



A look back through the calendar as we revisit the top sports stories through highlights of 2017

By NED HICKSON
Siuslaw News

JANUARY

SIUSLAW BOWLERS ROLL TO TOP

Despite the challenge of bitter weather conditions, Siuslaw's bowling teams were on the lanes Saturday in Florence and North Bend, with the varsity boys away and the girls and varsity 2 boys at home.

"With the bad weather, the turnout was light at both tournaments but everyone still competed very well," said Dusty Anderson, manager of Holiday Bowl in Florence and bowling teams' coordinator.

In North Bend, the varsity boys took second place to the best Bulldogs. In Florence, both the varsity girls and JV 2 boys team took first place.

VIKS SIXTH AT LUTZ INVITATIONAL

Of the four Far West League teams on the mats during Saturday's 21-team Nick Lutz Memorial Invitational, the Vikings placed first, and sixth overall.

"It is one of our biggest meets in terms of the number of teams that participated," Siuslaw coach Neil Wartnik said on Saturday, "and our wrestlers are really battling well."

Leading that battle were Richard Huff (120 lbs.), Scott Simmons (138 lbs.), Kainan Lane (285 lbs.), and Nick Steinman (170 lbs), each of whom placed at the invitational, which included teams ranging in size from Sheldon to Triangle Lake.

Huff improved to 19-3 for the season after going undefeated at 3-0, pinning his way past Jaeson Jones of Sutherlin, Ezra Haddy of Junction City and Landen Timeus of Gold Beach.

SIUSLAW FALLS TO BROOKINGS, SHARES FOURTH PLACE IN FWL

The Lady Vikings were the first to score in Saturday's basketball game at Glenn Butler Court, with senior Brittany Long snagging a steal for a quick layup.

But Brookings-Harbor answered quickly, draining a 3-pointer that would be the first of nine for the Bruins before the final buzzer.

With four minutes left in the quarter, Siuslaw senior Destinie Tatum tied things at 8-8, which would be the closest the Lady Viking would get.

Two more 3-pointers in the quarter by the Bruins left Siuslaw trailing by 6 heading into the second quarter, with Brookings extending its lead to 34-22 by the half.

The Lady Vikings got solid scoring and rebounding from sophomore Madison Reynolds and junior Marika White in the third quarter, giving Siuslaw more possessions, but the Lady Bruins' ability to hit 3-pointers negated any momentum Siuslaw was able to build.

Although freshman Mia Collins added some spark both offensively and defensively off the bench, the Lady Viks still found themselves down by 20 entering the fourth quarter before falling 53-70.

MAPLETON SPLITS WITH FALLS CITY

On Friday, Mapleton hosted visiting Falls City in a non-league matchup that saw what was arguably one of the best performances of the season from both Sailor teams.

In the girls game, the Lady Sailors held the Mountaineers to just 27 points, finishing the game with just four players and holding Falls City in a tie until the final minute.

"I was proud of the girls because they never quit, even with only four players on the floor," said Mapleton coach Mike Murray, whose team fell, 27-21. "Even though we lost on the scoreboard, it was a moral victory."

Sophomore Haley Wells led with 8 points.

Earlier in the week, the Lady Sailors lost to Lowell and Triangle Lake, but had season-high scoring, including 16 points from Wells against Lowell and 13 points from her against the Lakers.

FEBRUARY

SIUSLAW BOWLERS ROLL ON TO STATE

Siuslaw's bowling teams were on the lanes in North Bend over the weekend, competing at district for a chance to qualify for the state tournament.

The Viking boys bowled 24 games in the qualifying round, finishing as the No. 3 seed among six teams that qualified for the semifinals.

Meanwhile, the Lady Vikings emerged from the opening round as the No. 1 seed. From there, they were among the top three finishers to head into the finals.

In the semifinals, the Viking boys improved to become the No. 2 seed along with Thurston (No. 3) and North Bend (No. 1).

The top three girls teams in the finals with Siuslaw (No. 1) were Willamette (No. 2) and Cottage Grove (No. 3).

In the boys finals, Siuslaw defeated Thurston 417 to 332 after two games, advancing Siuslaw into the championship game against North Bend, where the Bulldogs took the district title, 406 to 362.

Siuslaw's second-place finish qualified the Viking boys for the state tournament.

In the girls finals, the Lady Vikings got a bye in the first match thanks to being seeded at No. 1. In the championship round, Willamette edged Siuslaw by just 4 pins, 290 to 286, for the district title.

Still, the Lady Viks' second-place finish qualified them for state competition.

That same day, the League All Stars were named. Among them were

Second Team honorees from Siuslaw Taryn Larson and Maxine Jones.

Abby Coday was named First Team as well as the League MVP.

For the boys, First Team recognition was given to Neil DeVera, Logan Lindner and Patrick Hill, who was also named League MVP.

