

Siuslaw News Sports & Recreation

SPORTS Calendar

• **MARCH 23**
SHS TRACK
SIUSLAW
ICEBREAKER
AT SHS
4 P.M.
MHS TRACK
SAILOR RELAYS
AT MHS
4 P.M.

• **MARCH 24**
SHS BASEBALL
VS SWEET HOME
5 P.M.
SHS SOFTBALL
AT SWEET HOME
4:30 P.M.

• **MARCH 25**
SHS BASEBALL
HOSTS J. CITY
1 AND 4 P.M.
SHS SOFTBALL
HOSTS BANDON
1 P.M.

Ready to launch



NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

Mapleton junior Tanner Wilson placed in three events at the Warrior Relays at Oakridge High School last Friday, including second place in the javelin with a throw of 141-07.

SAILORS TRACK SEASON OPENS

BY NED HICKSON
Siuslaw News

The Sailors were among 11 track and field teams at Friday's multi-divisional Warrior Relays at Oakridge High School, where Creswell took the team title. Meanwhile, Mapleton landed 19 placements in nine events, including first place in the high jump for junior Cole Spencer with a mark of 5-feet-4-inches.

"It was exciting to get the win and start the season off on a high note," said Mapleton coach Aaron Longo, "but he knows he has work to do."

Tanner Wilson, a junior with a strong showing in the throws last season, placed second in the javelin with a throw of 141-07. Wilson was also 13th in the discus (73-0) and 18th in the shot put (31-0).

"Tanner is poised for some huge improvements in the javelin and his

marks on Friday show that," Longo said of Wilson, whose javelin mark was just one javelin length short of a personal record.

In the jumps, senior AJ Foster, who hasn't competed in the long jump since middle school, is only a half-inch out of second place in the Mountain West League after his mark of 17-10.5 for sixth place at Friday's meet.

Freshman Nathan Neece, also competing in the long jump, landed at 13-07 for 22nd place.

"Both of our boys long jumpers are looking exceptionally well," Longo said.

For the Lady Sailors, senior thrower Josi Hays had three top-six finishes, including fourth in the javelin (78-08), fifth in the discus (81-01) and sixth in the shot put (27-11).

"Josi is doing great things in the throws and is continuing to improve with every practice," said Longo.

In the jumps, sophomore Bailey Messick is currently one of three

underclassmen in the MWL to place in the top 10 in the long jump with her mark of 10-08 for 10th place.

Messick was also 13th in the discus (56-0) and 12th in the javelin (60-01).

"I expect to see some huge marks out of her as we progress through the season," Longo said of Messick's potential.

The Lady Sailors also got scoring from sophomore Brittany Wilson, who was 18th in the shot put (18-11) and 16th in the javelin (55-01).

For the boys, senior Kyle Doran threw the shot put for 13th place (31-0) and was 14th in both the discus (70-05) and javelin (88-0). Fellow senior Zac Croson was 10th in the discus at 77-06 and 22nd in the javelin (73-01).

"Overall, I'm excited to see our athletes progress and the hard work our kids are putting in for our program," said Longo.

Thursday, the Sailors will host a field events-only meet, beginning at 4 p.m.

Fish for free throughout Oregon April 22-23

Anglers and would-be anglers can enjoy a weekend of free fishing on April 22 and 23. On these two days, Oregonians and visitors can fish, crab and clam for free anywhere in Oregon without a license, tag or endorsement.

This free fishing weekend — as well as two other free fishing holidays Nov. 25 and 26 and Dec. 31 through Jan. 1, 2018 — is in addition to the traditional free fishing weekend on June 3-4.

These additional free fishing days are thanks to a 2015 law passed by the Oregon Legislature allowing the Fish and Wildlife Commission to set up to eight days of free fishing every year.



COURTESY PHOTO

Catch-and-release sturgeon fishing on the Willamette River (above) is just one of many options for free fishing days April 22-23.

"April 22 is also Earth Day, and what better way for Oregonians to get outside and celebrate the natural world than by taking family and friends out for a day of fishing," said Mike Gauvin, ODFW recreational fishing manager.

While licenses are waived during free fishing days, all other regulations and regular closures still apply.

On the Bite

A WEEKLY
FISHING REPORT FOR
THE LOCAL REGION

www.dfw.state.or.us/RR

NORTH COAST LAKES:

Nehalem Hatchery released 200 surplus winter steelhead into Vernonia pond, 57 into Lost Lake and 60 into Lake Lytle. These fish get fairly active in the lake and offer a unique fishing experience, especially when the rivers are blown out. Once in the lake they are considered "trout" and do not require a Combined Angling Tag.

Anglers are reminded, however, that only one trout per day over 20 inches may be retained, and these fish will almost all be in that size range.

Trout stocking is complete in the other North Coast lakes, but there are still hold over trout available and winter can be a great time to fish for them as these trout will be larger now, and getting hungry. The trout stocking schedule for 2017 is available online, and printed versions will be out soon.

SIUSLAW RIVER:

Chinook, steelhead

The Siuslaw River and Lake Cr. are open for hatchery winter steelhead. Fishing is slow. Casting spinners, drifting bait or using a bobber and jig can be effective.

MID COAST LAKES:

The trout stocking schedule for 2017 is available online and trout have been stocked in some lakes. Fishing for the various warm water fish species will slow as water temperatures cool. There are numerous lakes in the Florence area that can provide good opportunity.

ALSEA RIVER AND BAY:

Steelhead

Steelhead fishing is open on the Alsea River and listed tributaries. The river is shaping up after last week's rain. Fishing is slow. Alsea Hatchery is having a below average return to the hatchery.

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

SALMON RIVER:

Steelhead

The Salmon River is open for wild and hatchery steelhead. Fishing is slow.

Wild winter steelhead can be retained on the Salmon River. Daily and annual bag limit on wild winter steelhead are 1/day and 3/year.

SIUSLAW NEWS

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