

Little from 1B

Minnesota Vikings; I watched his ability to scramble, along with Roger Staubach of the Dallas Cowboys. When my varsity years as quarterback at Warrenton High School ended with only six victories in three years — and throwing 29 interceptions my senior year — I felt like I failed my role models. I needed to look elsewhere.

Parents, relatives, teachers, coaches, athletes and friends have each contributed to my character development throughout my lifetime. These individuals continue to reinforce my values even though I have not seen or heard from some of these people in years. Even though this is a sports column, sports is by no means the only influence on making me the person I am today.

My mother was brave enough to leave my dad in the late 1950s and take my sis-ter, brother and I hundreds of miles to live with my Grandma Shoey. Grandma Shoey welcomed us into her 8-foot-by-40-foot trailer. For the next five years she slept on the couch giving up her own bed.

Her sacrifice and love of family is with me to this day. One sentence spoken by my step-father to my bro-

er and I became a lifelong lesson. He said, "If you see something that needs to be done, do not wait for someone else to do it." This simple life philosophy is one I have lived with and passed on to my children. Admittedly, this also means my wife sometimes needs to tell me to stop trying to do too much. There is a saying: When you need someone to help you, ask a busy person. I was often that person.

From my eight-and-under swimming and diving coach in Hermiston, to my varsity baseball coach at Pacific, I have had no less than 20 coaches in my life. Did each of these coaches have an impact on me?

Yes. But several coaches were there for just one season and their impact was minimal in my overall personality formation. They did have many diverse coaching philosophies, and from

these variable philosophies I was able to pick and choose the ones most beneficial to my development as a person and coach.

If you are a parent, teacher, coach or other adult in the life of a young person, remember you have a responsibility to the young ones looking up to you for guidance.

Make the right choices for their sake if not your own.

Next week: Part II

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Fishing from 1B

bait/jigs, drift fishing, and casting lures are good techniques to catch a Siuslaw winter steelhead.

Trout fishing in streams will reopen May 22, 2019.

ALSEA RIVER: *Winter steelhead*

Winter steelhead fishing has slowed down on the Alsea with the low and clear water conditions. Numbers entering the Alsea hatchery trap have slowed down as well.

A few fish are still being caught everyday but it will improve with the next shot of rain. The extended fore-

casts look cold and dry which will continue to the low and clear conditions.

These conditions slow migration and congregate the fish that are trying to move upriver in the lower portions of the Alsea River. There is an old saying "when the water is low fish low, when the water is high fish high."

Smaller presentations and lighter line will work best in the lower water conditions.

The numbers of later returning right maxillary clipped fish should increase with each rain event for the rest of February through March. The earlier returning left maxillary clipped fish are past peak and will continue to decrease for the rest of the season.

The Alsea still gets a good amount of the early returning stock that peaks in December and January, as well as a later stock that peaks in February and March.

Expect more fish to show up with each rise in the river level from now through April. Bobber fishing with jigs/bait, drift fishing, and casting lures are all effective ways to catch these hard fighting fish.

Trout fishing in streams will reopen May 22, 2019.

SALMON RIVER: *Winter steelhead*

Winter steelhead will continue to enter the Salmon River system through the month of February as the later returning wild fish start to show up from now through March. The Salmon River has no hatchery releases and is entirely a wild run. These fish will start to enter the system in December but the peak is January through March. Bobber fishing with jigs/bait and casting lures are great techniques to catch a Salmon River winter steelhead.

Trout fishing in streams will reopen May 22, 2019.

SILETZ RIVER: *Winter steelhead*

Winter steelhead continues to be fair on the Siletz. The low and clear water conditions have slowed migration and made the fishing more challenging.

A mix of hatchery and wild fish are still being caught everyday by boaters and bank anglers. With the extended forecast showing no signs of considerable rain, expect more of the same conditions for the next week.

The numbers of wild and hatchery fish should continue to improve, as we get closer to the peak of the run in February and March.

Anglers are starting to catch more wild fish in the basin as well, remember to handle these wild fish with care and immediately release them back into the river. January is typically when things heat up and continue through March/April.

Side drifting, bobber dogging, bobber fishing with jigs, and casting lures are all great techniques to catch winter steelhead.

Trout fishing in streams will reopen May 22, 2019.

The 4.0 mile bridge (aka Steel Bridge) in the Siletz gorge is open to motorized vehicles, but is only open to public vehicles on the weekend. Anglers can walk/bike in the road during the weekdays. If anglers do walk in they can park at the one mile gate and start from there.

