

ANNUAL FLY FISHING EXPO RETURNS TO REEDSPORT FEB. 25

The Lower Umpqua Flycasters will be holding its 27th annual Fly Fishing Expo at the Reedsport Community Center, 451 Winchester Ave. in Reedsport, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 25.

The Expo is a free day of fun for the entire family.

The expo offers the opportu-

nity for both long-term anglers and those new to the sport learn about fly casting through special features, including demonstrations and programs on various aspects of fly fishing, fly tying and fly casting.

There will also equipment displays, informational displays by various stream and

fish enhancement groups, a concession stand with meals and snacks available, and raffle drawings each hour all day.

Dave Williams will do a special presentation on small-mouth bass fishing on John Day River.

More than 20 fly tyers from Oregon and Washington

will be present doing demonstrations and sales.

To answer questions regarding Oregon lakes, personnel will be available from the Eel/Tenmile STEP program, Tenmile Lake Basin Partnership, ODFW of Coos County, and the CCA group.

Frank Moore, international

expert on fly-rod casting, will also be demonstrating and helping young and old learn how to cast. This year also includes two new exhibits, Project Healing Water Fly Fishing and Source One Serenity, both geared to military veterans.

Other exhibits include: wild flowers, fishing antiques, float

boats and representatives from various fly rod and fly tying equipment companies.

This is the only event of its kind on the south and central Oregon coast. The purpose of the free expo is to promote conservation and introduce the sport of fly fishing to adults and young children.

Fishing from 1B

SILETZ RIVER AND BAY: Steelhead

Winter steelhead opportunities are improving as more fish move through the mainstem. Casting spinners, drifting bait or using a bobber and jig can be effective.

WILSON RIVER: Steelhead

Hatchery steelhead are available and opportunities should improve on through January as conditions improve.

All the usual techniques such as side drifting, float fishing, and pulling plugs or divers and bait, should be effective.

Anglers are reminded that fall Chinook season is closed.

YAQUINA RIVER: Steelhead

The Yaquina River is open for hatchery winter steelhead.

Casting spinners, drifting bait or using a bobber and jig can be effective.

COOS COUNTY LAKES/PONDS: Trout

Rainbow trout were stocked in **Upper Empire, Bradley, Saunders, Powers and Butterfield** lakes in October. Fishing for these stocked fish has slowed down. Coos County lakes and ponds will not be stocked again until the spring.

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

Trout fishing in streams is closed until May 22.

A few steelhead have been caught the past few weeks in the **West Fork Millicoma, East Fork Millicoma, and South Fork Coos** rivers.

The West Fork Millicoma was the only river in the basin that was fishable over the past

weekend.

Anglers are drifting eggs or corkies along the stream bottom or using a jig suspended under a bobber. Anglers fishing the South Fork Coos River above Dellwood will need a permit from Weyerhaeuser, which they can pick up at the Dellwood office.

In the Coos Basin 1 additional hatchery steelhead may be retained per day for a total aggregate of 3 adult fish harvested daily.

Anglers have been catching a few rockfish and surfperch along the jetties and submerged rock piles. Fishing for rockfish in the bay has been spotty. The marine fish daily bag limit for bottom fish (rockfish) is 7 fish and a separate daily limit for lingcod (2).

The 7 fish marine bag limit will remain in place, with these

adjustments for 2017: Create a sub-bag limit of 6 black rockfish, remove the sub-bag limit for canary rockfish, add China/quillback/copper rockfishes to the sub-bag limit with blue/Deacon rockfish and change the limit from 3 to 4.

Finally remove the 10-inch minimum size for kelp greenling.

Retention of cabezon is not allowed until July 1.

Recreational crabbing is now open in all Oregon waters. Crabbing was decent over the weekend in Coos Bay.

Crabbing from a boat has been better than crabbing from the dock but dock crabbers are picking up a few legal crabs.

Recreational harvest of bay clams remains open along the entire Oregon coast. Clamming is excellent during low tides near Charleston, off Cape

Arago Highway, and Clam Island.

There are also good places to dig clams even on positive low tides in Coos Bay.

Recreational harvest of razor clams and mussels is closed from the entire Oregon coast due to elevated levels of domoic acid.

