

Siuslaw News Sports & Recreation

Viks top Irish in softball opener

BY NED HICKSON
Siuslaw News

SHS: 300 200 0 — 5 3 3
WHS: 000 2001 — 3 5 2

It may have been St. Paddy's Day, but during Thursday's softball game on the road at Waldport, the Vikings had the luck of the Irish on their side as they opened the season with a 5-3 win.

The Vikings utilized five runs on five hits to outscore the Irish, with solid defense and a standout performance from the pitcher's circle from junior Heidi Jones keeping the Irish scoreless for four out of seven innings.

Jones struck out eight Waldport batters, seamlessly shifting between risers, change-ups and an effective curveball that the Irish had little luck zeroing in on.

With fellow junior Nikki Launius behind the plate, Jones had good backup and an effective battery. The fact that Launius was able to deliver a two-run single in the first inning to help put the Viks ahead 3-1 didn't hurt, either.

The Vikings opened the game with new lead-off hitter and senior Anna Petras getting aboard on an error.

See **SOFTBALL XB**



PHOTOS BY ROB GRIFFES/FOR SIUSLAW NEWS

SHS brings heat to Icebreaker

ANNUAL SEASON-OPENING MEET
SHOWCASES DIVERSITY AND
STRENGTH THIS YEAR'S TEAM
BRINGS TO THE
FAR WEST LEAGUE STAGE

BY NED HICKSON
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Whether it was on the track or in the throwing pits, the Vikings were turning in a dominant performance during Thursday's annual Siuslaw Icebreaker Track Invitational at Hans Petersen Field. Teams from Bandon, Douglas and North Bend were on hand to compete for a chance to be the day's best.

And in many cases, the best were wearing Viking blue and gold.

In the throws, sophomore Trent Reavis and junior Carissa Oliver each had near sweeps, with Reavis winning the shot put (47-5) and discus (125-11), placing third in the javelin (152-11); Oliver won the discus (120-3) and javelin (93-6), and placed second in the shot put (33-7).

On the track, freshman cross country standout Murray Bingham easily won the 1,500-meter race with a time of 4:20.09, with sophomores Isaac Griffes (10:42.08) and Jordan Northrop (11:05.11) finishing first and second, respectively, in the 3,000 meters.



Sophomore Trent Reavis (top) lets loose with the winning discus throw at 125-11; Juniors Morgan Bingham (above left) and Celie Mans finished first and second, respectively, in the 1,500-meter race.

For the girls, juniors Annmarie Precht, Destinie Tatum, Morgan Bingham and Celie Mans each had finishes among the top two in their events, including wins for Precht in the 200 meters (28.2) and long jump (15-2), as well as Tatum in the 400-meter race (1:01.42), and Bingham in the 1,500-meters (5:01.12).

Senior Mikaela Siegel won the 300-meter hurdles in 50.49.

Tatum went on to place second in the 200-meter race, with Mans also finishing second in the 1,500-meter event.

The Viking girls also won both the 4x100-meter relay (Abby Watkins, Kaylee Graham, Tatum and Precht) and 4x300-meter relay (Sierra Potter, Mans, Precht and Bingham).

The Viks will be back on the track Saturday, April 2, at the Junction City Invitational, beginning at 10 a.m.

Cape Perpetua hosts Whale Watch Week through March 26

YACHATS — Have a whale of a good time at Cape Perpetua. Whale Watch volunteers will be available to help visitors spot whales and share information from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, March 19, through Saturday, March 26, at the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center, 2400 S. Highway 101, three miles south of Yachats.

Gray whales will be traveling past

Cape Perpetua as they make their way north to their summer feeding grounds near Alaska. This winter more than 1,600 whales were sighted by Whale Watch volunteers along the Oregon Coast during the whales' southern migration.

Michael Noack, retired chief park ranger at the Yaquina Head Outstanding Area, will present

"Experiencing Gray Whales" at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Monday, March 21.

Noack has studied gray whales for many years, assisting with whale research missions and training Whale Watch volunteers.

Films and interpretive materials about gray whales also are available at

See **WHALESXB**

On the Bite

A WEEKLY
FISHING REPORT FOR
THE LOCAL REGION

www.dfw.state.or.us/RR

MID COAST LAKES

Stocking of rainbow trout will begin soon in many mid coast water bodies. Look at the stocking report to see the full stocking season.

Fishing for the various warm water fish species tends to be slower during the winter months. There are numerous lakes in the Florence area that can provide good opportunity and have both boat and bank access.

SIUSLAW RIVER:

Steelhead

The winter steelhead fishery is fair to good for both the Siuslaw and Lake Creek systems. With so much rain this winter, anglers have not had that many quality fishing days so get out there when you can because the next few weeks are typically peak season.

During higher flows, the Lake Creek basin tends to fish better and clear more quickly. Casting lures, bobber fishing or pulling plugs are good options.

See **FISHING XB**

TIDE TABLE

Entrance Siuslaw River

High Tide	Low Tide
March 19 10:06am / 6.9 11:16pm / 6.5	4:15am / 2.6 4:51pm / 0.4

March 20 10:59am / 7.0 11:53pm / 6.7	5:07am / 2.1 5:34pm / 0.4
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March 21 11:44am / 7.0	5:50am / 1.6 6:11pm / 0.5
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March 22 12:25am / 6.9 12:25pm / 7.0	6:29am / 1.2 6:45pm / 0.6
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March 23 12:54am / 7.0 7:03pm / 7.0	7:05am / 1.0 7:17pm / 0.9
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March 24 1:23am / 7.1 1:40pm / 6.8	7:39am / 0.8 7:47pm / 1.2
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March 25 1:51am / 7.2 2:18pm / 6.6	8:14am / 0.7 8:18pm / 1.4
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**SIUSLAW
NEWS**

**148 Maple St.
Florence
541-997-3441**

SPORTS Calendar

March 19

• **MHS TRACK/FIELD**
AT OAKRIDGE RELAYS
10 A.M.

• **SHS BASEBALL**
AT TAFT INV.
10 A.M.

March 20

• **SHS BASEBALL**
AT TAFT INV.
GOLD BEACH
10 A.M.

March 21

• **SHS BASEBALL**
AT TAFT INV.
VALLEY CATHOLIC
10 A.M.

• **SHS SOFTBALL**
HOSTS PHILOMATH
1 P.M. (DH)

March 23

• **SHS SOFTBALL**
AT C. GROVE
NOON (DH)

UPCOMING:

April 8

• **MHS TRACK**
AT MCKENZIE
1 P.M.