

ALL-LEAGUE BASKETBALL TEAMS



WILL DENNER/MADRAS PIONEER

Above left, Culver sophomore Irma Retano (1) was named the Columbia Basin Conference Girls Basketball Player of the Year following a season in which she averaged 16 points, 11.2 rebounds and 5.5 steals, and helped the Bulldogs get within a game of the playoffs. Above right, Madras junior Lynden Harry (15) won her second consecutive Tri-Valley Conference Girls Basketball Player of the Year award after leading the White Buffalos in scoring (16.6), rebounds (5.2) and assists (3.5). Last season as a sophomore, Harry shared the POY award with Gladstone's Grace Campbell (55). She didn't have to share the award with anyone this season, however.

Culver, Madras girls claim POY honors

Retano's standout sophomore season garners lots of attention

BY WILL DENNER
Sports Editor

Coaches and teammates never doubted Irma Retano would become a force on the basketball court. It was simply a matter of when.

As it turned out, her emergence would happen sooner rather than later.

Retano, the Culver girls forward, was named the Columbia Basin Conference Girls Basketball Player of the Year thanks to her sophomore campaign in which she led the Bulldogs in scoring, rebounding, steals and tied for first in assists. Sophomore point guard Mia Gamboa joined Retano on the league first team and senior post Jessica Johnson was named second-team all league.



IRMA RETANO

Retano's unorthodox blend of athleticism

See CULVER/ Page B8

As a freshman, Retano was hesitant to shoot at first, but during the team's nonconference stretch in a game against Dufur, her offense started to click, Culver coach Scott Fritz said. She also led the team in rebounds, and became a starter only a few games into the season.

Still, the team was led by its senior duo of Hannah Lewis and Alysha Fritz, and younger players, including Retano, deferred to them in the game's biggest moments. But after that group of seniors graduated, the younger players were called on to lead the team.

As Bulldogs coach Scott Fritz noted, many players who play varsity basketball as freshmen make huge strides when they come back as sophomores, and Retano was no exception.

"You could really see it this year; she just kind of took over," Fritz said. "She was going to make things happen on the court and she did it."

Retano's unorthodox blend of athleticism

Buffs' junior grabs second consecutive league-best award

BY WILL DENNER
Sports Editor

Many conclusions can be taken away from Lynden Harry's nightly contributions to the Madras girls basketball team.

The obvious that stands out are her statistics — 16.6 points, 5.2 rebounds and 3.5 assists per game — all of which led the White Buffalos this season.

Stats aside, one of Harry's greatest strengths is her consistency, not only leading the team game in and game out, but also season to season. She took little time to make an impact as a freshman, and last year, was named co-Tri-Valley Conference Player of the Year, along with Gladstone's Grace Campbell. This season, as a junior, she received the award once again,

but this time, didn't have to share it with anyone.

"She definitely deserved the MVP (award) these past couple years," said Madras head coach Zach Lillebo. "She's a quiet leader on the floor, a leader by example."

The fact that Harry won the award in consecutive seasons, despite the Buffs finishing tied for second in the TVC standings, goes to show the amount of respect opposing coaches have for her. While the awards are nice

accolades to receive, however, she's focused on helping the Buffs fulfill their goal of returning to the 4A state playoffs. They made it to the quarterfinals in 2016, but fell short this year after losing a play-in game at Cottage Grove Feb. 25.

"Knowing Lynden, she's more about the team goals and she wants to make it back to that final eight," Lillebo said.

The same can be said for the rest of the Buffs' team, which also saw freshman Jiana Smith-Francis named to the

See MADRAS/ Page B3



PHOTO COURTESY OF WESTERN REGION LITTLE LEAGUE
Allen "Stretch" Jones, 49, of Warm Springs, received the Bob Thornton Award while attending the weeklong Little League Western Region Adult Umpire School in San Bernardino Feb. 11-17. Jones, who has been involved with Little League for nearly two decades, won the award among 65 umpire students for best exemplifying the Little League spirit during the week of training.

Warm Springs umpire wins award

BY WILL DENNER
Sports Editor

Out of 65 Little League umpires who recently attended a weeklong training clinic in San Bernardino, California, Allen "Stretch" Jones was voted by his peers as best exemplifying the spirit of Little League.

