

Vik grapplers gear up for district competition

BY NED HICKSON
Siuslaw News

With less than a week to go before the Special District Tournament and a chance to reach the state meet, wrestlers for the Vikings are fine tuning themselves this week, including during this weekend’s expansive 30-team Cottage Grove Invitational (Feb. 3 and 4).

Earlier in the week, Siuslaw was on the road at the Far West League Invitational at North Bend, where the Vikings got a look at league contenders — and other Far West wrestlers got a look at Siuslaw contenders Ricky Huff (113 lbs.) and Kainan Lane (285 lbs.).

Lane, a senior, pinned his

way through Wednesday’s meet at the ‘Dawg Pound, where he scored 24 team points after pinning Marshfield’s Anthony Petralli (4:39), South Umpqua’s Jaret Remington (2:00) and fellow Viking Matthew Horrillo (1:13) in the championship round.

Meanwhile, junior 113-pounder Huff had two pins in less than two minutes after taking down Ben Buehler of Brookings-Harbor in just 34 seconds in the semi-finals match, then Jakob Allen of Douglas in 1:06 for the championship.

Huff’s wins added 22 points to Siuslaw’s team score, which also got points from Horrillo, who finished second overall in the heavyweight bracket for 14



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Siuslaw senior Kainan Lane Pinned all three opponents during Wednesday’s Far West League meet.

points; and from Riley Jennings (160 lbs.) and Nick Steinman (170 lbs.) with third-place finishes in their divisions.

The Vikings finished fifth overall with 79 points.

Douglas won the team title with 179 points, closely followed by Marshfield (170), North Bend (118.5), South Umpqua (106), Siuslaw and Brookings-Harbor (36).

District competition will take place Feb. 10 and 11 at South Umpqua High School. Top finishers will advance to the 4A OSAA state meet Feb. 24 and 25 in Portland.

Winter RV camping calls for special safety preparations

From wilderness backpackers in pop-up tents to campers who find cooking and sleeping in an RV more civilized, winter camping is gaining momentum.

There is nothing quite like having almost an entire campground to yourself to hike, cross-country ski, view nature and enjoy the serenity of the location.

Winter camping takes more prep work than warm weather outings, but outdoor enthusiasts say it’s worth it. Just remember: before heading to your favorite campground, check ahead.

Campgrounds in higher elevations often close as early as mid-September until springtime.

Here are some tips to consider before heading to the great — but cold — outdoors.

Before beginning your trip, check with your RV dealer or the many various RV associations for insulating hoses and water sources to properly operate in freezing temps.

Your RV may be well-equipped but in the winter, prepare for a scenario where you could be stranded due to winter storms. In that case, a portable generator is indispensable.

“A generator can keep the RV batteries topped off and allow you to use the RV furnace and keep your cellphone and laptops charged, something you will appreciate in an emergency,” said Dorrance Noonan of A-iPower, a manufacturer of portable power equipment.

Safety First:

- When in a cold or freezing environment, it’s natural to want to seal your space tightly

- to keep out drafts. But, portable generators exhaust carbon monoxide (CO), a tasteless, odorless, and deadly gas. That makes it extremely important to keep your generator running away from your RV with the exhaust pointed in the opposite direction.
- Never run your generator when you or someone else is sleeping.
- Always have a working carbon monoxide (CO) detector in your RV. This is important not only when using the generator, but in other instances when the lethal gas is present. Because CO is odorless, colorless, and otherwise undetectable to the human senses, people may not know that they are being exposed.

To that end, never use a generator, grill, camp stove or charcoal burning device inside or in any partially enclosed area; keep these devices at least 20 feet from doors, windows, and vents.

- At high levels, carbon monoxide can cause death within minutes. Symptoms of overexposure to carbon monoxide include headaches, fatigue, dizziness, shortness of breath, nausea and confusion.

If you suspect you may be experiencing carbon monoxide poisoning or your detector sounds an alarm, head outside immediately for fresh air and call 911.

- Never transport your generator in the back of your RV or your SUV if you are towing a camper. The best way to transport your generator is to have a platform built on the back of your RV.

OSHA recommends that

gasoline and other generator fuels should be stored and transported in approved containers that are properly designed and marked for their contents, and vented.

- Before running your generator, always read the owner’s manual for proper operation and safety tips.

Choosing a portable generator for your RV:

- The more watts your generator has, the more items you can power at the same time. To know how much you will need, calculate all the wattage requirements of all the accessories you plan to operate on generator power.

