

Pool from B1



NICK SNYDER/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Sue Taylor cuts the ribbon to the Warren H. Daugherty Aquatic Center as Mayor Gowing (black hat) and her husband, Bud Taylor (far left) look on.

pool.

South Lane superintendent Larry Sullivan, former CGHS athletic director Jerry Braunberger and senior swimmer and water polo player M.J. Raade spoke before the ribbon-cutting, emphasizing the positive effect this re-opening will have on all parts of the Cottage Grove community. But having a hometown pool again was no more important to anyone than CGHS water polo and swim coach Tyson Pilling.

"It feels good," Pilling said when asked how it feels to have the Daugherty Center open again.

"We've been on the road for a year. High school swim season - for swimming and water polo - was outdoors and it's been just a long road, so it's nice to finally have a home. That helps not just with coaching, but it helps with the kids, too, to let them know that they have a facility to take pride in."

It was also clear from the diversity of the crowd at the grand re-opening that the Daugherty Center is a facility with multi-generational impact in the Cottage Grove community.

Present at the event were former swimmers and water polo players and coaches, lifeguards and school and city government officials. For CGHS senior Fisher Nash - a member of the water polo and swimming teams as well as a Daugherty Center life-

guard - joining the first crew of head lifeguards at the new pool is a special opportunity.

"A lot of the head guards left," Nash said, "so they kind of instituted a new batch of the old lifeguards which I'm excited about because I've kind of grown up watching the head guards set an example for me. I'm hoping that I can at least be as diligent as them."

Improvements made to the pool include shortening from 33 yards to the standard 25 yards; better filtration to decrease wave interference for swimmers; a deeper tank with wider lanes; improved, fully-functional dehumidifiers that maintain a comfortable humidity level on the pool deck; fully renovated locker rooms; improved sealing of the pool tank which will drastically cut down chemical and maintenance costs; new lighting; solar panels to help with heating; and, of course, an added warm water pool.

All in all, the improvements make the Warren H. Daugherty Aquatic Center one of the best indoor swimming pools in the greater Lane County area, if not the entire state.

Lap swim is available Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. as well Mon., Wed. and Fri. from 5:30 a.m. - 6:45 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Swimming lessons began on Mon., Oct. 7.

For more information regarding the pool schedule, visit www.cottage-grovepool.com and stop by in person to see more

information about punch cards, memberships and signing up for swim lessons.

Aqua Lions finally have a home

After the re-opening of the Warren H. Daugherty Aquatic Center, the Cottage Grove Aqua Lions water polo team wasted little time getting comfortable in their new home.

With a year of transience behind them - using pools in Drain and Eugene as temporary practice facilities - the Lions boys and girls teams took on West Albany on Fri., Oct. 4 and South Albany on Sat., Oct. 5.

While the tough competition didn't allow them to come away with victories in either matchup, being able to finally rest easy in a home pool was reward enough.

"I'm grateful to teams like River Road and Willamette for helping us out with pool time, because if we didn't have that, we wouldn't have even had a pool at all. Some pool time is better than no pool time, but you're limited to only so much when you only have so much time," said head coach Pilling.

Much like other sports where home-field advantage is a very real effect, the Aqua Lions are looking forward to getting more and more comfortable in their new facility.

"You're always going to play better in something

you're familiar with," Pilling said. "For instance, pools like River Road, they're three feet shallow so you gotta know how to stay lower in the pool and keep your shoulders in the water or if you're playing at Amazon, there's no bottom and it's wider. So for us, we're going to have a few of those different things with our pool being a lot wider and not very much shallow water."

On Saturday, the boys first took on the visiting South Albany Red Hawks and got off to a slow start, going down 2-6 after the first quarter of play. However, throughout the rest of the match the Lions played them to a standstill, 3-3, ending with a final score of 9-5. The Lions got two goals each from



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Braeden Buckland cocks back to take a shot at goal against South Albany last Sat., Oct. 5.

See **AQUA LIONS 5B**



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**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY
RESPONSE TEAM**

South Lane Teen CERT

The Teen CERT concept was created to address preparedness and response capabilities from within high schools. While many schools have taken measures to provide for site security analysis and equipment, more effort is needed to train staff and students in school security and emergency response procedures, and to involve youth in the country's overall emergency preparedness and response plans. Teen CERT aims to train students in emergency preparedness and basic response to ensure that they have the skills needed to protect themselves, and assist others, in the event of an emergency.

When will the program begin?

Parent and youth Q and A meeting.
October 13th at 233 E. Harrison Ave. in Cottage Grove.
The meeting begins at 6:00.

Who is eligible?

All community members who are 14 - 20 years of age.

How do I apply?

You can download an application by going to <https://www.southlanefire.org/join-us/cert>. Please turn applications in to Creswell City Hall at 13 S 1st St, Creswell, OR 97426 or Station 201 at 233 E. Harrison Ave., Cottage Grove, OR 97424. Applications will also be available on October 13th. Contact Division Chief Aaron Smith with questions at asmith@southlanefire.org or 541-942-4493.

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