Jones, 49, of Warm Springs, has been an umpire in Oregon's fifth district for the last seven years. He had previously attended weekend training sessions to fine tune his skills as an umpire, but this year he opted for the more comprehensive Little League Western Region Adult Umpire School from Feb. 11-17, often working between 12 and 14 hours per day, he said.

At the end of the week, as the instructors made their closing remarks and students received certificates for completing the umpire school, one of the instructors, Doug Parrett, announced that Jones had been voted as the

recipient of the Bob Thornton Award. The award, which has been given out since 1989, is a tribute to the late Thornton, who was formerly the umpire in chief of the Little League Western Region.

Fellow umpires took note of Jones' positive attitude and work ethic during the week, and felt he was most deserving of this year's award. Jones became just the third umpire from Oregon to win the award (Parrett is one of the other two) and the first from Oregon district five, which encompasses nine leagues in the Central Oregon region, including Jefferson County.

"It was kind of a shock to win that award," Jones said. "It's a real big thing down

there — that award. I just tried to vote for the right guy and then I end up winning it."

Before Jones could even begin to start telling people that he'd received the prestigious Little League honor, the news was spreading quickly.

The Little League Western Region Facebook page posted a video of Jones receiving the award, and the video made its way to friends and family, even his Little League district manager.

The school brought together Little League umpires from 10 states and two Canadian provinces who were looking to sharpen up before the start of baseball and softball season. Days were divvied up between classroom work and mechanical drills on the field.

Umpires also went through a team competition that included mechanical drills, and Jones' team placed second out of nine teams. He was simply happy to put in effort and learn during the week; he didn't consider that he would be the recipient of the award.

"I was pretty shocked; I just couldn't believe it," Jones said. "That was the last thing I was worried about. I just went down there to work hard, have a good attitude and have fun with it."

Jones estimates he's been involved in Little League for the past 17 years, first as a coach when his kids were playing. After they aged out of it, Jones wanted to continue his involvement in Little League, and was quickly sold on the idea of becoming an umpire.

"They're always short of umpires in the Little League system," Jones said. "I always wanted to give back to my community and the kids down here. It's just a fun hobby."



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Severe winter makes responsible hunting critical for wildlife

As weather breaks and snow begins melting at lower elevations, more hunters are expected to take to Oregon's outdoors — not for the chance to harvest a deer or elk, but to look for their shed antlers. Oregon's buck deer shed their antlers from late December through March and bull elk shed them from late February through early April.

But one prominent member of the sport is recommending shed hunters delay their search awhile longer.

"I've lived here in Central Oregon for almost 20 years. We've had some big snow years but this is the longest time I've seen snow consistently on the ground since Thanksgiving," said Rob Tanner, co-founder of Oregon Shed Hunters, an organization devoted to education about ethical shed hunting. "It's making it difficult for wildlife to get around, especially deer."

Tanner admits it's tempting to go out now, especially because severe winters can congregate deer and elk and make for prime shed hunting. "It's easy to think since there is not a lot of snow now that the critters are fine, but that's not necessarily the case," he added. "They are still burning winter reserves and aren't ready for people to be pushing them around."

Tanner recommends delaying shed hunting until later in spring. The organization has even pushed its annual Group Shed Hunt back a few weeks until late March. "If we want to preserve our shed hunting ways we need to make every effort possible to be ethical," says Tanner. "Utah has closed the entire state to shed hunting this year because of the hard winter. If we don't want regulations like that for Oregon, it's important that we all practice ethical shed hunting."

While Oregon has no specific season for shed hunting, the state has closures and motor vehicle restrictions in parts of the state known to serve as winter range for deer and elk. The full list can be found in the current Oregon Big Game Regulations (and below).

Oregon State Police are expecting to see an increase in shed hunting activity as snow melts and areas become more accessible. Troopers have been conducting saturation patrols of the state's winter ranges to protect deer and elk from poachers and other illegal activity, including violating road closures.