Typically, wattage is listed on the device, on the back or on the bottom. If not, a simple formula for determining watts is multiplying volts x amps. The total will tell you the model of generator you need.

- Another important factor to consider is how long you will be running your generator. The generator run time is found on the generator spec sheet and owner’s manual.

Run time is determined at 50 percent load levels and the power used directly impacts the run time. The more power used, the shorter the run time and the sooner you will have to refuel.

“During cold weather camping, you won’t need to power your air-conditioner, so a generator with about 2,000 starting watts should suffice,” Noonan said. “Typically this is found in inverter generators, which are lighter, easier to transport, and run quieter than the larger portable generators.”

Noonan explained that

inverters are more fuel efficient than regular generators.

“An inverter produces electricity on demand, based on what you are powering. That results in a slower engine speed with less noise and lower fuel consumption,” he said. “Users appreciate how inexpensive inverters are to run.”

Noonan advises that when choosing an inverter, look for one that has enough receptacles for all the items you plan to run.

Inverters that have USB adapters will allow you to charge a battery or cellphone.

Always be prepared:

Just as with natural disasters like hurricanes or extended power outages, a snow emergency kit should include:

- A weather-band radio to keep updated on conditions
- Extra blankets and extra warm clothing

- A three-to-five day supply of bottled water — at least one gallon per person per day
 - Extra high-energy food
 - Sleeping bags rated for zero-degree temps
 - A white-gas camping stove that doesn’t require propane
 - A shovel for digging out
 - Batteries for radios and flashlights.
 - A weather radio to receive emergency information.
- Before you leave for isolated areas, let someone know your itinerary and estimated times of arrival.



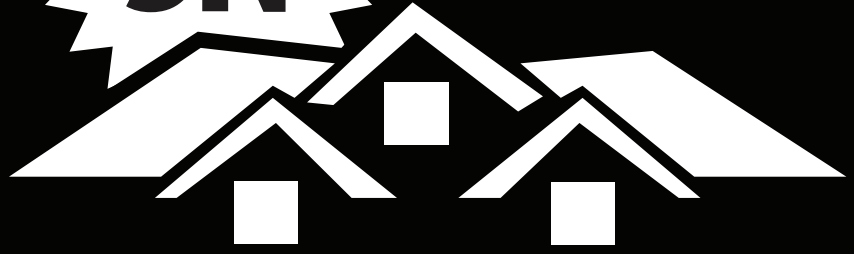
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Siuslaw Baseball registration set for Tuesday

The Siuslaw Baseball Association (SBA) will host its final early registration and informational meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 7, in the Siuslaw High School mall area, beginning at 6 p.m.

Register and pay fees early, or come learn about financial assistance and ask questions. Also, come learn about volunteer opportunities and meet other parents of baseball players this season.

Registration fees are \$50 per T-ball player or \$60 for all other players. There is also a \$30 “Opt Out” fee available for volunteering.

Fees are nonrefundable after Feb. 19. SBA Registrations and fees are due by Friday, Feb. 17, or at assessments on Feb. 18 and 19.

To register by mail, send forms and fees to: Siuslaw Baseball Association, P.O. Box 873, Florence, Ore. 97439.

Email questions to siuslaw-baseball@gmail.com

Players will be placed into leagues based on their age as of May 1, 2017.

Leagues will include:

T-ball: Boys and girls, ages 5 and 6 years old; Rookies: Ages 7 and 8 for boys and

girls; Minors: Boys ages 9 and 10 year old; Majors: Boys ages 11 and 12 years old; Prep: Boys ages 13 and 14 year old.

Girls ages 9 years and older interested in softball can regis-

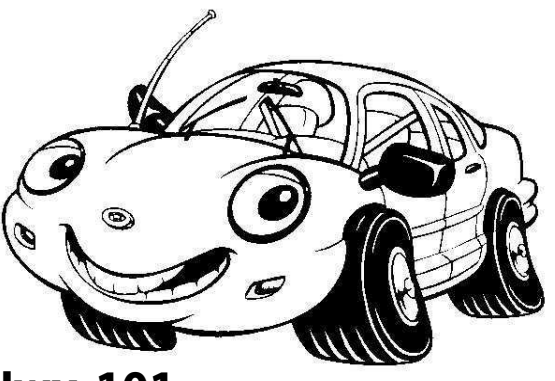
ter at Boys and Girls Club by calling 541-902-0304.

Assessments times will be Saturday, Feb. 18 and Sunday, Feb. 19.

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