



Siuslaw News
Sports & Leisure

Sports Calendar

April 20

- SHS Track & Field hosts Sky-Em Inv. 3:30 pm
- SHS Baseball hosts Marshfield 5 pm
- SHS Softball hosts Marshfield 5 pm

April 21

- MHS Track & Field hosts Mapleton Inv. 4 pm

April 23

- SHS Baseball at Marist 3 and 5 pm
- SHS Softball at Marist 3 and 5 pm
- SHS Track & Field Coast Inv. at Siuslaw 4 pm

Tide Tables

Entrance Siuslaw River

High Tide	Low Tide
April 17 3:13am / 6.7 5:09pm / 5.3	10:27am / 0.4 10:04pm / 3.6
April 18 3:52am / 6.4 6:14pm / 5.1	11:18am / 0.6 10:58pm / 3.8
April 19 4:43am / 6.1 7:25pm / 5.1	12:19pm / 0.7
April 20 5:53am / 6.0 8:29pm / 5.3	12:16am / 3.9 1:26pm / 0.7

April 21 7:14am / 5.9 9:20pm / 5.7	1:44am / 3.6 2:29pm / 0.6
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April 22 8:32am / 6.0 10:01pm / 6.1	2:58am / 3.1 3:25pm / 0.4
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April 23 9:39am / 6.2 10:38pm / 6.7	3:57am / 2.2 4:14pm / 0.3
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Siuslaw's influential trio

"[They] will go down as the most influential players to have ever played for this program..."



NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

From left: seniors Christian Newlan, Elijah Blankenship and Skyler Loomis, Each has played for the Viks all four years, including through three coaches and COVID-19.

BY ZEAHNA YOUNG
SIUSLAW NEWS

At the close of this football season, Siuslaw High School honored three seniors who have been with the program for their entire high school careers. Elijah Blankenship, Skyler Loomis and Christian Newlan came into a broken football program, facing coach turnover their first two years playing. The arrival of head coach Sam Johnson brought stability and tradition back, and with it a renewed commitment from Blankenship, Loomis and Newlan. "When I first got the Siuslaw football job," explained Johnson, "I don't think I appreciated just how special this group of seniors were going to be. All three of these young men were born lead-

"Siuslaw football means more than most things in life because it's a family — it's a brotherhood — and it gave me a sense of purpose."

— Siuslaw senior defensive lineman Christian Newlan

ers. They bought into — and trusted — me as a coach, and they bought into and trusted their brothers on this team. "It has changed the culture here completely. They never made excuses and always focused on making those around them succeed." Loomis, who was honored as First Team Linebacker and Honorable Mention Runningback by the 3A Special District #2 North Conference, asserts that "Siuslaw football is a group of hard-working young men who come together to achieve a common goal, not only in football but in life as well." For Loomis, the choice to continue to play football after the first two tough years was based largely on his faith in his teammates. "Even after having terrible seasons both freshman and sophomore year," said Loomis, "we knew that we had a really talented and hard-working group of guys that would make it all worth it in

See TRIO 2B

Viking baseball comes out swinging

BY ZEAHNA YOUNG
SIUSLAW NEWS

After a year of cancelations and great uncertainty, Siuslaw's baseball program is finally back in the game with Season Three (spring) in full swing. Coach Tom Shinn, who is beginning his fourth season with the Viks, was relieved the team would be allowed to proceed with competitions this year. "I'm glad to have [a season] on the horizon," said Shinn. "After last year and having it canceled, I wasn't sure we would have one." Shinn, who is also the school's history and yearbook teacher, discussed the disappointment of last year's season being canceled after having gotten so much going with his team in the pre-season. "OSAA allows you two weeks of pitchers and catchers, and we had done that," explained Shinn. "We were about a week-and-a-half into having team practice when it got shut down. We had games coming up within a week, and it was about a month's worth of practice."

Shinn's first two years in charge of the program were not easy, but in that third year, the team had started to get its groove going. Unfortunately, with the season's cancelation, Shinn was unable to see that entire season of progress unfold. "We've struggled, but we're trying to rebuild some things," admitted Shinn. "Last year, I



NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

After uncertainty over having a season at all, the Vikings took to the field for practices last week and won their home opener against Cottage Grove last Tuesday.

was really looking forward to it. We had a good group of seniors and sophomores coming in that were strong, and then they never got to play. I'm really looking forward to this year being a year that we turn the corner." Another aspect of the season that Shinn has to look forward

to are his returning seniors, who are sharing their fourth year in the program with the coach. "That's what makes this season a little more special for me, explained Shinn. "These are kids that came in with me when

See VIKS 3B

Multiple Siuslaw athletes receive all-league, state honors

At the close of Season Two (fall), Siuslaw athletes in football, volleyball and cross country received recognition for their efforts and accomplishments this season:

SHS Boys Soccer:
First Team All-League:
Jason Garcia — Forward
Second Team All-League:

Jaxson Jensen — Forward
Honorable Mention:
Dylan Jensen — Forward
Daniel Paasch — Def/Mid
Noel Hernandez — Def/Mid

SHS Volleyball:
First Team:
Desiree Tupua
Second Team:

Hayden Muller
Kya Blake
Coach of the Year:
Ashlee Cole

SHS Football:
First Team Offense:
Elijah Blankenship — QB
Camp Lacouture — RB
Braydon Thornton — WR

Rhys Fleming — TE/Flex
Henry Rankin — OL
First Team Defense:
Skyler Loomis — LB
Isaac Garza — DB
Second Team Defense:
Christian Newlan — DL
Camp Lacouture — K and LB
Braydon Thornton — Ret.

See HONORS 2B

Time Out

By Lloyd Little
Retired teacher, coach and game official

With more than 55 years as an athlete, coach, parent and spectator, Lloyd Little has gained some insights and perspectives regarding athletics from his multiple points of view.

Behind the Masks

Wearing masks is intended to reduce the possibility of spreading the COVID 19 virus. We all know by now masks hinder normal breathing. We know this because we immediately pull down our masks when leaving a mask-required building and take a fresh breath of air. It feels good. So, athletes who are wearing masks during practices and competitions must work harder to maintain their performances. In fact, tests administered at the College of Applied Science in Bahrain confirmed this. Athletes wearing masks, while training, showed a decrease

See LITTLE 3B

ODFW REGIONAL FISHING REPORT

www.dfw.state.or.us/RR

MID-COAST LAKES:
Mid-coast lakes are full of trout and the fishing has been good. Many of the lakes have been stocked twice now and several others received stockings in mid-March. Here is a list of the lakes that have been stocked so far this year: Thissel Pond, Cleawox, Munsel, Mercer, Alder, Dune, Buck, Lost, Carter, Devils, Woahink, Elbow, Siltcoos, Eckman, and Big Creek Reservoirs #1 and #2. All of these lakes are scheduled to receive more trout stockings in April as well.

SIUSLAW RIVER:
Winter steelhead
Winter steelhead fishing continues to be slow on the Siuslaw and is slowing down for the season which closed March 31. Trout fishing in streams opens on May 22. Hatchery fish are also planted in Lake Creek and are released into Green Creek. These returning hatchery fish will start to show up in December and peak in January and February. Lake Creek closed to all fishing on March 31 and will open on May 22 for trout fishing.
ALSEA RIVER: Winter steelhead
Winter steelhead fishing continues to be slow on the Alsea. The recent rain improved the conditions and the fishing picked up a bit. Overall, it continues to be slow and the run is winding down for the year as we head into April. Although it has been a slow year there are still fish to be caught in the system

See FISHING 2B