OSP and ODFW also want to remind shed hunters of a few other regulations. Remember it is only legal to pick up naturally shed antlers in the wild, not antlers with skulls attached.

Oregon Big Game Regulations state that, "No person shall possess or transport any game mammal or part thereof which has been illegally killed, found or killed



Kellen Tanner holds a shed antler during a hunting trip. Oregon's buck deer and elk shed their antlers from late December through March. With this year's significant snowfall, hunting experts are recommending shed hunters delay their search in order to help wildlife.

PHOTO COURTESY OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

for humane reasons, except shed antlers, unless they have notified and received permission from personnel of the Oregon State Police or ODFW prior to transporting." Note that such permission is rarely given and it's usually only for situations where skull/antlers will be used for education purposes.

People are allowed to sell or exchange shed antlers, but certain rules apply. Only naturally shed antlers, antlers detached from the skull, or a skull split apart can be sold or exchanged. For antlers detached from the skull or skulls split apart, the seller must have legally taken the game part (e.g. on a big game tag or after receiving permission from OSP or ODFW to remove skull and antlers from the wild in the first place.)

Past poaching problems led to the regulations. Skulls that are split have less value and are not eligible for record books. These regulations reduce the incentive for someone to kill animals on winter range or out of season, hide the skull, and go back months later and "find it". A Hide/Antler Dealer permit (\$34) is needed to purchase antlers for use in the manufacture of hand-crafted items.

Here are some other steps shed hunters should take to be responsible and help wildlife this year:

- Don't disturb big game animals: Don't approach animals or follow the same ones on a daily basis.

- Don't take vehicles off-roading. The ground is water-logged at this time of year and off-roading in the wrong place can damage critical wildlife and fish habitat. Travel by foot or horseback instead.

- Don't be in the same spot every day. Deer and elk might need to be in that spot for food or cover, and your presence will keep them from it.

- Keep dogs under your control. Don't let dogs approach or follow wildlife. State law prohibits dogs (and people) from harassing wildlife.

• Don't trespass on private property. You always need permission to be on private land. Antlers that are shed on private land belong to the landowner under Oregon statutes.

The following is a list of winter range closures and areas with motor vehicle restrictions during the winter. This information can also be found in the 2017 Oregon Big Game Hunting Regulations.

Closures (no public access allowed)

- White River Wildlife Area (Wasco County), lands north of Forest Rd 27 closed to public access through March 31.

- Wenaha Wildlife Area (Wallowa County), closed to public access Jan. 1-March 31. (Access still allowed at designated camping areas, on ODFW land along the Wenaha River, and between Grande Ronde River Road and Grand Ronde River from Redmond grade bridge below Troy to the mouth of the Wildcat Creek.)

- Bridge Creek Wildlife Area (Umatilla County), closed Dec. 1-April 14.

- Elkhorn Wildlife Area (Baker and Union Counties), closed Dec. 1-April 10.

- Phillip W Schneider Wildlife Area (Grant County), closed Feb. 1-April 14.

- Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area (Union County), lands west of Foothill Rd closed Feb. 1-March 31.

- Starkey Experimental Forest Enclosure (Union County), closed Nov. 15-April 30.

Motor vehicle restrictions

- Lost River Winter Range, closed to motor vehicles Dec. 1-April 15

- Bryant Mtn, close to motor vehicle use Nov. 1-April 15

- Tumalo Winter Range, restricted motor vehicle use Dec. 1-March 31

- Prineville Reservoir WA, closed to motor vehicle use Nov. 15/Dec. 1 until April 15

- Cabin Lake-Silver Lake Winter Range, closed to motor vehicle use Dec. 1-March 31

- Metolius Winter Range, restricted motor vehicle use Dec. 1-March 31

- Phillip W Schneider Wildlife Area, some roads closed seasonally Dec. 1-April 14, closed to entry Feb. 1-April 14.

- Spring Creek Winter Range, closed to motor vehicles Dec. 15-April 30

- McCarty Winter Range, closed to motor vehicles Dec. 15-March 31

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Ellsbury, Cecilianni face uncertainty this spring

Based on the bar he set during his first six years in the majors, it's fair to say that Jacoby Ellsbury's stint with the New York Yankees has been underwhelming.

