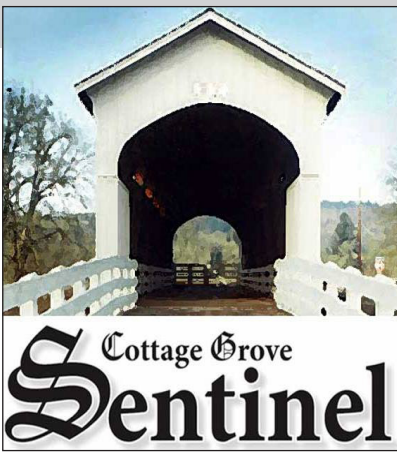


THURSDAY | DECEMBER 9, 2021



ODFW RECREATION AND FISHING
REPORT
myodfw.com/recreation-report

Updated December 9, 2021

Punch your cougar tag

Winter, after other big game seasons have closed, is a great time to hunt cougar. Their stealthy and nocturnal habits make for a challenging hunt to cap off your season. For some tips for being a better cougar hunter visit <https://myodfw.com/articles/10-ways-be-better-cougar-hunter>.

Check out the ODFW's Beaver State Podcast

The Beaver State podcast takes an in-depth look at hunting, fishing and wildlife management. With topics from budgets to bats, Chinook to chukar, and mule deer to mussels, you'll likely find something you like. Sign up where you get your podcasts or go to our podcast page.

Snipe hunting: It's really a thing

Stalking snipe is a cross between duck and upland bird hunting. With seasons lasting through late January or February, this can be a great late-season bird hunt. If you've never been, here are some tips.

Best bets for weekend fishing:

With warm, dry weather in the forecast, this will be a good weekend for fishing. Dry conditions will leave river levels low and challenging, but warmer temperature will help put trout on the bite in lakes and ponds.

Sports Calendar

Dec. 9

• **Creswell Basketball home vs Elmira**

Girls: 5:30 p.m.

Boys: 7 p.m.

Dec. 10

• **Cottage Grove Basketball home vs North Valley**

Girls: 5:45 p.m.

Boys: 7:30 p.m.

• **Yoncalla Basketball home vs Triangle Lake**

Girls: 5:30 p.m.

Boys: 7 p.m.

• **North Douglas Wrestling @**

Jefferson start time 3 p.m.

• **Elkton Basketball @Condon**

Girls: 6 p.m.

Boys: 7:30 p.m.

Jingle Rush 5K returns to in person race



BY KENDRICK MURPHY
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For the first time since 2019 the annual Jingle Rush 5K returned to an in-person race that captured what a slow return to normal has been like. Just short of 100 participants joined in the run/walk on Saturday morning Dec. 4, sporting their most festive holiday attire. Event coordinator Jim Settelmeyer was pleased to see registration steadily pick up the week leading up to the race, with overall numbers drawing similar to two years ago. "We're able to offer healthy and positive activity to let people do something other than focus on what we can't do (due to COVID-19)," said Settelmeyer. "This was something we can do, and we can be safe and we can come out and enjoy, you know, the kind of a kickoff to a holiday season." (For full results see A3)

Creswell girls offense looking for spark



KENDRICK MURPHY/CG SENTINEL

Karinna Leonard uses a screen set by teammate Lauren Bailey.

BY KENDRICK MURPHY
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In the first half of the Creswell girls game against Douglas, the Bulldogs jumped out to a 23-13 lead and has since seen their offense go cold in the following six quarters scoring a total of 45 points.

"I think we just kind of need easy transition buckets and see the ball go through the hoop," said Head Coach Tyler Hollingsworth. "You know a shooter gets a couple easy lay-ups, and then

they start to feel good, right? So trying to create those easy opportunities and that's gonna start on the defensive end. Pressuring the ball, getting some deflections, getting a steal, getting out a rebound, quick outlet and then pushing the ball on the floor."

Emme Whitson was the go-to scorer for Creswell getting 16 points in their second loss this season to North Bend 50-29.

North Bend got out to a lead early with two three-pointers

See GIRLS B2



KENDRICK MURPHY/CG SENTINEL

Caleb Lee and the Creswell boys basketball team got 15 steals against North Bend.

Creswell boys' defense is leading to offense

BY KENDRICK MURPHY
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For Head Coach Jesse Thomas and the Creswell boys basketball team, the start to their season could not be more ideal. In the first week of the season, the Bulldogs picked up wins against Douglas and North Bend to start their season 2-0. Defense has been a heavy focus for coach

Thomas and his players this season as the team has only given up a combined 36 points per game in their first two contests.

"I think all those kids have bought into having a defensive mindset first," said Coach Thomas. "Everybody cares about offense, and I know that. But I think what the guys are start-

See DEFENSE B2

Lion Boys crush Mustangs in season opener

BY KENDRICK MURPHY
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The Cottage Grove boys basketball team got off to a blistering start to their season crushing Hidden Valley on the road 77-34.

"I think one obviously it's

great to get off on the right foot," said Head Coach Seth Hutchison. "And to see that all the hard work that these guys have been putting in is paying off and you know that when you know, it wasn't just a win it was a pretty convincing win."

Jayden Cameron, Brennen

Murphy and Carter Bascue led the team in scoring as Lions held the Mustangs to a total of two points in the opening quarter and also forced 10 turnovers. Cottage Grove was able to capitalize on Hidden Valley's mistakes to jump out to a 20-2 lead at the end of the

first quarter.

Brennen Murphy had an emphatic two hand dunk in the second quarter as Hidden Valley started to trade baskets with Cottage Grove.

The second quarter was the closest of the game as each team almost scored the same amount of points, but Cottage Grove still held a firm lead at halftime 38-19.

"We have to keep the foot on the pedal," said Hutchison. "You know, it's a 32-minute game, games are won and lost in 16 minutes. And I told him that, you know, we've just gotta keep that killer mindset. And we got to just go out and continue to defend and take good shots for the final 16 minutes."

See CRUSH B2

Athlete of the Week

This week's athlete of the week is Creswell boys basketball player Carson Williamson. Williamson had 16 points and 11 rebounds in Creswell's 67-29 win over North Bend last Saturday.



Williamson attacks the North Bend defense in transition for two of his 16 points in Creswell's win last Saturday.

PHOTO BY KENDRICK MURPHY/CG SENTINEL