WILSON RIVER: *Steelhead*

The Wilson River has two different hatchery winter steelhead stocks, one of which is early returning, and most prevalent in the lower river. In contrast the broodstock hatchery fish return through mid-April, and should now be throughout the basin. The early returning hatchery stock will be winding down this month, but February and March are prime time for broodstock hatchery fish and wild steelhead (catch and release only for wilds).

Fishing on the Wilson was good Friday with a little rain, but both the river and the fishing dropped off through the weekend.

It is on the low, clear, and cold side now, but there are fish throughout the basin.

Trout fishing in streams will reopen May 22, 2019.

YAQUINA RIVER: *Winter steelhead*

Winter steelhead are starting to show up in the Yaquina and Big Elk. No hatchery fish are released into the Yaquina/Big Elk so most fish caught are wild. Now through March is the peak for the wild winter steelhead in the Yaquina/Big Elk. Bobber fishing with bait/jigs, drift fishing and casting lures are effective ways to catch these fish.

Trout fishing in streams will reopen May 22, 2019.

TENMILE LAKES: *Trout, coho salmon, warmwater species, largemouth bass*

Trout can be caught year-round at Tenmile Lakes, but fish may not be too aggressive in cold water.

Some holdover trout measure over 17-inches long. Look for fishing on holdover trout to improve in the next few months.

Fishing for largemouth

bass and other warmwater species will slow down in cold weather. Presentations will need to be slow, as fish may be lethargic.

Yellow perch fishing should also pick up in the next few months, with some fish in the 9- to 12-inch range. Look for yellow perch in the deeper mudflats in the lake.

Anglers are using small jigs or a worm on a hook fished near the bottom.

UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: *Winter steelhead*

There some good reports throughout the South. The river is forecasted to drop back into shape and there should be lots of fish in the river.

WINCHESTER BAY: *Bottomfish, perch*

Fishing in the Triangle and South jetty has been successful.

PACIFIC OCEAN and BEACHES: *Bottomfish, salmon, halibut, surfperch*

Bottomfishing has been good when the ocean lays down and anglers have been able to make it out.

Bottomfish anglers may now fish at all depths for the remainder of the year. Fishing for lingcod and rockfish has been good when the ocean is calm enough to fish.

The daily bag limit for marine fish is 5 plus 2 lingcod. The retention of cabezon is closed until July 2019.

Anglers may also choose to fish the offshore longleader fishery outside of the 40-fathom regulatory line, which is open year round. The longleader fishery has a daily bag limit of 10 fish made of yellowtail, widow, canary, redstripe, green-stripe, silvergray, and bocaccio rockfish.

No other groundfish are allowed and offshore longleader fishing trips cannot be combined with traditional bottomfish, flatfish or halibut trips.

Ocean salmon fishing is closed.

• BOTTOM FISHING:

The bottomfish fishery is open at all depths with a General Marine Species bag limit of 5 fish, and a separate lingcod limit of 2 fish. No cabezon may be retained until July 1.

The longleader gear fishery outside of the 40-fathom regulatory line is open all year. Catches often consist of a nice grade of yellowtail, widow and canary rockfishes.

• RAZOR CLAMS

Given the lower than average abundances of razor clams on popular beaches, harvesters will need to actively pound the sand for razor clams to show.

Harvesters should plan to be on the harvest area at least two hours before low tide and focus on sections of the beach that show exposed sand bars as these areas could have more clams showing than other areas.

Reminder that the conservation area closure from the Columbia River to Tillamook Head will stay closed until at least March 1.

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Habitat for Humanity

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Helping Hands Coalition

We are in need of volunteers on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. We need volunteers to serve food, set up for meals and also prepare meals beginning at 11:00 am and finishing at 2:00pm. We are located at New Life Lutheran Church, 2100 Spruce St, next to Foodshare, Call 541-997-5057 to Volunteer

Meals on Wheels and Cafe 60

Meals on Wheels are available to people over the age of 60 who cannot get out much due to illness or advanced age and who are not eating properly, regardless of income. Cafe 60 is available for those who prefer to make new friends in a dining room setting. 1570 Kingwood, PO Box 2313, Florence 541-997-5673 laneseniormeals.org

Oregon Coast Humane Society

relies heavily on volunteers. There are many opportunities to volunteer and a variety of skills and talents are always in need. Volunteer interest forms may be found online, at the shelter and at our Thrift Shop on Bay Street. www.oregoncoasthumane.org/volunteer/

Peace Harbor Volunteers

Join the Peace Harbor Hospital Volunteers, you will find an area of interest in a caring organization. 400 9th Street, Florence 541-997-8412 ext. 2218

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