

YIR from 2B

Bay, Alaska, while saving the lives of two co-workers.

Howell is the subject of a chapter in recently published book "The History of Siuslaw High School Football: A Tradition of Excellence" written by SHS alumni Don Hunt, who introduced the next inductee, Jim Weber — who also graduated in 1964 and played on the same football team with Howell.

Weber, who spoke from his seat at a special table with family and friends, joked that Hunt's speech "was longer than my high school career," which drew laughter from the room.

He then added, "I'm glad and very proud to be a part of leaving behind a legacy of expectancy."

Others honored by induction included:

Kenon (Scanlon) Neal, Class of 1984; Stephanie (Vavich) Henderson, Class of 1989; John Condie, Class of 1991; Travis Knabe, Class of 1994; and long-time cheerleading coach Diane Conlee, who coached three teams to the state championship in 1991, 1992 and 1993.

The evening ended with the recognition of three teams of cheerleaders from 1991 through 1993, each of which won state titles in those years.

Among those honored were:

1991 — Tracy (Weeks) Brown, Erica (Sanders) DeBois, Mary Girard-Anderson, Kim Murphy, Dawnielle Anderson, Lisa Patterson and Cari Maxwell.

1992 — Emily (Harline) Head, Amy Summerfelt, Shannon (Johnson) Vavich, Brown, Murphy, DeBois and Anderson.

1993 — Tanya (Church) Eckroth, Emily (Clark) Parmenter, Amy Durbin, Karen Ellison, Kathy Grange, Julie Gray and Head.

Siuslaw fields first soccer team (Sept. 22)

With the success of the Siuslaw Youth Soccer Association (SYSA) over the past few years, and with numbers growing to well over 100 players each season, it was only a matter of time before that popularity would translate into the Vikings fielding a high school team. As of last September, that time had come. Fourteen players — 12 boys and two girls — took the field for the first time to represent Siuslaw on the soccer pitch as they faced Sutherlin's boys junior varsity team.

Though the crowd was relatively small, Siuslaw co-coach Nyra Campbell said, "The team was excited to play and the nerves showed a bit in the first half." It took a full 31 minutes of play before the first goal was scored, when the Bulldogs were able to get past Siuslaw's defense and launch a kick into the far post corner along the ground.

"The team settled into the game after that and played the way we know they can," said co-coach Londi Tomaro.

Strong defense at both ends of the field continued for a good portion of the second half, creating a virtual stalemate until late in the match when senior forward Zoe Leech lined up for penalty kick. Moments earlier, freshman forward Casey Adams had taken a hard

knock while attempting to score from the penalty box.

Leech was sent in to kick for Adams, placing the kick into the left side of the net to tie the game at 1-1.

"Once the team felt the rush of adrenaline from scoring a goal, they really put their all into it," said Campbell.

Siuslaw's defense went into high gear, dominating the Sutherlin offense for the remaining 8 minutes of play and holding the Bulldogs scoreless to end the match in a tie.

Campbell said she and Tomaro were pleased with the team's debut and are excited to get back on the field for competition Oct. 1 at North Bend.

"Although we didn't win, it felt like a victory for the team. The players are excited to work toward the next contest," said Campbell.

Though the Siuslaw team is technically an Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) boys JV team, rules allow female players to compete on the team as well.

Because schedules for OSAA-sanctioned contest are made at least a year in advance, Siuslaw will compete in non-league JV games through this and probably next fall, with the potential of joining regular league schedule in 2020.

This season's Viking roster includes:

Seniors: Zoe Leech at midfield and forward, Kaeli Ramos at midfield, Hannah Freudenthal at defense; juniors: Caleb Hennessee at goalkeeper and defense, Matthew Hubbard at forward, Ramiro Ramirez at forward, sophomores: Jacob Lloyd at defense, Sonny Stillwell-Coverdale at defense, Jaxson Jensen at midfield; freshmen: Imanol Pelayo at forward and midfield, Cassandra Dietrich at defense, Casey Adams at forward, Jerrel Brumley at

defense, Jason Garcia at mid-field, goalkeeper.

