

Calendar

Dec. 12

- CGHS boys' bball vs. Hidden Valley @ 6 p.m.
- CGHS girls' bball @ Hidden Valley @ 6 p.m.
- CGHS swimming: Cottage Grove Invite @ WHD Aquatic Center @ 4:15 p.m.
- YHS basketball vs. Mapleton (girls @ 5:30 p.m., boys @ 7 p.m.)

Dec. 13

- CGHS basketball vs. North Valley (girls @ 7 p.m., boys @ 7:15 p.m.)

• North Douglas Winter Invitational basketball (NDHS/EHS boys' and girls' bball, starts @ 3 p.m.)

Dec. 14

- North Douglas Winter Invitational basketball (NDHS/EHS boys' and girls' bball, starts @ TBD)
- YHS basketball @ Rogue Valley (girls @ 6:30 p.m., boys @ 8 p.m.)



PHOTO BY NICK SNYDER/CG SENTINEL

(From left) Braeden Buckland, Emma Burseson, Chase Fuller, Melissa Johnson and Fisher Nash cheer on their teammates in the 100-back relay.

Relay excitement kicks off swim season

Non-traditional events help to start swim season on a fun note

BY NICK SNYDER
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Since its October 2 grand re-opening, the Warren H. Daugherty Aquatic Center has quickly returned to its place as a community staple for Cottage Grove residents.

Last Friday, Dec. 6 the facility achieved another new milestone as it played host to the first high school swimming event of the 2019-20 year. Marshfield, Marist and North Eugene High Schools traveled to the Grove to join the

Lions for the season-opening relay meet.

Relay meets have become a kind of season-opening tradition for many area schools, but the events themselves are decidedly non-traditional. With coed relay teams, varying relay distances within a single event and even the use of kickboards in some of the group races, it's a fun and stress-free way for swimmers to get their feet wet before the meets truly start to matter.

"I've been really sick recently so it was a little bit harder for me," said senior Mikayla Baird, who also plays on the water polo team and lifeguards at the Daugh-

See RELAYS 2B

Skyline basketball tips off in Elkton



PHOTOS BY NICK SNYDER/CG SENTINEL

(Left) Keegan Mast goes up for a shot against Hosanna Christian. (Top middle) The Elks set their defense against Triangle Lake. (Bottom middle) North Douglas players get ready on defense. (Top right) Freshman Brooklyn Williams drives to the hoop for the Warriors. (Bottom right) The Elkton girls exit the locker room before their Saturday game against Triangle Lake.

BY NICK SNYDER
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Basketball season has arrived in Douglas County.

Last Friday and Saturday, Nov. 6 and 7 was the annual Elkton Tip-Off Classic where the Elkton, North Douglas, Triangle Lake and Hosanna Christian boys' and girls' teams faced off in a series of round-robin games. Though the two local league rivals - North Douglas and Elkton - didn't get a chance to go head-to-head,

the two-day event gave them a long look at each other and the overall landscape of 2019-20 1A basketball.

In a weekend full of hoops action, the biggest piece of early-season excitement came on Saturday when the North Douglas boys took on Hosanna Christian, a team that, through various twists of fate, the Warriors always seem to find. The results in recent memory have been less than ideal.

"Right before the game I walked down

to the locker room and I didn't say anything," said head coach Tyler Vancil. "The first thing I did was write '0-6' on the whiteboard because that's our record against them between football and basketball in the last four years."

Not including regular season losses, the Warriors' football and boys' basketball teams have been eliminated from the state playoffs three times in the last four years by Hosanna Christian. Shaking such a

See BASKETBALL 3B

ODFW REGIONAL FISHING REPORT

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WINTER TROUT AND STEELHEAD ARE BEST BETS FOR WINTER FISHING

• Anglers are starting to catch winter steelhead in mid- and north coast rivers. Fish low in the systems until there's some rain to get the fish moving.

• Late fall/early winter can be a good time to target native redband trout in rivers like the lower Deschutes, Fall, Metolius, Crooked and Blitzen. The fishing is a little slower, but sharing the river with fewer people can make up for it.

• Trout anglers also should consider the upper Willamette between Albany and Harrisburg. It's open for trout year-round and fishing can be very good when flows are cooperating. IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO REPORT YOUR HUNT

You're right. The reporting deadline for 2019 hunts isn't until Jan. 31, 2020. But now that we've got you thinking about it, why not report early and get it over with? WEEKEND FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

• Conditions on Quartzville Creek are good for trout fishing.

• Last week, Alton Baker Canal, Junction City Pond, Row River Nature Park Pond, Timber Linn Lake, Walter Wirth Lake, and Waverly Lake were stocked with one-pound trout.

• Another batch of extra-large rainbow brood trout were released Monday at the following locations: Canby Pond (40), St. Louis Ponds (45), Salish Pond (50), Row River Nature Park Pond, and Henry Hagg Lake (96). These fish range in size from five to 15 pounds. Keep in mind the daily bag limit on trout over 20 inches in length is one fish. Additional brood trout will likely be released into January, and these releases will be first announced in this column, so stay tuned!

Aussies score down under, outside to defeat Lions

BY NICK SNYDER
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Typically, it's a relatively short trip to Cottage Grove for most of their opponents. Marist need only travel around 30 minutes by car and Marshfield is the most far-flung at around two hours away. The Lions' matchup last weekend, however, saw an opponent that crossed an ocean to get here.

On Sat., Dec. 7 the Lions hosted the visiting Knox Grammar School, a board-

ing school for boys located in the North Shore suburb of Sydney, Australia. The school boasts a student body of over 2000 students, nearly 800 of whom participate in basketball activities, and their on-court prowess shone through as they defeated Cottage Grove soundly, 85-41.

The Australian team is in the midst of a seven-game trip throughout Oregon and California, a vast distance to travel for some early season tune-



PHOTO BY NICK SNYDER/CG SENTINEL

Knox and Cottage Grove pose together for a photo after the game.

See AUSSIES 2B

Athlete of the Week



This week's athlete of the week is Elkton freshman Cash Boe who has quickly become one of the Elks' most effective players in his first season.



Through his first two games of varsity basketball, Boe averaged 20.5 points and 8.5 rebounds per game.

PHOTO BY NICK SNYDER/CG SENTINEL