Little

from 1B

drill and music. We are seeing more and more intrusion into other sport seasons in Florence. These out-ofseason sports activities are stripping some ath-letes from other sport activity. My four children played three sports for four seasons at Siuslaw High School. I am not advocating for all athletes to be multiple sport athletes; I am saying I feel the volleyball clubs and growing soccer organization are pulling athletes from other high school sports seasons.

Florence is not a large community. When well-meaning adults decide to overlap their sports seasons into other high school sport seasons, it limits the number of athletes available for winter and spring pro-

Last year, I watched my grand-son play T-ball; there were only three T-ball teams. When my children played, there were eight T-ball teams.

As I looked around our Miller Park baseball/softball facility, I observed far fewer participants than ever.

Eventually these athletes are going to be in high school. Once there, off-season participation will have some limitations. In addition, they will find their playing time reduced, or their skill level may not allow them to make the team.

When this happens, the athlete may lack the elementary skills in an alternative sport to make another sport

According to the Bureau of Labor statistics, people

change jobs an average of 11 times in their working lives. Failure to acquire secondary labor skills may severely limit job possibilities. In that same way, failure to expand on fundamental athletic skills may limit future athletic possibilities as well.

We should foster the cooperation of sports and stay within the sport seasons designated by the OSAA.

The leadership of our youth owes it to the young athletes to provide positive participation in a variety of activities within the sport-designated seasons.

Fall sports should be played and supported in the fall. If organizations need or desire to expand the participation of a special sport, then summer is a good time.

There is no designated summer sport season for Oregon high schools.

the spotlight

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Baseball

from 1B

with an RBI and a stolen base. Dalton Stinger and Northrop each smacked a single for the Viks' only hits in the game.

Meanwhile, only two of the Bulldogs' 7 runs were earned as Sutherlin took advantage of 5 errors to edge

Siuslaw, 7-5.

"We just made too many mistakes in that first game," said Shinn."

The Viks also struck out 13 times, including four innings with runners on base — and runners in scoring position in three of those innings.

"Putting the ball in play is important," Shinn said. "Put

pressure on the defense to make a play, but when you don't do that you make the game a lot easier for your opponent."

In the nightcap, Sutherlin claimed a 7-0 win in 3-anda-half innings after the game was called due to darkness.

The Viks will be on the road Tuesday at Pleasant Hill, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Track from 1B

with Wilson throwing a PR of 70-01 for sixth place, and Holmes landing 12th at 60-

Freshman Opal Burress cleared 4-02 in the high jump for second place and also took third in the 3,000 meters in a time of 13:37.22.

Shird finished off scoring for the Lady Sailors with a leap of 12-03.75 in the long jump for fourth place.

On the boys' side, sophomore Phillip Burnett had a

pair of third-place finishes on the track, in the 110-meter hurdles (22.17) and 300 hurdles at 58.08 for a new

The Sailors also got a third-place finish from junior Dylan Rogers, who landed a throw of 127-0 in the javelin.

In the races, junior Cody Stevens ran the 100-meter dash in 12.89 for fourth place and junior Nate Neece was ninth in the 200 meters (26.87).

Rogers led the throws with a mark of 35-02.5 in the shot put for sixth place, and Neece was eighth with a throw of 33-04.

In the jumps, sophomore Robert Burnett was fourth in the high jump after clearing 5-0 for a PR; junior Cody Soverns landed a PR in the long jump at 15-09.5 for sixth place.

The Sailors will be back on the track this Thursday, March 21, at the Siuslaw Icebreaker hosted at Hans Petersen Field in Florence, beginning at 3 p.m.













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