

Calendar

Feb. 28

- CGHS girls basketball: endowment/alumni game, CGHS gym @ 7 p.m.
- NDHS girls basketball: OSAA State Championship tournament round two @ TBD
- CGHS wrestling: OSAA State Championships, Veterans Memorial Coliseum (Portland, Ore.), 7:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m.

Feb. 29

- CGHS wrestling: OSAA State Championships, Veterans Memorial Coliseum (Portland, Ore.), 7:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m.

CG sends six to Portland



PHOTOS BY NICK SNYDER/CG SENTINEL



(Clockwise from bottom left) Drew Swenson won by fall in his quarter-final against Henley's Dylan Rose; Cobie Simpson celebrates his quarterfinal win against Mazama's Nathan Tramp; Fernando Soto-Cruz was one of five Lions to make a district championship match; CGHS senior and multi-sport athlete Jacob Dunn dominated en route to a district title, joining Simpson and Swenson as district champs.

CGHS boys' wrestling team sends six to state, sees 10 take the podium at last weekend's regional district tournament

By NICK SNYDER
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Spectators at last Saturday's wrestling districts championship round may have noticed a great deal of Lions' blue and yellow on the mat.

On Fri. and Sat., Feb. 21-22 Cottage Grove High School hosted the OSAA Special District 3 wrestling tournament and, after two days of competition, Cottage Grove could begin tallying their accolades.

10 of the 12 Lions entered in the tournament fought their way to the top-six podium in their respective weight classes. Six wrestlers qualified for this weekend's state tournament. Five made it to the district championship match and three were crowned district champions.

"This is the culmination of all

the blood, sweat, tears and hard work they put in," said head wrestling coach Rich Herzog.

As a coach, Herzog emphasizes that wrestling is a sport about discipline and hard work. A high school wrestler gets out of it what they put in.

"That piggy bank that they've been putting into all season, this is the tournament where you make your withdrawals. We could see that work paying off in the third round conditioning where we were outwrestling people."

In a bracket-style tournament such as this — where an athlete must compete multiple times over a two-day period — wrestling skill and strength are key, but endurance and an ability to maintain focus is often the difference between earning a place at state or the end of an individ-

ual season.

For four Cottage Grove wrestlers — Malaky Barr (fifth place at 160 pounds), Walker Humphrey (sixth at 182), Crimson Tadlock (sixth at 195) and Levi Boitz (fifth at 182) — their individual seasons may have ended last weekend, failing to secure a place at state, but they wrestled well enough to end atop the district podium.

"We were wrestling and wrestling well. Pretty proud of what the kids did. Taking 12 and placing 10 is a pretty good day," Herzog said.

The other six placers — Logan Lowrey (fourth at 138), Fernando Soto-Cruz (second at 138), Jacob Dunn (first at 152), Drew Swenson (first at 170), Cobie Simpson (first at 195) and

See **WRESTLING 4B**

Getting back to Baker

North Douglas girls basketball looks to build on dominant regular season

By NICK SNYDER
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After three straight trips to the OSAA 1A State Championships in Baker, Ore. from 2015-2017, the Lady Warriors of North Douglas High School are one win away from ending a two-year absence from the tournament.

Last weekend, North Douglas concluded their regular season and district tournament games, finishing the year a perfect 13-0 against league opponents, 23-3 overall and a number-six spot in the 1A rankings. Despite the overwhelming success of their season thus far, however, the team and coaching staff are far from satisfied.

"We've said from day one that that's our goal this year, to be at Baker," said head coach Jody Cyr. "Truthfully, I wouldn't be happy with anything else."

After joining the 1A Skyline league in the 2014-15 season, the Warriors went on an impressive run of playoff appearances. They won the third place game in Baker in 2015, followed it up with a loss in the championship game in 2016 and made a third consecutive trip east in 2017.

With back-to-back seasons of failing to make it back in 2018 and 2019, this year's team will look to fulfill the sometimes lofty expectations their past success has created. This is a program that is unsatisfied by regular season success.

"We talked about it in the locker room after we won league, talked about it after we won districts,"

See **WARRIORS 4B**

ODFW REGIONAL RECREATION REPORT

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BEST BETS FOR WEEKEND FISHING

- Conditions are dry and clear in coastal rivers, and likely to remain so into the weekend. But there are fish throughout the systems and anglers continue to catch steelhead.
- Last week, Saunders Lake got 30 excess hatchery steelhead, which should spice up any trout anglers diet.
- Lost Creek Reservoir remains a good bet for late winter/early spring trout fishing, especially now that both the Tekelma and marina boat ramps are accessible.
- The small bump in river flows this past weekend should have winter steelhead starting to show more in the Galice Area of the Rogue.
- Steelhead fishing continues to be hot on the Chetco and it's been picking up on the lower Rogue.
- In Krumbo and Malheur reservoirs, fishing has been good for trout up to 20 inches.
- Now that ocean conditions have calmed down, anglers have been catching a nice assortment of rockfish.
- If you prefer to fish with your feet on the ground, surfperch fishing from the beach can be good this time of year.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK OF OREGON'S BIG GAME HUNTING SEASONS

Before we start proposing changes for the 2021 big game seasons, we'd like to hear from our resident hunters. You can comment through March 3 at www.oregonbiggameforum.org.

BEST BETS FOR WILDLIFE VIEWING

Spring is a great season for wildlife viewing — birds are migrating, mammal are emerging from hibernation and the weather makes you want to be outside. Here are a few opportunities for the weekend and beyond!

- "Peeps" are migrating a little ahead of schedule on the north coast. These sandpipers and other small shore birds are difficult to identify due to small size and subtle differences in plumage. So

See **ODFW 3B**

In prep for playoffs, CG girls to host alumni game

The Cottage Grove Lions girls' basketball team has won the Sky-Em league title outright for the first time since 2013 and now awaits their opponent for a Mar. 6 playoff game to be held at Cottage Grove High School (CGHS).

With over two weeks of down time between their last regular season game and next month's playoff, the team looked for ways to stay in post-season form and has scheduled an OSAA endowment alumni game for Fri., Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. at CGHS.

Endowment games include admission prices and concessions and are a way for schools and the OSAA to fundraise for

future athletic endeavors. 50 percent of proceeds will go directly back to CGHS with the other half going to the OSAA.

In this case, it's also a way for this year's state-tournament hopefuls to remain sharp for their playoff run and a chance for fans to see alumni stars and players from past teams in a fun-filled, nostalgic atmosphere.

Come on down to CGHS on Feb. 28 to support CGHS athletics and the 2019-20 Lady Lions in their pursuit of a state title. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$4 for students. The only passes accepted for free admission will be OSAA media passes.



PHOTO BY NICK SNYDER/CG SENTINEL

Head coach Steve Eastburn and his players celebrate last week at Junction City as they wrapped up the 2019-20 Sky-Em league title.

Athlete of the Week



This week's athletes of the week are the members of the CGHS bowling team, winners of last weekend's high school state bowling championships!



The Lady Lions bowling squad will lose one match over the weekend, and averaged over 170 a game, en route to their state title.

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