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which meant entrants in this year's event more than tripled from 2013, including a large contingent of participants from both the U of O and OSU.

Siuslaw set to induct Hall-of-Famers

The list of this year's inductees into the Siuslaw High School Hall of Fame stretched as far back as Jackie Gardiner's pitching arm in 1956, and leaped as far forward as 1997 graduate and three-sport athlete Kirsten Daniel.

Gardiner and Daniel were among seven individuals and two teams set to be honored at the Aug. 1 Siuslaw Hall of Fame induction ceremony at Ocean Dunes Golf Links.

The selection process began last October, not long after the 2013 induction ceremony.

Those who recived a place in Siuslaw's hallowed Hall this past August were: Jackie Gardiner, Mark Savage, Mike Haberly, Mary Robison (Dotson), Greg Klosterman, Kirsten Daniel, Richard Whitmore, 1979 Boys Track Team, and 1988 Girls Basketball Team.

Viks send 11 to state

It had been nearly a decade since Siuslaw had the home turf for district competition, and Viking athletes made the most of it during one of the most competitive league championships in as many years.

Siuslaw athletes claimed nine individual district titles and qualified to compete in 15 events at the 4A state meet.

Mack Marbas and Ashlee Cole, both seniors, each won two district titles, with Marbas claiming the league crown in both the 1500-meter (4:03.59) and 3000-meter events (8:54.27), and Cole winning both the discus (117-1) and javelin (124-1).

Viks end season with sweep

Though they were denied a postseason appearance, the Vikings' softball team ended the regular season on a high one last week, sweeping North Bend in back-to-back, 10-run ruled games at home.

In the opener, freshman pitcher Heidi Jones threw a one-hit shutout as the Viks combined for 12 hits and no errors against the Bulldogs.

Siuslaw scored in four out of the game's five innings, with sophomore Anna Stonelake driving in the game-ending run in the bottom of the fifth for a 10-0 shutout.

Viks nab multiple state medals

No boys' track team in Siuslaw history has held back-to-back state championship titles, so the thought of a repeat was definitely in the air for Siuslaw during the three-day 4A state track and Field Championships at Hayward Field.

And while the Vikings were able to bring home a pair of individual state titles on the shoulders of senior runner Mack Marbus, it wasn't enough to make team history.

Siuslaw finished fifth overall in a tight race for the state crown, with only seven points separating state champion North Bend from Siuslaw.

All told, Siuslaw took seven boys and four girls to Hayward Field on the University of Oregon campus to compete in 15 different events.

Frelich, Free claim medals at state meet

A trio of Mapleton track athletes earned a spot at the 1A State Track Meet on Hayward Field at the University of Oregon, where Justin Schaaf, Chris Free and Madison Frelich competed among the best of the best in one event each.

Schaaf, a senior running in the 200-meter race, had the misfortune of a "scratch" in the preliminaries, denying him a spot in the finals.

Junior leaper Free advanced to the triple jump finals, where he cleared 38-1 for the state meet's seventh-best mark and a spot on the awards podium.

Frelich, a junior competing in the girls' javelin, threw 106-8 for a place on the awards stand and a medal for seventh place at state.

June

Athletes of the year 2014

Those who attended this year's awards banquet honoring KCST's 2013-2014 Athletes of the Week were introduced to a list of 40 athletes who claimed 22 new school records and seven individual state champions between Siuslaw and Mapleton high schools.

Among those athletes were 12 finalists for Athlete of the Year, including Kylie Brandt, Mitchell Butler, Seth Campbell, Ashlee Cole, John Dodson, Joe Dotson, Chris Free, Sam Johnson, Celie Mans, Mack Marbas, Mikaela Siegel and Chelsea Simington.

SHS alumni Church named all-American

It would seem Seabre Church's accomplishment of being named the female Athlete of the Year as a Siuslaw High School senior in 2010 foreshadowed even bigger things to come.

A three-sport athlete all four years as a Viking, Church excelled in the javelin, earning the Far West District title that year and setting the school record at 132 feet. This year, as a senior at Western Oregon University, Church threw for a career best at the NCAA Division II Outdoor All-American finals, landing fifth with her throw of 156-3, and second on WOU's Women's All-Time Top-10 list.