So far, at least, Ellsbury has posted pedestrian numbers since he signed with the Yankees in 2014. The former Madras High and Boston Red Sox standout has seen his productivity dip since he signed a seven-year, \$153 million contract in 2014.

New York Yankees fans and media have grown impatient, and hold Ellsbury to an especially high standard based on his contract, which currently ranks the 25th most expensive in the MLB, and third most on the Yankees, trailing only starting pitchers C.C. Sabathia and Masahiro Tanaka.

In three seasons with the Yankees, the left-handed hitter is batting .264, with an on-base percentage of .326 and slugging percentage of .382. All of those numbers are lower than his first seven MLB seasons with the Red Sox, in which he posted a .297/.350/.439.

As a result, the Yankees have looked into moving either Ellsbury or Brett Gardner from the top of the order down to the six or seven spot. It remains unclear which one of them will receive the demotion, though both are unlikely to maintain their current positions.

At the Yankees' spring training in Tampa, Fla., Ellsbury recently addressed the chatter surrounding his position in the team's batting order.

"You've got to be invincibly strong," Ellsbury told Randy Miller of *New Jersey Advance Media*. "I played in two places that have high expectations, so it's all I know. That's all I know. I've never been in another organization. So the expectations always have been high wherever I've gone."

But while Ellsbury's numbers with the Yankees haven't lived up to expectations, the team remains hopeful that he can regain his old form.

"I still think that there is more in the tank with Jacoby Ellsbury for us," Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said in an interview with ESPN's Andrew Marchand.

Ellsbury, 33, is entering the fourth of a seven-year contract. Age is certainly not on his side at this point, although he's remained mostly free of significant injuries since joining the Yankees. He enters this upcoming season feeling fresh, not worried about what his age might suggest about his future.

"I don't even let that enter my mind," Ellsbury said of his age. "I still have speed. I still have explosiveness. That's how I view it. I try not to look at age, just how the body is feeling and the body feels good."



Above left, Darrell Cecilianni finds himself towards the bottom of a deep Toronto Blue Jays outfielder group as he fights for a role in the team's system. Above right, Jacoby Ellsbury is trying to live up to the expectations bestowed on him since he signed a seven-year, \$153 million contract with the New York Yankees in 2014.

Darrell Cecilianni fighting for a role in Blue Jays' system

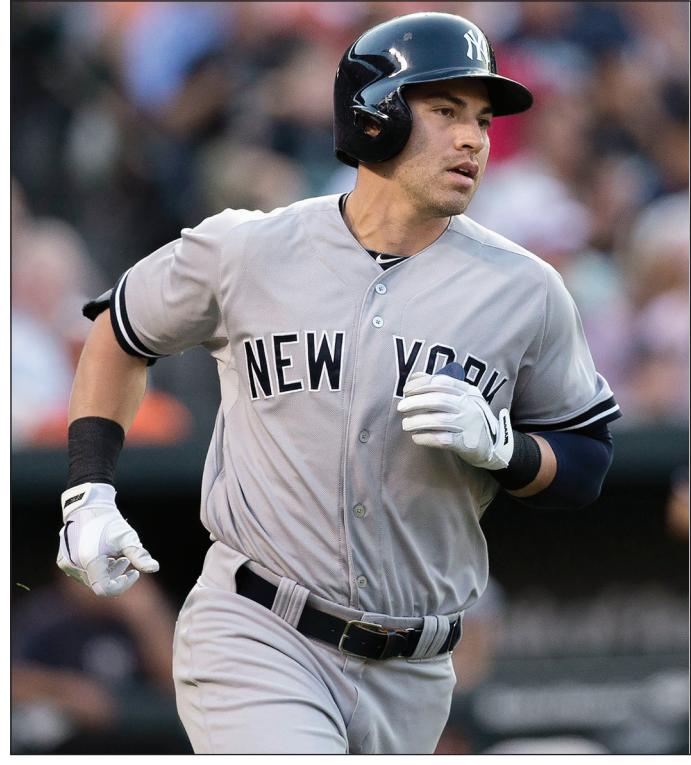
After going 15 of 36 from the plate with four home runs and 10 RBIs last spring, Darrell Cecilianni made a serious case to get a starting job with the Toronto Blue Jays.

