

Siuslaw News Sports & Recreation

On the Bite

A WEEKLY FISHING REPORT FOR THE LOCAL REGION

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TAKE THE FAMILY FISHING

ODFW sponsors over 30 free Family Fishing Events throughout the state during spring, early summer and fall. At these events, ODFW staff and volunteers will be there to show you how to bait a hook, cast a rod, and land a fish.

See **FISHING 3B**



PHOTOS BY CHANTELE MEYER AND MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

Wednesday, the final remnants of the original Hans Petersen Memorial Field off of Quince Street were demolished as excavators from Earth Works Excavation brought down the iconic bleachers structure.

Going... going... gone

Saying goodbye to the last signs of the first Hans Petersen Field



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY NED HICKSON IN 2001/SIUSLAW NEWS

On Oct. 5, 2001, the original Hans Petersen Field celebrated its 50th anniversary. It also marked the final season of the iconic field. A special section celebrating the field's history included this photo-illustration showing the very first group of seniors to play on the field in 1951, and the final group of seniors in 2001.

BY NED HICKSON
Siuslaw News

It's been some 17 years since any cheers have echoed across the original Hans Petersen Field located off of Quince Street, below the Florence Events Center.

With its official opening on Oct. 5, 1951, the first group of seniors to take the field included (back row from left) James Faulkner, Dean Small, Jim Wilson, Jack Dante, Richard Swigert, Ronald Harmon, Leon Coit, Bud Miles and Laurie Walker.

The location served as the hub of

Viking football for the next 50 years, its cleat-pocked earth absorbing the sweat, blood and tears of generations of Siuslaw fans and players as they shared moments of both elation and disappointment, defeat and triumph.

In 2001, the final group of seniors — (from left) Brandon Little, John Sims, J. Sandman, Sean Lang and Jordan Stone — gathered on the field the morning of Oct. 5 to commemorate both the field's 50th anniversary and its final season.

The next fall, the field re-opened at its new location, behind Siuslaw Middle School on Oak Street.

Since 2002, remnants of the original field have slowly been relocated, removed or torn down, leaving the iconic structure that once housed the bleachers as the only reminder of the field's long history.

Wednesday, that reminder disappeared as excavators turned the structure into a pile of twisted metal and old lumber.

What follows is a look back at the 50th anniversary special section that appeared in the Oct. 10, 2001 edition of the Siuslaw News...

See **FIELD OF MEMORIES 2B**

Time Out

BY LLOYD LITTLE
Retired teacher, coach and game official

(With more than 55 years as an athlete, coach, official, parent and spectator, I've gained some insights and perspectives regarding athletics. In this weekly column, I share what I've learned about sports from these multiple points of view.)

WIND AND RAIN

As you might imagine, wind and rain can have an impact on sports. In the fall football and cross country seasons, individual performances are hindered by either.

Other than team travel, winter sports are seldom affected by weather. In 1980, at Myrtle Point High School, there was a change of gyms due to the varsity gym leaking during a rain storm. The game was completed in its middle school gym.

The spring is when rain creates havoc with baseball and softball games due to rain delays and rain-outs that require rescheduling.

Some individual events in track, such as pole vaulting, can be cancelled for the safety of the athletes.

Wind can change the direction of flight for baseballs, softballs and golf balls.

In contrast, events in track can either benefit or

See **LITTLE 3B**

SPORTS

Calendar

- **APRIL 7**
• SHS TRACK & FIELD
JUNCTION CITY INV.
AT J. CITY
10 A.M.
- **APRIL 10**
• SHS TRACK & FIELD
AT SHS (JV)
4 P.M.
- SHS BASEBALL
AT MARSHFIELD
5 P.M.
- SHS SOFTBALL
HOSTS MARSHFIELD
5 P.M.
- **APRIL 12**
• MHS TRACK & FIELD
AT CROW
4 P.M.

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