The accomplishment comes after four consecutive years of qualifying at the Great Northwest Outdoor track and Field championships, with the last three of those years qualifying her to compete in the NCAA Division II Outdoor Championships, including two trips to Pueblo, Colo., and this year's competition in Allendale, Mich.

August

Looking back on its best

As emcee Bob Sneddon noted at the beginning of the Siuslaw Hall of Fame induction ceremony, the 2014 class of inductees saw a total of 11 presidents, beginning with Dwight D. Eisenhower, who was the commander-in-Chief while Siuslaw's Jackie Gardiner was throwing 100-mph fastballs as a senior in 1956.

The legendary Viking pitcher, who once struck out 24 batters in a single, 14-inning game against Bandon, was good enough to catch the attention of the Boston Red Sox — but turned down their offer because of his commitment to the family farm.

Bob Hylton, inducted in 2012 for his track prowess, said he remembered how, as a boy he watched his father catch a few pitches from Gardiner.

September

Most successful coho season in decade draws to close

Great fishing and good weather throughout September meant that quotas for ocean coho were met early.

"It was the absolute best September we've ever had for ocean coho fishing," said Eric Schidler, ODFW ocean salmon prefect leader. "There were more fish in the quota than we thought we'd ever catch in September, but fishing has just been phenomenal."

October

Sailors' Free makes national record book

It's never an easy straw to draw when you have to play the No. 1-ranked team in the state, but the Sailors made the most of it in a strong, but losing effort at the home of the Mountaineers in Falls City.

"I was proud of our kids for fighting the whole game," said Mapleton coach Jeff Greene. "Defensively, we just had a hard time stopping them inside."

The same could be said for the Sailors' passing game, which included 20 air strikes launched from Tucker Ford to Chris Free, who racked up 306 yards receiving.

Free's 20 receptions was the second-highest number ever for any receiver in eight-man football in the nation.

Sailors sweep series, clinch playoffs

In a three-way tie for fourth in the Mountain West League with Alsea and Siletz, the Sailors were back on the volleyball court for a special playoff series held on neutral ground at Siuslaw High School.

To get to the play-offs, Mapleton needed to win back-to-back matches against the Wolverines and Warriors.

With all of that in mind, the Sailors came out and battled the Wolverines, narrowly winning the first set, 25-22, then shutting down Alsea 25-15 to move one set away from the win.

But the Wolverines fought back, holding on to win the third game 25-23 and force a fourth set.

This time, Mapleton hammered Alsea for a decisive 25-12 win that advanced them into the next match against Siletz 30 minutes later.

Like the first match against Alsea, the Sailors got the upper hand early, winning the first two sets to put themselves in a position to complete a sweep. Once again, however, they were forced into a fourth set.

"It was a battle," said McNeill. "We had to fight through some struggles with our serving but made up for it with great passing and attacks."

Tied at 25 with the Warriors, Mapleton managed to land the final blows with Weber scoring the winning ace against Siletz to secure fourth place for the Sailors, 27-25.

Siuslaw harriers advance to state

Siuslaw senior Seth Campbell and sophomore Celie Mans were each the first to cross the finish line in their respective divisions during last Thursday's Far West League district meet, setting the pace for a state appearance for both Viking cross country teams.

For the girls' team, it was the 12th consecutive league crown as Siuslaw's dynasty continues.

For Mans, it was her third individual win of the season, and the sixth time she has placed among the top two.

Sailors end season riding high

Tied with Mohawk at 28 entering halftime, Mapleton senior quarterback Tucker Ford hollared "Let's come back and be a second-half team!" as the Sailors trodded down the muddy hillside leading into the lockeroom.

When Mapleton came back 15 minutes later, Ford's words were more than a challenge; they were words that materialized into a second-half rally that secured fourth place and no small amount of pride in the last game of the season — and for seniors Chris Free, Jacob Pruett, Wyatt Cleary and Ford, their final appearance in a Sailors' football uniforms.

November

Siuslaw girls third at state meet

Siuslaw's cross country teams each spent time on the awards podium at the 4A state cross country championships at Lane Community College.