In the district tournament, All-District honorees included Taryn Larson, Maxine Jones and Abby Coday, who was also named District Tournament MVP.

FOUR VIKS HEADED TO STATE MATS

When the top wrestlers in the state take to the mats at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland on Feb. 24 and 25, among the names being called out over the echoing loudspeakers will be four members of Siuslaw's wrestling team.

Richard Huff, a junior seeded at No. 1 in the state 4A's 113-pound bracket, along with seniors Kainan Lane (285 lbs.) and Nick Steinman (170 lbs.), and sophomore Riley Jennings (152 lbs.) will have the chance to compete for a state title in each of their weight divisions. Members of the group earned state qualification during last weekend's Special District 3 wrestling tournament at South Umpqua High School, where the top five finishers in each weight class advanced to state.

Huff had one of his closest matches of the season during the championship round, defeating Marshfield's Frankie Harlow with a narrow 6-5 decision for the district title. The junior pinned his first two opponents, Jonah Kugler of Mazama and Oscar Baza of Henley, in 25 seconds and 40 seconds, respectively.

At 285 pounds, Lane defeated Jared Remington of South Umpqua by pin in 1:30 to open the meet, then fell to Cameron Hankins of Mazama, 5-2. Lane then went on to win his next two matches, including a pin over Ishmael DeLaTorre of Phoenix (3:20) in the match for third and fourth place.

Steinman, wrestling at 170 lbs., lost his first match by pin, then came back to win his next three matches, including against Jon Zebadua of Brookings-Harbor, with a pin in 2:13. In the match for third and fourth place, Steinman was pinned by Alonzo Nalls of Brookings-Harbor in 58 seconds.

At 152 pounds, Jennings won his opener against Hidden Valley's Tommy Mintey, 9-8, but lost his second match. He went on to pin Joey Wilson of Phoenix (4:34) before losing a slim 5-4 decision in the battle for third and fourth place in a close rematch with Mintey.

Viking freshman Matthew Horrillo (285 lbs.) was eliminated during consolation on Saturday, while seniors Eyrza Abbas Carrasco (120 lbs.), Joaquin Cervantes (138 lbs.) and Jesus Sierra (145 lbs.) were each eliminated during Friday's round of competition.

SAILORS ON COURSE FOR STATE

In an all-or-nothing situation on the road at Eddyville Monday night, the Mapleton boys basketball team managed an upset win to secure a spot at the state tournament. Leading the upset was senior guard Hunter Simington, who had a career-high 32 points in the game, along with 6 rebounds, 3 assists, 4 steals and 2 blocked shots.

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Siuslaw News Sports & Recreation

Huff picked to wrestle on Russian mats this summer

Siuslaw junior Richard Huff will wrestle this summer in Russia as part of a cultural exchange program.

Huff, who wrestles for Siuslaw, will spend the summer in Russia competing in the Russian Open and the Russian Cup. Huff is one of the top wrestlers in the state and is expected to represent Siuslaw at the international level.

Clear sailing

Mapleton senior Tyler Fickelbach had a season-best vault to win Thursday's competition at 11 feet.

Fickelbach, who competes in the 110-pound class, won the vault with a score of 11.00, which was a season-best for him. He also placed second in the pommel horse and third in the rings.

On the Bite

A WEEKLY FISHING REPORT FOR THE LOCAL REGION

NORTH COAST LAKES: The 2017 trout season was a success for anglers in the North Coast region. Trout were abundant in the lakes and streams, and many anglers reported catching several fish. The season was particularly good for anglers who were looking for a challenge, as the trout were in good shape and were difficult to catch.

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SAILORS LAND WIN AT HOME

The Siuslaw boys basketball team won their home opener against North Bend, 45-35. The team was led by senior guard Hunter Simington, who scored 25 points. The team's defense was also strong, holding North Bend to just 35 points.

Beachgoers: remember that springtime seal pups need space

As the weather warms up, beachgoers should be aware of the need to give seal pups space. Seal pups are born in the spring and are very vulnerable to human contact. Beachgoers should avoid touching or feeding seal pups, as this can harm them.

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ATHLETES OF THE YEAR 2017

The Siuslaw Athletic Association has announced the winners of the 2017 Athletes of the Year awards. The winners are:

- Male Athlete of the Year: Trent Reaviss
- Female Athlete of the Year: Celie Mans

The awards ceremony was held at the Siuslaw High School gymnasium on Friday night. The winners were presented with their awards by the Siuslaw Athletic Association members.

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HAPPY SPRING!

We just received the first quarter 2017 greater Florence residential market review from Taxfix Adab. This last quarter, compared with other first quarters, had the highest number of homes sold since 2005. The amount of homes sold was 91, with 61 pending sales. The mean sales price was \$219,948, the median sales price was \$203,000 and the average month's supply was 4.28. If you would like more detailed information, give me a call. Now's the time to list your home!

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