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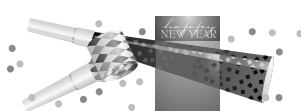
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Review

from 6

"Hunter realized it could be his last night playing high school basketball, and he delivered the best game of his career," said Mapleton coach Will Crook. "More than that, it was the best performance of any Mapleton player in my three years coaching."

VIKS ADVANCE TO STATE

The Viking boys basketball team came into Friday's final Far West League match-up in hopes of upsetting undefeated rival and league champion North Bend for several reasons — not the least of which was to secure the league's No. 2 spot heading into the state play-in game.

To do so would mean the first post-season appearance by the Vikings in nearly a decade.

In addition, it was also Senior Night, and potentially the last game on the home hardwood for seniors Brogan Cornish and Marcos Reyna-Ayala.

The Vikings, with scoring from junior Jared Brandt, freshman Sam Myers, Reavis, King and Hickson, were within 2 points, 41-43, with just over 1 minute to go when foul trouble for the Vikings put the Bulldogs at the charity line three times in the last 45 seconds.

During that time, North Bend was able to extend its lead to 6 and hold off for the win, 47-41.

That same night, the Viks got a little help from rival Douglas, which hosted Marshfield for an upset that shifted standings in the Far West League.

The win by the Trojans bumped them up into a tie for second place with Siuslaw, with Marshfield dropping into fourth place. Since the Vikings had defeated Douglas twice this season, Siuslaw automatically won the tie for second place in league, dropping the Trojans into third place.

As a result, Douglas will open the state play-in on the road; Siuslaw will host a game this Friday, most likely against Newport or Cascade.

MARCH

HUFF PINS STATE TITLE

The Vikings took a total of four wrestlers to this year's Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) 4A state wrestling meet at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland, where junior Richard Huff (113 lbs.), senior Kainan Lane (285 lbs.), senior Nick Steinman (170 lbs) and sophomore Riley Jennings (152 lbs.) were on the mats for a chance at state titles.

The two-day competition began Friday, with Steinman and Jennings unfortunately eliminated by day's end. However, Lane and Huff continued into Saturday after two wins in the qualifying rounds.

Huff pinned both of his opponents, first against Colton West from Marshfield in 1 minute, 40 seconds. He then went on to battle Jarrett Graff in the quarterfinals in 5:01.

Lane also pinned his way into Saturday's semifinals, defeating Miguel Galindo of Ontario (2:32) and Rogelio Ramirez of North Marion (3:51).

Both wrestlers advanced to the semifinals, where Huff earned a spot in the championship round with a major 13-3 decision over Robert Watkins of Sweet Home.

Lane, however, picked up his first loss of the tournament after being pinned by Dylan Porter of Elmira in 1:31.

The loss moved Lane into the consolation semifinals, where he lost by decision to Caleb Parrott of Crook County, 6-1. From there, Lane faced Donnie Clark of McLoughlin, who came into the meet ranked at No. 2. Lane hammered Clark, pinning him in just 1:40 for fifth place overall.

In the championship match at 113 pounds, Huff squared off against Molalla freshman Maximus Tate, who had beaten Marshfield sophomore Frankie Harlow in the semifinals, 10-6.

In this match, Tate quickly found himself in trouble as Huff took him to the mat within the first minute then pinned him in 1:42 for the 113-pound 4A state title.

Huff went undefeated at state, 4-0, and was 40-3 for the season — and undefeated at 18-0 in the 113-pound bracket.

BOYS THIRD, GIRLS 9TH AT STATE BOWLING

The Siuslaw boys and girls bowling teams competed in the annual state bowling championship tournament held at KingPin Lanes in Portland Feb. 25 and 26.

The Vikings were among the 32 best teams from around the state, with 16 teams competing in both the girls and boys divisions.

In Saturday's qualifying round, each team bowled 24 baker games before returning at 7:30 a.m. Sunday to bowl six additional games to decide the seeding for the double elimination semi-finals. After the 30 games, the Viking boys team was the No. 12 seed and the girls team landed the No. 4 seed headed into the finals.

