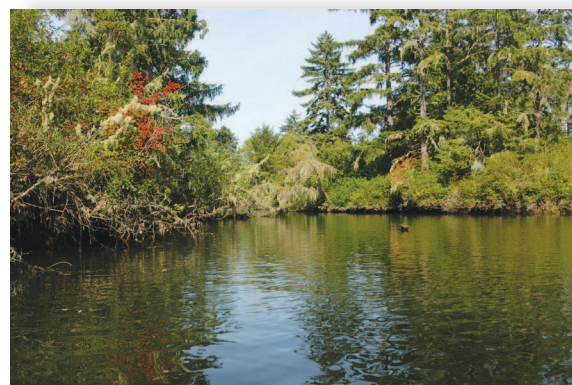




Blind Slough is accessible by watercraft only. The Coast Land Conservancy, based in Seaside, has property on the Columbia and John Day rivers and on the Warrenton peninsula.

James Thompson/
Courtesy NCLC

Local group to manage rare swamp

Blind Slough Swamp, a large Sitka spruce swamp, was transferred last week to the North Coast Land Conservancy.

The swamp represents a habitat type was once common from Tillamook County to Alaska, but now is rare.

The conservancy, headquartered in Seaside, will provide the hands-on stewardship

and monitoring of the property to ensure it remains in its natural state.

It is NCLC's largest habitat reserve.

Blind Slough Swamp is bordered on three sides by Columbia River sloughs and channels and is accessible only by boat. It's adjacent to Lewis and Clark National Wildlife Refuge.

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Warrior wrestlers place in state tournament

BY NIC PIOR

For The Columbia Press

The Warriors placed fifth of seven teams in the District 1/3A wrestling tournament, with 13 members placing and one district champion. The Warriors will send three wrestlers to the state finals.

Sophomore Nic Pior (yeah, that's me), at the 132-pound weight class, was the third seed out of five wrestlers and placed first.

He had a bye first round and then finished off Friday with a pin against Cameron Weigart of Amity. He then came back Saturday morning to beat Spyre Nelson of Willamina with an 8-4 semifinal decision. Nelson was the same wrestler who pinned Pior in the third round two weeks before at the Clatskanie Dual Tournament.

Pior ended his weekend with the gold around his neck beating Bryce Mode of Willamina in the championship bout, 7-6.

Junior Armin Rodriquez, wrestling at 120 pounds, was the fourth seed and placed third. He had a first round bye and ended Friday by pinning Bryan Zuniga of Dayton. On Saturday, he lost 12-6 to



Stetson Stratton/for The Columbia Press

Warrenton's Nic Pior begins a match against Bryce Mode in last weekend's district championship. Pior won 7-6 and placed first overall in the district final.

Elias Scholten of Willamina, but came back with a pin against Kaden White of Taft. For a third-place slot, he had to wrestle his training partner, Austin Atwood, and beat him 8-2.

Sophomore Triston Scott, wrestling at the 285-pound weight class, was fourth seed and placed third. He had a first round bye and ended Friday with a pin over Sterling Bruce of Clatskanie. On Saturday, Scott had a tough match against Blake Larsen of Dayton, who pinned him in 34 seconds. He came back, though, and pinned teammate Robert Burk and then Cameron Governale of Rain-

ier to place third.

Parker Greenwald and Austin Atwood finished fourth. Gio Martinez and Trevor Snyder-Clark both finished fifth.

Overall, Warrenton will send three wrestlers to state. They will participate at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Salem today, Feb. 22, and Saturday.

We had a great season. It didn't end with as many going to state as we'd hoped, but the team wrestled hard with many going home with medals.

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—from Sherryan Reische



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Stetson Stratton/for The Columbia Press

Triston Scott was able to pin Robert Berk in 1:35. Scott took third overall in state.