

Local martial artists find success

Ten students from Rogers Family ATA Martial Arts in Cottage Grove and Roseburg qualified to compete in the American Taekwondo Association (ATA) Pacific Northwest District Championship on Saturday, June 8, 2019. In order to qualify, they had to be in the top ten in the state of Oregon in their events. Four of them won events, becoming district champions. This qualified the Black Belts to compete for the title of World Champion at ATA Headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas, in July.

The students, with their events and placing are:

- Angelique Perone, 3rd Degree Black Belt, who qualified in forms, weapons, sparring, combat weapons, creative forms, and team sparring, and took 3rd place in both forms and weapons.

- Audrey Salter, Level 1 recommended Black Belt, who qualified in forms, combat weapons, and sparring, and took 2nd place in both sparring and combat weapons.

- Cedar Earlywine, green belt, who qualified in forms and sparring.

- Emily Collier, 1st Degree Black Belt, who qualified in Forms and Weapons, and took 3rd place in forms and 2nd place in weapons.

- Erin Lauraine, 5th Degree Black Belt, and owner of the former Lauraine's ATA, which has become Rogers Family ATA, who qualified in Forms, Weapons, Sparring, and Combat Weapons, and took 2nd in Forms and Weapons, and 3rd in Sparring and Combat Weapons.

- Joseph Fusco, 1st Degree Black Belt, who qualified in forms, weapons, sparring, combat weapons, and team sparring, and took 2nd in sparring and 3rd in weapons.

- Marley Piscopo, 1st Degree Black Belt, who qualified in combat weapons.

- Mia Piscopo, 1st Degree Black Belt, who qualified in sparring and combat weapons, and took District Champion in combat weapons and took 3rd in sparring.

- Micah Fusco, Level 2 recommended Black Belt, who qualified in weapons and combat weapons, and took District Champion in combat weapons.

- Thompson Rogers, 3rd Degree Black Belt and Head Instructor at Rogers Family ATA, qualified in forms, weapons, and sparring, and took District Champion in forms, and 2nd in weapons.

Cruising down the Row River Trail



A small group of cyclists head down the Row River Trail on Saturday morning for the annual Mayor's Bike Ride. The six-mile ride started at the Row River Trailhead and turned around at the Mosby Creek Trailhead (but not before riders enjoyed a brief snack). The leisurely ride is done to encourage families and all individuals be outside and to use the Row River Trail. PHOTOS BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL

Equestrian season comes to a close



Cottage Grove's penning team of (from left) Kira Fountain, Allison Ladd and Madison Latham. PHOTO C/O KELLI LATHAM

A successful season for the CGHS team that began practice in November

By Zach Silva
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It takes a lot of work to get to the Pacific Northwest Invitational Championship. "Dedication," suggested Cottage Grove High

School equestrian co-advisor Shannon Sias. "I think dedication would be the right word."

It takes a lot of dedication to get to the Pacific Northwest Invitational Championship.

And with lots of work, dedication and a combination of the two, four members of the Cottage Grove High School equestrian team - Kira Fountain, Sammy Wood, Madison Latham and Allison Ladd - competed at last weekend's regional meet in Redmond that brings together the top high school equestrian teams from Oregon and Washington.

While the qualification for regionals took place at last month's state meet, the preparation to compete at this high level began long before that. And it also

began before the eight-month high school equestrian season officially got underway last November. For the Cottage Grove athletes, this has been a long time coming.

"This is my lifestyle. It's kind of like breathing for some people," said Fountain, a senior that is competing with torn cartilage in her hip and bulged discs in her back. "That's kind of a necessary function. So I mean, this is my necessary function."

For each of the Cottage Grove athletes it all started with a love of horses.

Fountain was 10 when her sister got a horse which peaked her interest, Wood was six when her dad got her two mustangs, Ladd's family had them when she was little and Latham first started riding at the age of two.

Something about those early interactions created a lasting bond with horses that has turned this passion into a way of life. This commitment to their horses and equestrian as

CGHS see B2

Ladd takes second at regionals

By Zach Silva
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Competing against the top high school equestrian teams in Oregon and Washington, the Cottage Grove High School team walked away with one second place and two seventh place finishes at last weekend's regional meet.

On Friday at the Pacific Northwest Invitational Championship in Redmond, junior Allison Ladd claimed second place in steer daubing. Ladd finished with a total time of 3.373 behind William Chalk of St. Helens (Washington) won in a time of 3.191. Ladd was one of two competitors from Oregon competing in the event.

Saturday's events started with Team Penning where the group of Ladd, Madison Latham and Kira Fountain took seventh. Later in the day Ladd, Latham, Sammy Wood and Cassie Ferguson were seventh in Freestyle Fours.

Future unclear for Cottage Grove football

Lions enter summer with a lack of coaches

By Zach Silva
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Changes are coming to the Cottage Grove High School football program. But, as of this printing, it is unclear what those changes will be.

As first reported by *The Register-Guard* in the June 16 paper, CGHS head football coach Jordan Johnson will be leaving the Lions and is going to Sheldon High School, his alma mater, where he will be an assistant coach. *The Sentinel* has independently confirmed Johnson's new role with multiple

sources.

Johnson, an assistant coach at CGHS for the past three seasons and defensive coordinator for the last two years, was hired to be head coach of the Lions in February and is leaving months before the team's first game.

"I think it will be a fun challenge for me and give me an opportunity to see how I do in that role opposed to just being a defensive coordinator," Johnson told *The Sentinel* in February.

Johnson came into the role as head coach after Gary Roberts announced that he would be leaving the program and the school at the end of the year. Roberts, who also served in the role as athletic direc-

tor/assistant principal, became the winningest coach in school history as he coached the team for 11 seasons and brought home the first state football title.

Johnson and Roberts did not respond to multiple requests to comment.

With the departures of Roberts and Johnson, the football coaching staff will look much different than the familiar faces who have been on the sideline. Before Roberts' decision assistant coach Chris Joyce decided he would not be coaching and earlier this month assistant Dan Geiszler announced he will be moving to Texas.

South Lane School District assistant superintendent Kyler Tuck-

er announced his resignation last week. Tucker was also an assistant coach for the Lions. Tucker has not responded to comment regarding his return to the team. Johnson's dad, Marty Johnson, was also an assistant coach on the team.

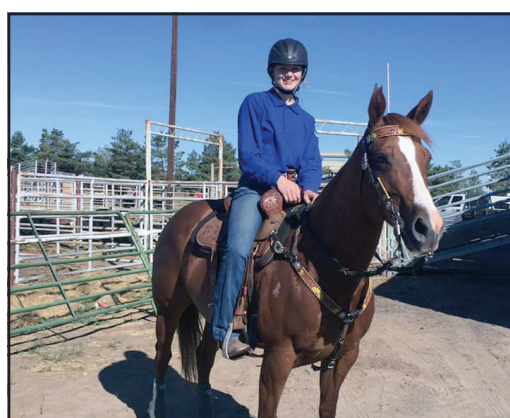
Ultimately, what this means is that heading into the summer, and with the team's jamboree on August 30 just over two months away, the team is without a coach. The South Lane School District posted the head coach position on the district website on June 5.

Additionally, on Monday night the SLSD school board confirmed the new hire of Matt Meyer as the new CGHS athletic director/assistant principal.

Athletes of the Week



This week's athlete of the week is Cottage Grove junior Allison Ladd. At last weekend's regional equestrian meet in Redmond, Ladd took second in steer daubing.



Cottage Grove's Allison Ladd. PHOTO C/O CG OHSET