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**Review** from 1B

to compete against some of the toughest wrestlers in the state," Wartnik said. "Of the six, four managed to place. That's pretty admirable."

**Vikings split with 'Dogs in finals**

It took a relentless overtime push, but the Viking girls managed to end the season at home with a win against North Bend. After holding the Bulldogs to just eight points — all from the free-throw line — by halftime, the Vikings watched their double-digit lead dwindle starting late in the third quarter.

By the final buzzer in regulation, the Viks had more work to do in overtime.

That's when sophomore Britany Long had her strongest quarter of the game, sinking seven points with solid rebounding from freshman Elyssa Rose, who had four boards off the bench. The push was enough to edge the Bulldogs and end the season with the win, 48-40.

**MARCH**

**Siuslaw's 'lone wolf' heads to state**

As an eighth-grader, Isiah Burkhalter had no interest in wrestling. Friends on the wrestling team tried to change his mind, but Burkhalter, like any good wrestler, fought it off.

However, Burkhalter eventually relented and he got pinned by the sport. It's the only time the sophomore wrestling stand-out was glad someone took him to the mat.

"After talking with coach Wartnik, I decided to give it a try," said Burkhalter, who was a freshman at the time, wrestling at 113 pounds. "There was just something about the challenge and pushing yourself to the limits that I liked."

As a freshman, Burkhalter still managed to finish sixth overall at the regionals, just two spots away from advancing to state. This year, not only did Burkhalter not miss a trip to state, he's going there as the Far West/Skyline Region champion, which included wins over third-ranked Cerdus King and No. 1-ranked two-time 5A champion Thadius Nelson of Marshfield.

**Vik grappler places in first state appearance**

Last year as a freshman in his first year of wrestling, Siuslaw's Isiah Burkhalter narrowly missed a chance at state after finishing sixth at regionals at 113 pounds.

"I set a goal to reach the state tournament my next year,"

Burkhalter said of his goals coming into this season, which included a bump into the 126-pound division. After defeating top-ranked two-time 5A state champion Thaddeus Nelson in the regional championships, as well as third-ranked Cedrus King, Burkhalter's goal of getting to the state mats as a sophomore was realized.

When asked about his goal for state, Burkhalter was realistic. "I know it's going to be tough," Burkhalter said. "I just want to place at state. If I can do even better, great. But I want to be realistic."

**Cole, Siegel named Far West All-League**

Coaches from the Far West League released their picks for the season's most outstanding players. Among them were two members of the Siuslaw girls' basketball team, including mention in two categories for Mikaela Siegel.

The sophomore earned honorable mention for her work offensively as one of the team's leading scorers. She was also named to the All-Defense team.

Senior shooter Ashlee Cole, Siuslaw's top scorer, was named First Team All-League.

**Remembering 1975: When Siuslaw was 'way out'**

Moments after arriving at the Siuslaw Pioneer Museum and making their way to the special display of trophies, letters and photographs upstairs, Liz McCain, Lori Duman and Rosalie Johnson were transported back nearly 40 years ago, when the national television spotlight was on their small team of six Siuslaw athletes.

Gathered around a large scrapbook full of photos, newspaper clippings and letters, the three women point and share laughs while looking at the memories chronicled on each page.

Duman, an eighth-grader at the time, remembered being told she had been chosen as one of the six Siuslaw athletes — three boys and three girls between ages 11 and 14 — to represent Siuslaw and the state of Oregon in the "Way out games," a newly created Saturday morning television show.

"I had no idea what it was," said Duman. "I just knew it meant going to Magic Mountain in California."

The show was established through collaboration between CBS-TV and the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education and Recreation, which invited the top performing school from each state in the nationwide Presidential Fitness Test.

Siuslaw led the state of Oregon in 1973 and 1975 after scoring above the 85th percentile both years.

**APRIL**

**Dotson, Siegel land high marks at Sweet Home Heptath/Decath**

Siuslaw track standouts Joe Dotson and Mikaela Siegel were in Sweet Home over the weekend to represent Siuslaw at a multi-divisional heptathlon and decathlon that included 15 teams from the 1A to 6A division. For many athletes, some of the events were a first-time experience as they included throwing and jumping events in addition to short and long races.

Dotson, a junior, managed five top-5 finishes, including a win and personal best in the 400-meter race with a time of 54:30, which was the eighth-fastest time in the 4A so far this year.

Siegel, primarily a distance runner and jumper, dominated the 100-meter hurdles, besting last week's personal record by .19 seconds and winning the event with a time of 16.79, for the best mark in the 4A so far this season.

She also landed second in the long jump at 15-1, as well

as 10th in the high jump (4-8).

**Vikings win Far West League opener**

Senior left-hander Connor Qualley threw a complete game Thursday to help lead the Vikings to a shutout in the Far West League opener. The game, originally set to be played at South Umpqua, had been postponed due to poor field conditions before being moved to Siuslaw on Thursday.

The Vikings scored on hits from John Dotson and Brad Snow early in the game, and then kept that momentum going en route to an easy 6-0 win.

**Sailors sweep home meet**

The Sailors were back on their home turf Wednesday to host Mountain West League rival Siletz Valley for what turned out to be a decisive sweep of the Warriors in team scoring. The Sailors managed 20 first-place finishes, along with sweeps in the boys' 1500-meters, and the girls' shot put and discus.

In the girls' running events, Mapleton got wins from Erin Wolford (200 meters), Katie Dearman (1500 meter, 300 meter hurdles), Madison Frelich (100 meter hurdles,

javelin), Jose Hays (shot put, discus), Olivia Nichol (high jump), and Chelsea Simington (pole vault, long jump).

In addition, the Sailors won the 4x100-meter relay on the legs of Frelich Simington, Wolford and Dearman.

**MAY**

**By water, bicycle and dune**


Early morning showers didn't discourage the more than 200 athletes who showed up to compete in the second annual Dunes City Triathlon and Duathlon, which included a near one-mile swim, 10.5 miles of cycling and a grueling 6.6-mile run that ended in a steep climb to the finish up the dune face at Honeyman Park.

"What twisted person designed this course?" asked triathlon winner Bradley Pigaw of North Bend, who finished in 2:16:03. "That is a tough, terrific course."

While the overall design of the course remained the same as last year's, improvements and refinements in transitions between events helped things go smoothly, as well as add some extra challenges.

Last year's debut included approximately 50 athletes,

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