Siuslaw, Mapleton crown Homecoming royalty (Oct. 10 and 17)

During halftime of last year's homecoming football games at Siuslaw and Mapleton in mid-October, students and parents of both schools were on hand for the announcement of homecoming courts for 2018.

Siuslaw's homecoming court included: Freshman royalty included Hayden Muller and Henry Muller; sophomores Savannah Morris and Liam McClellan; juniors Bryn Clement and Brandon Jensen; and the 2018 queen and king, seniors Kaitlyn Snook and Ethan Hack.

Mapleton's homecoming royalty included: Freshmen Levi Torrence and Brier Shird; sophomores Robbie Burnett and Jordan Simington; juniors Cody Sovrens and Trinity Holmes; and seniors Jade Starlight, Baileigh Johnston, Eric Hayes, Brittany Wilson, Evan Moso and Erin Michael.

The 2017 homecoming queen and king, Alexis Gierki and Dominic Wells, were on hand to crown this year's king and queen.

Lady Viks XC second at state, boys eighth (Nov. 7)

After securing a trip to state with a second-place finish by both Siuslaw cross country teams at the Sky-Em League district title meet, the Viking boys and girls were on the 5,000-meter course at Lane Community College on Saturday for the OSAA state 4A meet last November. With sun breaks, cool temperatures and no wind, rac-

ing conditions were near perfect for runners from all 12 teams competing for state titles.

For the girls team, which returned six of its seven runners from last year's team that finished fifth at state, it was an opportunity to capitalize on its experienced line-up for a higher finish this year. Siuslaw made the most of that opportunity, finishing with two runners in the top 15 and five in the top 30 to secure second place — just four points away from overtaking Marist for the state title.

Junior Hannah Rannow had Siuslaw's highest individual finish, running a time of 19:02 for fourth place, which was an improvement of more than 1 minute over her 2017 time (20:12). Sophomore Brea Blankenship had the Lady Viks' second-highest finish, placing 15th overall with a time of 20:16, followed by freshman Rylee Colton in 22nd (20:33), junior Chloe Madden in 25th (20:44) and fellow junior Anne Wartnik finishing Siuslaw's scoring in 30th place with a time of 20:44. Gracie Freudenthal, a sophomore, was 41st (21:38) and senior Naomi Shoji finished 45th in 21:47.

Tillamook junior Solace Bergeron, the defending state title holder, claimed her second consecutive title, trimming 14 seconds off of last season's winning time, finishing in 18:30 for the 2018 title.

In the boys race, juniors led the way for Siuslaw, beginning with Brendon Jensen's time of 17:15 for 25th place overall. Kiger Johnson was the next Viking to cross the finish line and 38th overall in 17:41, followed by Jonah Jarman in 17:57 for 39th place.

Sophomore Ryan Jennings was the fourth to score for the Vikings, placing 56th in 18:08, and senior

Robert Mans was the final scorer, finishing 58th with a time of 18:09. Junior Jared Northrop didn't score but ran a season's best time of 18:26 and 64th place, and freshman Chad Hughes finished with a time of 18:42 for 71st place.

Marist won the state title with 54 points.

Neece named to All-State football roster (Dec. 19)

When the Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) released the names of players recognized for the 2018 1A Football All-State Roster, among them was Mapleton's JJ Neece.

The sophomore linebacker and quarterback was one of only two underclassmen included on the list of juniors and seniors from 1A teams throughout the state. In addition to leading the Sailors in scoring and tackling, Neece entered the 1A 8-man football record books last fall during the team's 70-54 win over Oakridge. The 6-foot-2, 200-lb. Neece rushed for 484 yards and eight touchdowns on 26 carries against the Warriors. He also completed 4-of-6 passes and scored six 2-point conversions for the Sailors.

Neece's 484-yard total ranks sixth on the all-time list, and his eight rushing touchdowns ties him for No. 4 on the all-time list.

In the first four games of the season, Neece had already rushed for more than 1,100 yards and had 17 touchdowns.

Defensively, he chalked up more than 100 tackles — including 14 in the game against Oakridge.

Neece's performance as a linebacker earned him Honorable Mention on this year's OSAA 1A All-State roster for 8-man football.

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