Still, the Blue Jays optioned the lefty outfielder to Triple-A Buffalo to start the season. He

was called up to the Blue Jays twice during the season, first in June when Jose Bautista went on the disabled list, and again in August.

Cecilianni posted a line of .111/.172/.185 during his stint in the majors, which wasn't enough to hold onto a spot.

This season, the Blue Jays possess an even deeper outfield with nine guys on the



LEFT: ELSA IMAGES; RIGHT: KEITH ALLISON PHOTO

current 40-man roster. The others are Anthony Alford, Bautista, Ezequiel Carrera, Lourdes Gurriel, Kevin Pillar, Dalton Pompey and Harold Ramirez. Unfortunately, Cecilianni finds himself towards the bottom of that pecking order.

The likely best-case scenario for Cecilianni is either capitalizing on getting called up again if someone ahead of him

goes on the DL, or getting traded to another organization that lacks the outfield depth of the Blue Jays.

Cecilianni, 26, still has plenty of ball left to play, and he's flashed potential at past minor league stops. Now he just needs to get himself in the right opportunity, whether it's with the Blue Jays or another team.

Madras: Buffs are excited about the future

From Page B1

TVC's second team and Kaliyah Iverson earn a conference honorable mention.

Smith-Francis didn't play like a freshman when she was the leading scorer in each of the Buffs' first two games of the season — both wins. She learned she would be a starter on the day of her first high school game, and although she admitted to be nervous upon finding out, it didn't carry over to the game, or the rest of the season.

Smith-Francis averaged 10 points and 4.8 rebounds per game, and gave the Buffs another dependable scoring option throughout the season.

Madras coaches knew she could become a valuable high school basketball player, but wasn't sure how long she would take to adjust to the speed of high school var-

sity ball. If there was an adjustment period, it certainly didn't take long.

"She adjusted very well to the speed of the game," Lillebo said. "Going from eighth grade to varsity basketball is quite a jump."

Iverson's junior campaign started slow from a scoring standpoint, but that didn't stop her from contributing in a variety of other areas.

She rebounded, played the role of distributor when her shot wasn't falling, and made a nighty impact on defense, whether she was forcing steals from the Buffs' full-court trap or guarding the one of the opposing perimeter players.

As the Buffs' season ticked down to its final few games, Iverson rediscovered her shooting touch. She scored a season-high 19 points against Crook County in the team's final regular season game,

and led Madras with 16 points against Cottage Grove.

"With Kaliyah, it was a much more well-rounded game," Lillebo said. "Her rebounding was up; she's been a solid defender each year ... She found her stride toward the end offensively and she was getting solid looks. It was more of the little things with her."

All three of the Lady Buffs' all-league players, as well as the rest of the team, will be back next year for another chance at returning to the state tournament. After this season ended somewhat abruptly, players and coaches are excited to return for summer ball and get back to work.

"The future is bright for Madras girls basketball," Lillebo said. "They're going to be fighting tooth and nail next year."



Above, Madras freshman Jiana Smith-Francis (24) made an immediate impact for the Buffs in her first couple high school games and never looked back. Smith-Francis averaged 10 points and 4.8 rebounds for the season, good enough for second-team TVC honors. Right, Kaliyah Iverson received a TVC honorable mention after a junior season in which she averaged 7.3 points and 4.1 rebounds per game, and provided the Buffs with solid defense.



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SCOREBOARD

CALENDAR

March 14
Baseball
Culver vs. La Pine, 2 p.m.

Softball
Culver vs. La Pine, 2 and 4 p.m.

March 15
Baseball
Madras at Bend, 4 p.m.

Softball
Madras vs. Bend, 4 p.m.

Track and Field
Madras at Mt. View Relays, 3 p.m.

March 16
Track and Field
Culver at Crook County Icebreaker (Prineville), 3:30 p.m.

March 17
Baseball
Madras at Mountain View, 4 p.m.

Softball
Madras vs. Mountain View, 4 p.m.

March 18
Baseball
Culver at Santiam, noon and 2 p.m.