Sophomore Celie Mans and senior Seth Campbell each had their division's fourth-fastest time of the day, with Mans easily outkicking Far West rival Gabby Hobson of North Bend to cross the finish in 19:15.

Hobson was the nearest FWL competitor, finishing with a time of 19:40 for 11th place.

In his race, Campbell finished one second ahead of Marshfield's Colby Gillet in 16:22 to edge out the Pirate for fourth.

Overall the girls finished third at state; the boys finished sixth.

Viks sink Pirates, advance to state

For those who made the trip to Pete Susick Stadium on Nov. 1, it was clear from the opening kickoff that the Vikings' appearance in the postseason had an unnerving effect on a Pirates team that hadn't seen a post season in five years.

For a Siuslaw program in which post-season play is practically business as usual, it was simply time to go to work and punch in for the state playoffs by punching through the Marshfield defense standing in its way.

Still, it remained a one-touchdown game until late in the fourth quarter, when Siuslaw went on a 16-play, 77-yard drive to the end zone that included three first downs and 10 running plays — the last of which was a one-yard scramble by Joe Dotson to seal the win.

The Viks advanced to the opening round of the state playoffs, where they lost to Mazama..

And with that, here's to another exciting year of Siuslaw and Mapleton sports — and the athletes and coaches who make it happen...

Fishing
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fish have moved onto the spawning grounds.

WILSON RIVER: *Chinook, steelhead*

Fall Chinook are still available in decent numbers. Fish should be spread out through the river, especially after rains raised the river last week. Release dark fish to spawn. All techniques should produce fish, with bobber and bait, back bouncing, bait-wrapped plugs, and casting spinners among the best.

Winter steelhead are available in increasing numbers as well.

YAQUINA RIVER: *Steelhead, Chinook*

The winter steelhead run is starting to kick in with anglers getting into a few fish along the Big Elk as conditions allow. The fall Chinook fishery is essentially over for the season as most fish have already spawned.

COOS RIVER BASIN: *Dungeness crab, bay clams, steelhead*

Steelhead have been caught this past week on the West Fork Millicoma, East Fork Millicoma, and South Fork Coos rivers. There is bank access on the West Fork Millicoma at the Millicoma Interpretive Center and on the East Fork Millicoma at Nesika Park. Access to the South Fork Coos River is through Weyerhaeuser property and anglers must have the appropriate permit from Weyerhaeuser.

In the Coos Basin, one additional fin clipped steelhead may be retained per day for a total aggregate of three adult fish harvested daily.

Crabbing in Coos Bay has been decent for boat crabbers. The best crabbing has been near the jetties but crabbers are getting legal-size crab all the way up to the BLM Boat Ramp.

Clamming is excellent during low tides near Charleston, off Cape Arago Highway, and Clam Island.

UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: *Steelhead*

The South Umpqua is open for steelhead. The peak numbers of fish normally show up from February to late March. The South Umpqua offers the best chance for catching an adipose-fin clipped steelhead for harvest.

The hatchery program for winter steelhead is centered in the South Umpqua. Most hatchery fish are caught from Canyonville downstream.

All wild fish must be released unharmed.

TENMILE BASIN: *Yellow perch, coho salmon*

Yellow perch are biting on night crawlers or jigs tipped with a worm in Tenmile Lakes. Yellow perch will be concentrated in big schools in deep water. Sometimes anglers need to try several spots before finding the bigger fish.

There are lots of smaller yellow perch that anglers have to sort through to catch enough keepers for a meal. Some yellow perch are over 12 inches.

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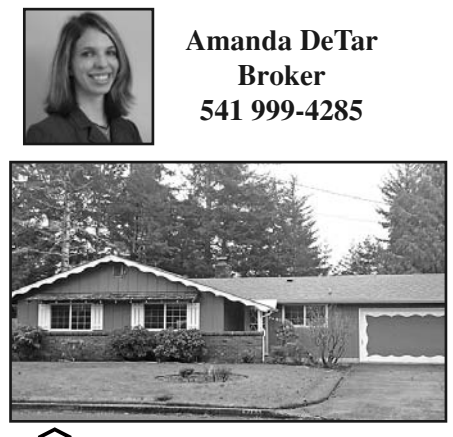

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