feb. 16.

Hofenbredl wrestles for the Southwestern Oregon Community College Lakers. He entered the western region tournament ranked No. 3 nationally in the 141-pound weight class and defeated the No. 1-ranked wrestler in the country, Marckis Branford of Clackamas Community College, 5-4.



Matt Hofenbredl

"So I went out and just wrestled my match," Hofenbredl was quoted as saying in the *Coos Bay World*. "He went out and took me down at the beginning and then I ended up getting away and getting a reversal and finishing the period on top. I just kept my pace going and he started slowing down and got in on that last shot."

Coach Adam Whitlatch said Hofenbredl is 14-5 this season. He wrestled a previous season for the Lakers, but injured his knee and could not finish the year. He then sat out a year to concentrate on his studies, recuperate from his injury and become a better wrestler.

"We are in a very competitive region," Whitlatch said about sending seven of his wrestlers, including Hofenbredl, to nationals. "Clackamas is ranked No. 1 in the country and North Idaho College is ranked No. 3, and those are two teams we are competing against."

Hofenbredl is studying forest engineering at Southwestern Oregon with an eye on transferring to Oregon State University next year after attaining his associate degree.

He said his goal is to hopefully return to the Tribe and work for Natural Resources.

Hofenbredl wrestled for Dallas High School, winning state championships in 2012, '13 and '15. In 2014, he finished second. He was only the second Dallas High wrestler to win three state titles. ■

Water leak shuts down Education complex

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

A water leak first detected in the afternoon of Tuesday, Feb. 25, forced the Wednesday closure of the Education complex on the Grand Ronde campus.

Other buildings affected included the Tribal gym and Archive building.

Facilities Manager Tyson Mercier said grounds keeping staff members Brady Bruckner and Anthony Henry detected the leak at 4:27 p.m. Tuesday, but they were unable to isolate where the leak was occurring.

Mercier and Utility Specialist Richard Smith arrived shortly thereafter and helped troubleshoot the issue, but without success.

Mercier contacted the Grand Ronde Community Water Association and its staff started

shutting off valves to successfully isolate the leak at about 6 p.m.

Mercier said that West Valley Fire District was contacted because fire hydrants and sprinkler systems were affected. Tribal Security personnel helped with a fire watch, as well as swing-shift housekeeping staff members during their shift.

"A fire watch has been underway since 5:33 p.m. Tuesday," Mercier said.

He added that he received a text from the Water Association at 2:23 p.m. Wednesday that "all is normal" and repairs to rusted bolts on a saddle were successful. A work crew could be seen filling in a hole on the southeast corner of the courtyard in front of the Governance Center shortly thereafter and the gym re-opened at 2:45 p.m. ■

Marketplace Craft Fair dates scheduled for 2020

The Marketplace Craft Fair, coordinated through the Tribal Elders Committee, will start on Friday, March 13, and run through Sunday, March 15, at Spirit Mountain Casino, 26820 S.W. Salmon River Highway, in the Cedar Plank Buffet hallway. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Additional dates scheduled for this year include the weekends of April 17-19, May 8-10, June 12-14 and July 10-13. The craft fair will be open on Monday, July 13, because of the annual Elder Honor Day.

For more information, contact the Elders Activity Center at 503-879-2233. ■

Positive Indian Parenting Class

Positive Indian Parenting is an 8-week class for Indian parents, caregivers, & non-Native foster parents of Indian children.

Classes start on April 8, 2020

LOCATION: Youth Education building
WHEN: Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Raffle Prizes



Children & Family SERVICES



Dinner and Childcare will be provided. Limited to 15 participants. To RSVP please call Keri Kimsey @ 503-879-2476 or e-mail @keri.kimsey@grandronde.org

Brought to you by Children Family Services, GR Head Start & Indigenous LAUNCH

WALK-IN DENTAL APPOINTMENTS FOR KIDS <6

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY FOR DENTAL CHECK-UPS FOR KIDS 5 AND UNDER WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE SEEN AT THE TRIBAL CLINIC. JUST COME ON IN!

We will check your child's teeth during any of our clinic hours without an appointment. Dental check-ups are recommended beginning with the first tooth!

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Dental Clinic
Phone 503-879-2020

Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 8:00-5:00; Thur 9:30-5:30