Softball
Culver at Santiam, noon and 2 p.m.

Track and Field
Madras at Estacada Invite, 10:30 a.m.

BOWLING

Results of Feb. 28 - March 4 week
Madras Bowl

Tuesday Night Twisters
Team standings

Dufur Taxidermy	4-0
Loving Lift	3-1
Got Sand	3-1
Freeloaders	2-2
Family Tradition	2-2
Madras Sanitary	2-2
Team Toto	2-2
Greased Lightening Gang	1-3
Willems Chiropractic	1-3
Thompson Pump & Irrig.	4-0

Individual scores
Men

High game: Lonny Macy 210, Kevin Urbach 206, Harry Hall 183
High series: Ray Shike 685, Joe Steller 537, Brent Johnson 518
High handicap game: Marcus Davis 281, Will O'Daniel 257, Liam Hollyman 252
High handicap series: Duane Ledford 769, John Williams 760

Women

High game: Stretch Light 212, Dawn O'Brien 153, Jean Stanton 151
High series: Cindy Dubisar 519, Jean McCloskey 480, Urbana Ross 431

High handicap game: Jordynn O'Brien 265, KristaShae Haugen 245, Tammy Wilson 235
High handicap series: Marles Vizner 761, Kathy Hall 705, Sara Ronning 695

Thursday Night Keglers
Team standings

Perfect Storm	29-15
Peter's Carpentry	29-15
Middleton's	27-17
Berg Air	26-18
Erickson's	24-20
D&D Realty	24-20
Thoze Guyz	23-21
Hometown Drug	20-24
Muck	18-26
Liquid Aloha Hydr.	16-28
Cruz-In-Carwash	15-29
TS&S	13-31

Individual scores
Men

High game: Kalani Kepaa 214,

Michael Roush 213, Bob Jones 212
High series: Kalani Kepaa 569, Vern Nelson 556, Jerry Alley 554, Bob Jones 554

High handicap game: Michael Roush 284, Bob Jones 274, Dave Olsen 267, Roger Muggli 267

High handicap series: Mateo Teague 764, Bob Jones 740, Richard Tandy 726

Women

High game: Walda Berry 188, Brenda Davis 187, Lindy Peters 178

High series: Walda Berry 542, Deanna Olsen 485, Lindy Peter 481

High handicap game: Laura Emerson 262, Brenda Davis 259, Lindy Peters 255

High handicap series: Laura Emerson 716, Lindy Peters 712, Tammie Clark 710

BASKETBALL

2A Boys State Playoffs, Pendleton
March 2
(Highest seed in caps)

WESTERN MENNONITE 51, Vernonia 44

SANTIAM 54, Imbler 39
Life Christian 49, COLUMBIA CHRISTIAN 41

STANFIELD 59, Oakridge 48

March 3

Vernonia 47, IMBLER 36
COLUMBIA CHRISTIAN 65, Oakridge 45

Santiam 53, WESTERN MENNONITE 33

STANFIELD 56, Life Christian 41

March 4

COLUMBIA CHRISTIAN 69, Vernonia 55 (4th/6th Place)

WESTERN MENNONITE 60, Life Christian 48 (3rd/5th Place)

Santiam 57, STANFIELD 54 (Championship)

2A Girls State Playoffs, Pendleton
March 2

IMBLER 48, Weston-McEwen 36

MONROE 47, Regis 43

KENNEDY 44, Grant Union 33

WESTERN MENNONITE 39, East Linn Christian Acad. 32

March 3

REGIS 52, Weston-McEwen 40

EAST LINN CHRISTIAN ACAD. 45, Grant Union 29

MONROE 41, Imbler 28

WESTERN MENNONITE 52, Kennedy 37

March 4

EAST LINN CHRISTIAN ACAD. 43, Regis 38 (4th/6th Place)

KENNEDY 39, Imbler 30 (3rd/5th Place)

MONROE 52, Western Mennonite 40 (Championship)

4A Boys Playoffs First Round
March 3

(Home team in Caps)