This includes all beaches and all bays. Before any shellfish harvest trip, make sure to check the Oregon Department of Agriculture website for any updates.

COQUILLE RIVER BASIN: Crab, steelhead, salmon

Trout fishing in streams is closed until May 22.

Steelhead anglers have reported catching a few steelhead in the North Fork Coquille at LaVerne Park and the South Fork Coquille rivers. Anglers have had success drifting eggs

or corkies.

Recreational crabbing is now open in all Oregon waters.

Crabbing is very slow in the lower Coquille River due to the large amounts of freshwater coming downstream.

TENMILE BASIN: Trout, bass, yellow perch, steelhead

Trout fishing in the streams of the Tenmile Basin are now closed until May 22. Trout fishing in Tenmile Lakes is open all year.

A few steelhead have been reported in Tenmile Creek. Anglers will have success plunking near the acclimation sites or fishing a jig under a bobber. Eel Creek is now open to steelhead fishing.

Largemouth bass fishing has slowed down over the past few weeks. Fishing for yellow perch has picked up in Tenmile Lakes.

Garrison from 1B

three-touchdown performance from all-state running back Tooev Emery.

A week later, the Vikings defeated Junction City, 13-0, in a muddy state quarterfinals game in Florence before suffering their only loss of the season, a heart-wrenching, 7-6 semifinals squeaker to North Catholic in another mud bowl at the old Hans Petersen Memorial Field.

Garrison served as the Vikings head coach for only four seasons, but he kick-started a culture of winning. He cultivated a work ethic and a supreme confidence in his players that would continue over the next half-century.

"Erv raised everyone's expectations," said Weber, the

starting quarterback on the 1963 squad. "He told us that if we put in the time and out-worked other teams that we had a right to think we were going to win.

"And the guy had charisma. He was fun to play for."

That charisma shined brightly during a team meeting prior to the 1961 season, Garrison's first at Siuslaw. Dennis Howell, who had just moved to Florence from Eugene, was sitting in a corner by himself.

Assistant coach Dick Smith told Garrison he thought Howell was on the verge of quitting the team.

"I put my arm around the kid and told him to hang in there, that we had big plans for him down the road," said Garrison in a 2016 phone interview from his home in Milwaukie.

The coach wasn't exaggerat-

ing. A punishing fullback and search-and-destroy linebacker, Howell emerged as the top defensive player all three years he wore a Siuslaw uniform and was named to the East-West Shrine all-star game following his senior year.

Tragically, Howell died in a logging accident in Thorne Bay, Alaska, on October 29, 1973.

"Erv lifted up the entire school and actually, the entire town," Weber said. "He created a climate of excitement at Siuslaw."

Garrison left Siuslaw after the 1964-65 school year and had stints at Milwaukee (1965-73), David Douglas (1974-78) and Canby (1979-90) high schools. He posted a 90-36 record at Canby and twice took that school to the large school state semifinals. His overall record, through 32 seasons, was 185-120-1.

"Canby was a moribund football program when Erv showed up," said Mike Doty, one of Garrison's top assistant coaches and Canby's eventual head coach. "The year before he arrived they went 0-9 and scored their only touchdown on the last drive of their last game.

"It took him a couple years, but he got the program rolling," added Doty. "He was an old-school, blue-collar coach who

demanded a lot from the kids. But he was also a great storyteller and motivational speaker and he had a great sense of humor."

Doty said Garrison had trouble remembering some of his players' names. To solve the problem he would take photos of them and post them in his office with their names under the pictures.

"That's Erv," said Doty. "He was such a character. In his later years (at Canby) he took on a grandfatherly aura. People loved him."

Garrison ran the Wing-T offense at all of his stops. The scheme involves a lot of misdirection plays and creates considerable confusion for opponents. Several of Garrison's protégés became head coaches at other Oregon high schools and continued to run the Wing-T.

Garrison was born in Aberdeen, Wash., on June 2, 1933, before his family moved to Tillamook, on the northern Oregon Coast, when he was six months old. His father was the foreman of a logging crew, and it wasn't long before young Erv was tagging along, setting chokers, falling timber and running equipment.

He attended tiny Nehalem High School, which is about 25 miles north of Tillamook, and

emerged as a standout in football (as a single-wing quarterback), basketball, track and baseball, graduating in 1952.

