

## Warriors expect one of their best seasons

By **BRUCE DUSTIN**  
The Columbia Press

Warrenton High School's head football coach, Ian O'Brien, is excited about the upcoming football season.

The Warriors were 5-4 last year and, even though they lost in the first round of the state playoffs, their most important achievement was the experience players gained, O'Brien said.

The five returning seniors on this year's squad -- Jake Morrow, Devin Jackson, Mark Warren, Austin Little, and Kenzie Ramsey -- have been through a lot of ups and downs.

O'Brien wants to assure them that their fourth and final year might be the Warrenton Warriors best season in quite some time.

"The key for these seniors is that they believe



Bruce Dustin/The Columbia Press

**Above:** Coach Ian O'Brien (in black) leads training exercises this week. **Below:** Sam Irwin gets into practice.

they can leave a legacy," O'Brien said. "Yeah, they need to work tremendously hard, but then they have to believe, *believe*, in themselves. And if they do, they will leave a legacy."

Players had their first football practice this week.

They'll host the Jamboree Invitational at 6 p.m. Aug. 30 and play their first official home game at 7 p.m. Sept. 6 against Yamhill-Carlton. It will also be Military Appreciation Night, with the school



paying homage to former and current military members.

## Girls Build: When power tools rule

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how much fun working with your hands can be," said Katie Hughes, executive director of Girls Build, which was founded in 2016.

The girls are so riveted, they don't notice that eight hours have gone by and they haven't even glanced at their phones.

"That's what we want," Hughes said, "to get girls to understand how the world works physically. To realize the world around them in a bigger way and be inspired. Someone laid those railroad tracks. Someone painted the walls of my classroom."

"The most fun was making a picnic table," said Pashense Akamichi, 9, of Warrenton. She had a blast working the jigsaw.

"It's just fun to play with and work with the tools," said Eleanor Nye, 9, of Astoria. "I've learned how to use a hammer and a jigsaw. We made a magnet board."

Brooke Holmes, 9, of Ilwaco said her dad is a builder and she was eager to get home and show him what she can do.

"Parents tell us their kids absolutely love it," Hughes said. "They come home at the end of the day exhausted and they can't stop talking about what they did."

Teslyn Wintersteen, 10, of Astoria liked that there was so much variety in what she got



Instructor Laloni Wilson assists Alexis Schumaker, 11, of Knapapa in building a metal box.

to build and being surrounded by old and new friends was a bonus.

"I think maybe I might want to be an engineer," Teslyn said.

On Wednesday, Valerie Miller of Girls Build was showing a group how to measure twice and cut once before using the skill saw.

"This camp is so important," Miller said. "A real common theme or backstory for my male co-workers is that they don't remember when they learned to use power tools. Their father or grandfather showed them and worked with them from an early age. ... Girls just don't have that."

The program is grateful to Hampton Lumber, Hughes said. "They want to show the community that there are great jobs in the building trade. They don't have to go far from home to have a living-wage career."

## Agent among 33 statewide to get health insurance grants

Linda Dugan Insurance of Astoria is among the nine community groups and 33 insurance agencies statewide to receive grants to provide free help for consumers who don't get health insurance benefits through their work.

The Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace announced the grant awards last week.

Awardees will use the grants

to publicize the upcoming health insurance open enrollment period and to help Oregonians enroll in coverage through HealthCare.gov and other programs.

For most people who buy their own health insurance, open enrollment is the only time of year to sign up for a health plan or switch plans.

Open enrollment for 2020

coverage runs from Nov. 1 through Dec. 15.

Grantees were judged on multiple criteria, including ties to community networks, ability to reach underserved populations, and capacity to serve consumers whether they are eligible for HealthCare.gov plans or programs such as the Oregon Health Plan or Medicare.

## Benefits increase for those receiving unemployment

The amount paid to those filing for unemployment benefits has increased.

The maximum weekly benefit increases from \$624 to \$648, while the minimum amount increases from \$146 to \$151.

The change affects claims

filed on or after June 30. Those with existing claims will continue to receive the same weekly amount they've been receiving.

Oregon's Unemployment Insurance program provides temporary, partial wage replacement for workers who

are unemployed through no fault of their own.

Under Oregon law, the Oregon Employment Department recalculates the maximum and minimum amounts of unemployment insurance benefits people can receive each year.



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