

## North Douglas Mascot Change



PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

By Zach Silva  
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Willy the Warrior is gone. North Douglas High School's mascot that depicted a Native American shooting a bow and arrow is officially gone in accordance with the Oregon Department of Education's 2012 ruling that all

schools with Native American mascots had until July 1, 2017 to rid themselves of these images. Schools had the option of working with tribes to keep the images.

"We decided to go with the removal of the mascot and go mascot-less for the time being," said North Douglas principal Scott Yakovich. "There

are some people who are resistant to change who went to school here and that was there mascot but really it has not been an issue at all. It really has been rather smooth."

During the last week, the school has been finishing up the removal process in accordance with the impending deadline. The biggest part of

the process was removing the logo from the center court of their basketball court. This process cost the school \$25,000. Additionally they had to paint over an image of the logo in the hallway and had to get rid of some basketball and football jerseys.

The school will continue to be the Warriors.

## SUMMER BASEBALL IN COTTAGE GROVE: WINNING OPTIONAL



PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Cottage Grove catches a Marist runner in a pickle in their game last Wednesday.

By Zach Silva  
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When it comes to Cottage Grove High School baseball summer league, coach Dan Geizler is not concerned with how many wins the team gets.

"We work on fundamentals and we don't worry about wins and losses and things like that. We try to get everyone that is here to play," said Geizler.

Summer league came to an end last weekend. There were two teams that Geizler and the baseball staff coached: a D1 and D2 team. The D1 team consisted of sophomores and juniors that were involved in the baseball program last year and the D2 team was made up of incoming eighth graders, fresh-

man and sophomores.

Geizler likes the set-up because it allows the coaches to see the newcomers and for the incoming players to get a feel for what it is like to play at the next level. But regardless of level, Geizler is trying to get everyone to be more aggressive when they are on the diamond.

"If we can feel comfortable being aggressive and making mistakes then the other stuff is going to come," said Geizler. "So many times kids are afraid to make a mistake and we want them to go play free of fear of failure."

With the focus on fun and fundamentals and not on wins and losses the coaches are not sure what their record for the summer is. Assistant coach James Berry stated that he bet that it is "roughly five hundred."

## Athlete of the Week



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAYLES FAMILY



Cottage Grove High School's Wyatt Sayles, who will be a junior next year, is currently playing on the Willamette Valley Titans. This team consists of some of the best 16-19 year olds from around the county. Sayles has been playing at pitcher, second base and outfield.

## Athletic success at North Douglas



By Zach Silva  
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North Douglas had a successful year of sports last school year. Volleyball got second in state, boys basketball earned the two seed in the state tournament and the football team went to the semifinals of the state tournament.

"This year was the best athletic year by far since I've been here," said principal Scott Yakovich who has been at the school for 10 years.

While lots of teams did well not one em-

bodied success quite like the softball team. This year, softball won the state championship which was the school's first championship since the boys basketball team won in 1987.

The team has made playoff runs in the past year but this year was different even if it didn't feel that way at the start of the season.

"We knew they would be competitive and competitive at a high level but to say we were going to win a state title I don't think that anybody would have put money on that at the beginning of the school year," said Yakovich.

Head coach Jesse Rice had similar thoughts.

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