

# ATHLETES OF THE YEAR 2015



**Joseph Dotson**

**J**oseph Dotson made his presence known each sports season, rising to the top of athletic achievement in football, basketball and track. The Siuslaw senior was named honorable mention as the Vikings' quarterback, second team All League in basketball, and first-team honors in track in the 400 meters, 300-meter hurdles, as a member of the 4x400-meter team and second team in the javelin.

During track season, Dotson set a new Siuslaw record in the 300 hurdles with his time of 39.24, which also was this year's 4A state championship mark for Dotson.

"What I was able to accomplish this year has taught me to be a hard

worker and that you have to work for what you want," says Dotson who, carrying a 3.25 GPA, already has committed to running track at Southern Oregon University in the fall.

Dotson also says his experience this year as a senior on teams made primarily of underclassmen "Made me have to be more of a leader, which I wanted to work harder to improve."

Dotson's short-term plans are to continue competing as a triathlete while at SOU, enjoy his time while in college, eventually graduating with a degree in dentistry and opening his own practice.

**M**ikaela Siegel is used to breaking things — especially records. This year, Siegel, a junior, broke her own school record in the 100-meter hurdles at state with a time of 15.50, the fastest time in Siuslaw history and this year's fastest time at the 4A state meet.

A three-sport athlete competing in cross country, basketball and track, Siegel was named second-team All-League in cross country, All-League Defense in basketball, All-State in track for the high hurdles, as well as honorable mention in the 4x400-meter relay and long jump. Siegel was a member of this year's Far West championship cross country and track teams.

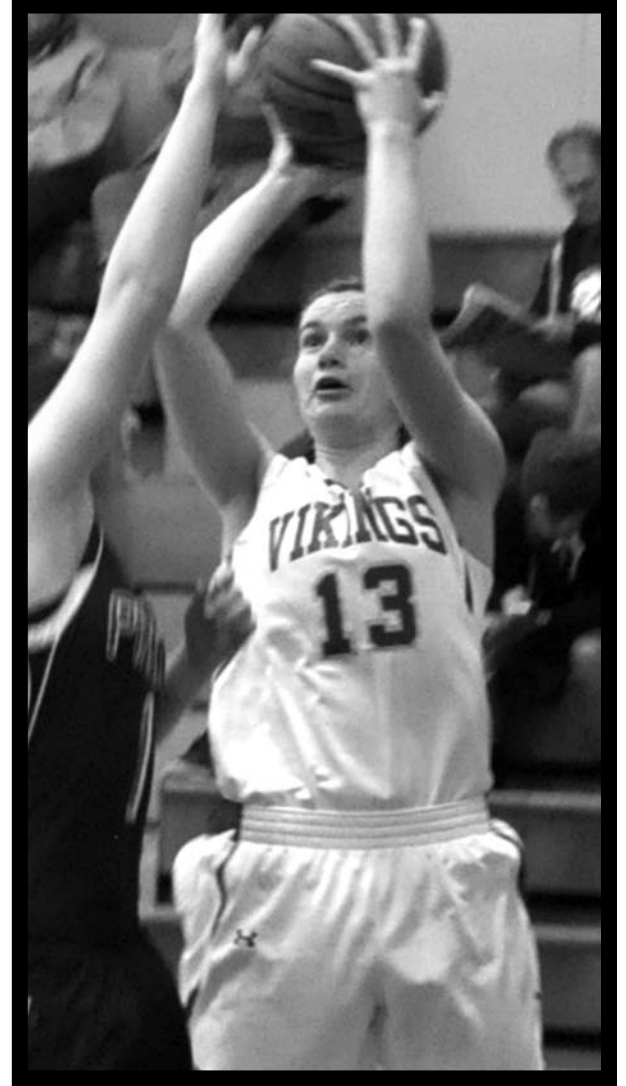
For most, that would be enough to fill their plate.

Not Siegel.

She carries a 4.0 GPA, earning a recurring spot on Siuslaw's Honor Roll. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, has been named Kiwanis Student of the Quarter — and even perfect attendance. When she's not on the field or in the classroom, she's helping at her church's youth group and co-hosting KCST Radio's Viking Hour.

"Mentoring and forming relationships with underclassmen is something I really enjoy," says Siegel, who will return to Siuslaw next year as a senior.

Undoubtedly breaking more records along the way, even if they are mostly her own.



**Mikaela Siegel**

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