

Little from 1B

and stereotyping. Many Oregon high schools were allowed to keep their name but changed their mascots. My alma mater, the Warrenton Warriors, removed the warrior statue; made of more than 200 smaller Warriors welded together and dedicated in 1970, my graduation year. They are now represented with a spear and feathers. The Marcola Indians, located near Eugene, are now known as the Mustangs. Many other high schools have made similar changes to their Native American mascots.

Many schools and other sports teams use animals as their mascot. When I lived in Hermiston, I was a Bulldog fan. At Pacific University I was a Boxer. In my first teaching job in Spray, Ore. I was an Eagle. Once my four student/athletes graduated from being Siuslaw Vikings, they became an Owl, a Boxer, a Wolf and a Cougar — all mascots of their chosen colleges. Our society is diverse. Selecting mascots to symbolize all the different people is difficult. The origin of mascots is meant to build unity by focusing on the positive behavioral features of each mascot. When I think of lions, tigers and bears, I find myself somewhere over a rainbow facing dangerous animals. As a sport mascot, each of these animals represent a physicality that athletes may relate to in the sports arena, regardless of whether that athlete is female or male.

That being said, high schools across the nation are being challenged for the use of gender-specific mascots. Mapleton High School, for example, has been in the news because it is considering changing its mascot, “Salty the Sailor.” When, how or if they alter their mascot will soon be decided. A new high school in Lexington, Ky., was going for a stallion mascot, representing the impact of the horse industry in Kentucky. But a petition was circulated so the mascot would show more consideration for female students. The Stevenson High School Patriots, in Washington, redesigned their mascot to be gender neutral. Wizard the Lizard, the mascot of Truckee Meadows Community College has been identified as a gender-neutral mascot. I asked my three daughters about their association with being a Siuslaw Viking. Without hesitation they were — and are still — proud to be a Siuslaw High School Viking graduate. As a parent of three female athletes and a fan to multiple Viking female athletes over the years, I did not question the femininity of the players. Instead, I recognized their fierce desire to be competitive and to strive to win. They were Vikings in spirit each and every time they represented Siuslaw High School. I can only hope the Oregon Board of Education will distance itself from this issue. Oregon high school graduates need a sense of continuity with their school. Changing names and mascots disturbs the historical significance of alma maters across Oregon. I played as a Warrior and Boxer; I coached Eagles and Vikings, both male and female. And I will remember them as competitors. Go Vikings.

Award from 1B

recognize teams that exhibit exceptional sportsmanship. Last week, the Siuslaw volleyball team received word from OSAA Sportsmanship Committee member Kelly Foster that it had been nominated for its show of sportsmanship. “I am writing to congratulate you on your recent sportsmanship nomination,” Foster said in an email to Siuslaw High School Athletic Director Chris Johnson. “In a recent contest, your program [volleyball] exhibited great qualities that the OSAA looks for in teams, pro-

grams and communities across the state — and your game official noticed!” Foster went on to explain that the Sportsmanship Award is a recognition program that gives officials the opportunity to highlight the positive sportsmanship they see on the court as a way to encourage schools to make visiting teams, coaches, spirit squads and officials feel like welcome, valued guests. “I think it’s great that the student athletes representing us are making a positive impression on officials and also being an example of sportsmanship for everyone,” said Johnson. When informed of the nomination, Siuslaw volleyball coach Jon Hornung said he was particularly pleased because it underscored a goal that the team had coming into the season. “We knew that starting a new league was going to be tough because the level of competition was going to increase greatly,” he said. “We also saw it as a chance to remake our image and raise the level of respect we had for officials and the other teams in our league.” Hornung said he and his team had some “less than pleasant” experiences last season with officials and other

schools. “We really wanted to change that this year,” said Hornung. “We set expectations high in the beginning of the season about how we treated officials and other teams, and the girls stepped up in a big way.” The impact of that attitude had almost immediate results, according to Hornung. “Stepping into a gym this year and having officials smile and wave when they saw us was a huge improvement from years past,” he said. “We hope it can help improve the climate surrounding officials. “Because without them, it would be tough to have a season.” The final announcement of the Sportsmanship Award winner will be released at the end of the high school sports season in June.

Fishing from 1B

and bobber fishing with bait. Sea-run cutthroat will begin entering the lower river later this month and into the fall. These fish are very aggressive, respond well to flies and lures, and can be up to 20-inches long. **SALMON RIVER:** *Cutthroat trout, fall Chinook* Fall Chinook fishing on the Salmon river/bay opened Aug. 1, expect numbers of fall Chinook entering the bays and estuaries to increase later in the month and into September. Best techniques include trolling herring/spinners and bobber fishing with bait. **SILETZ RIVER:** *Steelhead, cutthroat trout, fall Chinook* Fall Chinook fishing on the Siletz river/bay opened Aug. 1, a few fish are being caught but it has been slow. Expect numbers of fall Chinook entering the bays and estuaries to increase later in the month and into October. Best techniques include trolling herring/spinners and bobber fishing with bait. Sea-run cutthroat will begin

entering the lower river later this month and into the fall. These fish are very aggressive, respond well to flies and lures, and can be up to 20-inches long. **SALMON RIVER:** *Cutthroat trout, fall Chinook* Fall Chinook fishing on the Salmon river/bay opened Aug. 1, expect numbers of fall Chinook entering the bays and estuaries to increase later in the month and into September. Best techniques include trolling herring/spinners and bobber fishing with bait. **SILETZ RIVER:** *Steelhead, cutthroat trout, fall Chinook* Fall Chinook fishing on the Siletz river/bay opened Aug. 1, a few fish are being caught but it has been slow. Expect numbers of fall Chinook entering the bays and estuaries to increase later in the month and into September. Best techniques include trolling herring/spinners and bobber fish-

Independent and Here to Stay!
Your Florence Sears is not affected
by Sears Holdings bankruptcy



685 Hwy 101, Florence • 541-997-3273



Let Paul show you a new car or truck.
Stop by today!

JOHNSTON

MOTOR COMPANY



2150 Hwy. 101 • Florence
(541) 997-3475 • 1-800-348-3475





Life's more fun without ATM fees.

Spend what you earn on what you love.
Switch to Banner Bank Connected Checking®.
Use any ATM in the country, and we'll refund the fees.



 No-Fee ATMs

 Mobile Banking
with Snapshot Deposit®

 No Monthly
Service Charge

Unlimited surcharge rebates from non-Banner-owned ATMs in the U.S.

Member FDIC