The Lady Vikings started the double elimination tournament by bowling 12th-seeded McKay High School. A narrow, 2-pin loss by Siuslaw put the girls team into the consolation bracket for a chance at third place.

Meanwhile, the boys opened the double elimination round against district rival North Bend. The Vikings were able to avenge a tough district loss to the Bulldogs by defeating them in the finals.

In the second round of competition for the Lady Vikings decisively defeated Oregon City by 19 pins, earning them a chance back into the finals. To do that, they first needed to beat No. 1 seed Henley.

Unfortunately, Siuslaw was stung by the Hornets, who went on to win the state title.

The Lady Viks finished 9th overall.

Siuslaw managed a second consecutive win over the Bulldogs, which advanced Siuslaw into a two-game matchup with South Medford.

After losing the first game, the Vikings were able to overcome a deficit for the win and a rematch with rival McNary for third place.

Again the Vikings had to overcome a deficit after the first game but made a big charge in the game two to bring home the third place trophy.

SIUSLAW CORNERED BY CUBS IN FINAL GAME

The Vikings came into last Friday's state play-in game looking for a shot at redemption against a team that had narrowly defeated them in pre-season play, as well as a shot at reaching the state playoffs for the first time in nearly a decade with a win over the visiting Cubs.

The Vikings nearly matched the Cubs point-for-point in the second period, posting 12 points to Newport's 13, the Viks entered the second half with a 9-point deficit after the Cubs drained a 3-pointer at the halftime buzzer.

The third quarter belonged to the Cubs, who outscored Siuslaw 18-8 for a 45-26 lead heading into the final period.

Though the Vikings had the advantage with freethrow attempts after Newport quickly racked up fouls, Siuslaw only went 17-of-28 from the line. That, combined with 12-of-38 from the field, kept the Vikings from finding traction against Newport — which went on to win it, 58-41.

Despite the loss, it was Siuslaw's most successful season in seven years. Under first-year coach Dylan Perry, the Vikings were 10-14 overall, compared to 1-21 just a year ago.

SEVEN VIKS NAMED TO ALL-LEAGUE

The Far West League announced its top basketball players as voted on by league coaches.

A total of seven Vikings between Siuslaw's boys' and girls' teams were recognized for their efforts this season.

For the Viking boys, junior Trent Reavis had the top honors by being named to the league's First Team roster.

Making the Second Team was junior Kyle King, with Honorable Mention given to senior Brogan Cornish and juniors Jared Brandt and Jake Hickson.

Brandt was also named to the All-Defensive Team.

Lady Viking seniors Destinie Tatum and Abby Watkins each received Honorable Mention nods.

SHS GRAD IN PAC-12 SPOTLIGHT

By the time Jake Thompson left the mound after Saturday's win over Arizona State, the Oregon State University pitcher and Siuslaw High School graduate had left 10 batters swinging at the air.

It was a career record for Thompson, whose performance drew the attention and accolades of the Pac-12 by being named a Player of the Week.

APRIL

SAILORS SWEEP HOME MEET
It wasn't your typical meet as athletes from Eddyville, Alsea and Mapleton competed at the first —

and if all goes well, the last — Mapleton Lack of Lane Lines Spectacular, a.k.a Mapleton 300 on Tuesday.

Since having the track resurfaced back in September, Mapleton High School athletic director Aaron Longo has needed three consecutive days of sunshine in order for the resurfacing to be dry enough to paint.

"And we're still waiting," said Longo, who renamed the event and moved forward with the meet — minus any track events except for the 1,500 meters and 3,000 meters.

Something else made Thursday's meet one-of-a-kind: The hammer throw, which is a field event that hasn't occurred in Mapleton for more than two decades.

Fittingly, the Sailors swept the event, as well as the entire meet, with Sailor boys and girls teams scoring 50 points each.

HUFF PICKED TO WRESTLE ON RUSSIAN MATS THIS SUMMER

Siuslaw junior Richard Huff placed second in the Oregon State Junior Freestyle wrestling competition in Cottage Grove on April 22, then went on to place third in the Oregon Junior Greco-Style competition the next day — high achievements in two fields of the nation's best wrestlers from all classifications.

