

Siuslaw from 1B

After handily beating Marist two Thursdays ago, the Vikings faced tough competition on Tuesday night from Marshfield, who played on Siuslaw’s home court. In a tense game that lasted nearly two hours, the scores hovered at near ties throughout the first two sets, with Siuslaw edging out the

Pirates 23-25 in the first set, and Marshfield getting the win in the second, 25-22. “We played super well in the first set, and we played hard the second set. The ball just didn’t land our way in the second, but we battled,” Hornung said. By the third set, the Vikings seemed to find their stride, “playing scrappy” and bagging a ton of kills for a 25-17

win. “Then the fourth set, I don’t know if it’s they came out stronger or we came out flatter, but we hit a weird point when we just spiraled. They built confidence and we just lost ours. Once that happened, it was almost impossible to come back,” Hornung said. The Viks lost the set 25-17. The lack of confidence seemed to stick in the fifth set as the Pirates came out strong, beating back a mid-set push by the Viks to finish out 15-11. Thursday saw a completely different story as the Viks traveled to Elmira, playing on their senior night, “which is always really awkward,” Hornung said. Generally, after warm up, the visiting team is forced to sit as the schools talk about their

seniors for 15 minutes, but a gracious gesture by the Falcons coach to allow the Viks to warm up in the adjacent gym kept Siuslaw warmed up. Siuslaw came out battling. “We just took it to them,” Hornung said. “We just beat them down, serving hard and swinging hard. They came out excited and punched, but we punched back,” winning the set 25-11. The second and third sets were wins for the Viks as well (25-17, 25-19, respectively), though “I don’t think the final scores reflected how much we were in control. That was frustrating from a coaching perspective, but ultimately going on the road on a senior night and getting a win is big. That really helped cement things for us.”

As of Friday press time, the Viks are ranked 16th going into Saturday’s tournament, which we be held at Marshfield. “Right now, looking strong, as long as we take care of business tomorrow at Marshfield’s tournament, if we get a win or two, that would be great and ensure we get a playoff game,” Hornung said. Who the Viks will play on Saturday is still up in the air, but it’s possible they could end up facing Marshfield for a rematch. “It would be awesome if we go to their tournament and beat them,” Hornung said, pointing out that many of the team’s seniors, such as Mia Collins and Elissa Hurley, started off winning against Marshfield in their freshman year,

but have lost ever since. “We’re old rivals, the kids know each other. It’s always a tough match, but if we win, it would be really awesome for them,” he said. Following Saturday, the Viks will play their last game of the season against Junction City on Tuesday, which will be Siuslaw’s senior night honoring Collins, Hurley and Lindsey Long. Junction City is one of the top-ranked schools in the league, and if the Viks can ride the home crowd senior night wave and grab a win, “that would be a cherry on top,” Hornung said. “If we can win that, we could not only get a playoff game, but maybe even a home playoff game.” Tuesday’s game begins at 6:30 p.m.

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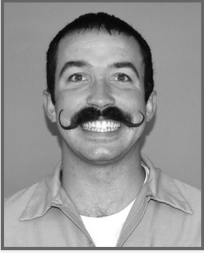
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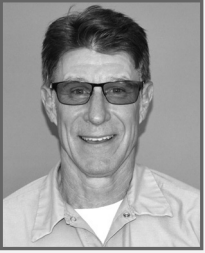


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Sailors from 1B

At its heart, 2019 was a learning season for the Sailors, but the lessons were not lost on the players. “We just kept getting better and better every week,” Dooley said. “I think that, honestly, the only way to go is up. A whole bunch of our team is coming back next year, and we should come

back better and stronger.” Of the 13 players, the lone graduating senior is Daleena Bender, who was honored before the game for senior night. Bender’s favorite volleyball memory was practicing together with the team “because they all have fun and laugh a lot,” and her greatest accomplishment was how well the team played together.

Siuslaw’s Color-a-Thon just around the corner

Siuslaw School District is putting on the third annual Color-a-Thon

Fun Run on Saturday, Nov. 2. Starting from Siuslaw Middle School, the Color-a-Thon will feature a 5K run/walk. “The whole community is invited to come out a get colorful with us,” said Crystal Osburn, who works at Siuslaw Elementary and is heading up this year’s Color-a-Thon planning. “Rain or shine, we’re going to have a color blast!” As participants of the event wind their way through the course, they will be doused in non-toxic color powder, and finish the course looking as if they’ve just run through a rainbow. Funds raised from

Her advice to the rest of the team: Be dedicated, play hard and most importantly, communicate. “She played a great night,” Dooley said, stating that the returning team, which will have a healthy dose of juniors, as well as some new freshman blood, will be “a strong returning team.” It’s a returning team that will have battled

through one of the toughest years in Mapleton volleyball history, kept their head held high and fought through to the very end. “I’m proud of them, coming in, and working their hardest,” said Dooley. “Nobody’s going to find a losing season easy. It’s going to have some hard moments, but they’re working through those with grace. I’m just very proud of them.”

The Color-a-Thon will help provide resources not funded through the school budget. “These ‘extras’ that this fundraising can help provide are intended to enhance academic and physical education for students in an effort to keep kids excited and engaged through all grades,” said Osburn. This year’s event is supported by a number of local business sponsors, including: Aric Sneddon, Coldwell Banker Coast Real Estate; Beauty by Brit at Salon Chic; Best for Hearing; Coast road construction; Dan Lewis Construction LLC; Evergreen Concrete; Florence Eye Clinic; Jawsome

Kids Resale; Johnny’s Construction; Kaimana Bodyworks; Les Schwab Tires; Pest Tech; Recreation Station; River Cities Taxi; Scott Ryland Plumbing; Shervin’s Tire and Automotive; Siuslaw CrossFit; Torex ATV Rentals; and Wildflower Montessori. In addition, donations are being collected by Siuslaw students. Anyone from the community is invited to participate and can pick up a registration packet at Coastal Fitness or Siuslaw Elementary. Pre-register for only \$25 before Oct. 21, or day-of registration will be 30.



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