Garrison loved being in the woods and planned on a career of logging. But one day an assistant football coach from Oregon State showed up at his home with a scholarship offer. It was too good to pass up.

Garrison didn't stay in Corvallis long, however. He dropped out of school after one year and then got drafted, but was turned away when he flunked his physical because of a bum knee. A year after that, he began attending Oregon College of Education (now Western Oregon University), where he played for legendary coach Bill McArthur.

One of Garrison's teammates was Darrell "Mouse" Davis, who revolutionized football with his pass-happy, "run and shoot" offense while coaching at Hillsboro, Sunset and Milwaukee high schools in the 1970s and later at several college and NFL teams, including a six-year stint as head coach at Portland State.

Garrison and Davis became lifelong friends and often met for lunch in recent years.

Garrison also starred in track at OCE, finishing fifth at the national meet in the javelin in 1958 with a throw of 217 feet,

5 inches. He earned his degree in education later that year.

In September of 1958, Garrison landed his first teaching and coaching jobs at Knappa High School, along the Columbia River in northwest Oregon.

After serving one year as an assistant, Garrison took over the head coaching job and guided the Loggers to back-to-back playoff appearances, including a run to the Class B state semifinals in 1959.

The following spring, Garrison got a call from Siuslaw Superintendent Dick Shollenberger, who was searching for a head football coach.

"He had gotten my name from McArthur," noted Garrison. "They were good friends. He (McArthur) apparently thought I was a pretty good coach."

More than pretty good, it turns out...

"The History of Siuslaw Football: a Tradition of Excellence" is due out this September.

Hunt lives near Bozeman, Mont., and spends his time as a freelance writer, vacation rental host and admiring the mountains in Big Sky Country.

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Viks from 1B

and held it throughout the game, although the Trojans threatened early in the fourth quarter.

Perry said one of the things that fueled the team down the stretch was the support of fans who had traveled to Douglas on a roter bus for the game.

"It was huge having a strong visiting section at Douglas," Perry said. "At times, our fans were louder than Douglas's

fans were."

Perry said that a combination of moving the ball well and constantly improving team chemistry provided the team with more scoring opportunities.

And defensively, "We really limited their studs to minimal scoring with great man-to-man defense."

That pressure forced the Trojans to turn the ball over on steals 9 times, each of which led to a Siuslaw bucket.

The win meant second place

as the Vikings headed into last night's final game of the regular season (after press deadlines), with the Vikings hosting undefeated North Bend (9-0).

An upset over the Bulldogs would guarantee Siuslaw second place and a home game to start the state playoffs.

A loss by the Vikings but win for Marshfield over Douglas last night would give second place to the Pirates due to their two wins over the Vikings earlier this season.

However, should Douglas

upset Marshfield, the Viks would still retain second place even with a loss to North Bend.

A third-place finish still means advancing to the first round of state, but it would open on the road.

"Making the playoffs hasn't been done here for quite some time, so we are pretty excited to accomplish that," said Perry. "We still have some goals we want to accomplish and I feel we are peaking at just the right time."

Sailors from 1B

Though it turned out to be a barnburner, with the Sailors (2-4) taking the Warriors (5-1) to task during one of the highest-scoring and closest games of the season for both teams, Siletz was

able to come out on top, 64-52.

The loss puts the Sailors into a match-up with Lowell (4-2) today at Northwestern Christian University, beginning at 11 a.m., with the winner advancing to the first round of state 1A playoffs next week as the MWL's third-place team.

Cram from 1B

coach and SHS athletic director Chris Johnson on Monday, Johnson said he was "thrilled to announce that Collin Cram,

town folk hero... has accepted a coaching position with Siuslaw Track and Field."

The Vikings will open the track and field season at home April 21, at the Central Coast Invitational, starting at 4 p.m.

Siuslaw News 

"Estate Sale"
Sat 2/18 10am-4pm
Some furniture, tools, nautical collectibles, & paintings. 7 redwood Coast Village West Side. Walk down exit sign, park on Spruce. 530-713-3909.

Huge Moving Sale
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"PICC-A-DILLY" Flea Market THIS SUNDAY, 10am-4pm, Fairgrounds, Eugene, 541-683-5589.

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