"It was literally some of the best competition in the nation, wrestling each other regardless of classification," said Siuslaw wrestling coach Neil Wartnik. "Ricky mowed through the competition on his way to the top two and three."

In the freestyle competition, Huff opened the 120-pound competition with a 17-6 win by technical fall over Gavin Sherrill, then beat Jacob Whitehead of Silverton High School in just 2:13 by fall.

That advanced Huff into the championship round against 6A state champion Hunter Sparks of Roseburg.

"Richard met his match there," said Wartnik. "He took some risks that he couldn't capitalize on."

Huff lost 10-0 for second place overall.

The next day, he returned to the mats for the Greco-Style competition, a style Huff hadn't competed in since he was 10 years old.

Still, Huff managed to battle back from an early loss and into consolation, where he faced Sparks once again but fell short — but still high enough to finish third in the 120-pound division.

Huff's performance this season has qualified him for the Junior Nationals in Fargo, N.D. this summer.

MAY THOMPSON NAMED NATION'S 'TOP PITCHER' FOR APRIL

Oregon State University red-shirt junior Jake Thompson was named the nation's Pitcher of the Month for April on Monday by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA).

Thompson, who improved to 10-0 yesterday in his first start in May, went 4-0 in April, allowing just a 0.71 earned run average (ERA). He earned two of his wins in rubber games, and held opponents to three runs, 22 hits and nine walks while striking out 35 in 38 innings over five starts.

The award is his second major honor over the last week. On Thursday, Thompson was named as one of three Oregon State players to the CoSIDA Academic All-District 8 team.

2017 SIUSLAW HOF INDUCTEES ANNOUNCED

The public is invited to attend the 7th annual Siuslaw High School Hall of Fame induction ceremony, which will be held Friday, Aug. 18, at Three Rivers Casino and Hotel.

The 2017 Siuslaw Hall of Fame inductees are:

- The late Ray Hines (Class of 1948)
- Dick Hoberg (Class of 1968)
- Rich Ross (Class of 1984)
- Kelli Lang (Class of 1985)
- David Brackney (Class of 1991)
- Ricky Lowe (Class of 1994)
- Deacon Perkins (District Staff & Coach)
- 1983 and 1984 Girls State Champions 4x100 relay team of Kelli (Lang) Hagen, Tammy (Courtney) Johnson, Terri Gortler and Shelly (Smith) Conro.

• 1967 Boys mile relay team of Bob Hylton, Everett May, Greg Wells and Larry Ulrich.

SAILORS LAND EIGHT SPOTS AT STATE

The Sailors we at McKenzie High School over the weekend, where they competed with nine other schools in the Mountain West District to earn spots at this week's 1A state meet.

When the final timer stopped, the Sailors had qualified for eight events at state.

Perhaps no one's performance was more inspiring than senior Tyler Packebush, who came into the meet after four days of sickness and the loss of more than 10 pounds.

In spite of a queasy stomach, he finished second in two events, qualifying him for state in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 19.06 and in the pole vault at 9-0.

The winning vault was 9-6, a height Packebush had easily cleared earlier this season.

In the javelin, junior Tanner Wilson threw for the win at 128-02, then placed second in the discus at 99-09 on his final throw.

Freshman Nathen Roane also advanced to state, landing a person best on his last throw in the javelin at 121-10 for second place behind Wilson.

For the girls, senior Josi Hays swept the throws category, winning the shot put (30-07), discus (89-10) and javelin (94-07), advancing to state in all three events.

"Four athletes competing in eight events at state isn't bad for a school our size," said Longo.

SIUSLAW SENDING NINE TO STATE MEET

After two days of Far West District track and field competition at Frank Shriver Field in North Bend, nine Vikings had either thrown or run their way into qualifying for this weekend's Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) 4A state meet in Eugene.

On the track, senior distance runner Jack Pickell finished second in the 3,000 meters (9:33.51) to qualify, while fellow senior Clark Hooper claimed the title in the 110-meter hurdles (16.20) and

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