Tillamook 68, LA GRANDE 64

HENLEY 70, North Marion 63

PHILOMATH 56, Mazama 44

GLADSTONE 26, Sisters 25

Banks 39, COTTAGE GROVE 35

NORTH BEND 60, Sutherlin 42

VALLEY CATHOLIC 64, Newport 37

SEASIDE 68, Cascade 49

4A Girls Playoffs First Round
March 4

MAZAMA 33, Gladstone 31

NORTH MARION 53, Henley 51

MARSHFIELD 42, Stayton 35

BAKER 63, Valley Catholic 60

SUTHERLIN 51, Douglas 43

CASCADE 51, Cottage Grove 26

Seaside 38, MOLALLA 31

BANKS 55, North Bend 26

FISHING

ODFW Central region fishing report

Last updated Feb. 28

High game: Kalani Kepaa 214,

ANTELOPE FLAT RESERVOIR: rainbow trout

Current condition of the reservoir is unknown. Please contact the U.S. Forest Service for road conditions at 541-416-6500.

BEND PINE NURSERY: rainbow trout, bluegill, bass

Pine Nursery Pond is located in northeast Bend between Purcell, Deschutes Market and Yeoman Road. From Highway 97, take Empire Blvd exit, head east on Empire Blvd 1.5 miles, turn left on Purcell 1900 feet, turn right on Rock Creek Park Drive at sign to Pine Nursery Community Park.

BIKINI POND: rainbow trout

No recent reports. But the pond is ice-free and there should be some rainbow trout that have overwintered.

CRANE PRAIRIE RESERVOIR: rainbow trout, brook trout, largemouth bass, kokanee

Closed to fishing for the season.

CRESCENT LAKE: rainbow trout, brown trout, lake trout and kokanee

Open all year.

CROOKED RIVER BELOW BOWMAN DAM: redband trout, mountain whitefish

The water level will be maintained at winter levels since irrigation season is over. The river is mostly ice free, especially closer to the dam and in the faster flowing water. Fishing has been slow in the cold weather and trout numbers per mile are down significantly from recent years. As a reminder, bait is no longer allowed on the river and all trout over 20 inches are considered steelhead and must be immediately released unharmed.

Flows below Bowman Dam

CULTUS LAKE: rainbow trout, lake trout

Open to fishing all year.

DAVIS LAKE: largemouth bass, redband trout

Open to fishing all year. Restricted to fly-fishing only with barbless hooks. Catch and release for trout. No limits on warmwater fish.

DESCHUTES RIVER, MOUTH TO THE PELTON REGULATING DAM: summer steelhead, redband trout, whitefish

Spring is in the air on the lower Deschutes. Trout should start getting active and feeding, generally in the middle of the day when air and water temperature peak.

Unfortunately, due to expected low returns of spring Chinook in the Deschutes basin, spring Chinook fishing will remain closed in 2017. By permanent rule, Chinook fishing will reopen on Aug. 1.

Anglers are reminded that the Deschutes River, from the northern border of the Warm Springs Reservation upstream to Pelton Dam, closed Dec. 31 to steelhead and trout fishing. Trout fishing will reopen on April 22.

Anglers who catch a tagged hatchery steelhead with an orange anchor tag, are encouraged to report catch information to ODFW at 541-296-4628.

Anglers catching a tagged wild fish should release it immediately without recording any information.

Counts at the Sherars Falls salmon and steelhead trap. The trap is only in operation from July to the end of October. Trapping has ended at Sherars Falls for the season.

LAKE BILLY CHINOOK TO BENHAM

FALLS: rainbow trout, brown trout

Open for trout all year. Fishing restricted to artificial flies and lures. No size or limits on brown trout and no harvest of bull trout.

BENHAM FALLS UPSTREAM TO LAVA LAKE: Closed to fishing for the season.

DEVILS LAKE: rainbow trout

Cascade Lakes Highway snow gates closed. Open to fishing all year.

EAST LAKE: rainbow trout, brown trout, kokanee

Snow gate at 10 mile Snow Park closed. Open to fishing all year. Wild rainbow trout must be released.

FALL RIVER: rainbow trout

Anglers report fair fishing but access is limited due to snow. Forest Service road 4060 is not plowed during the winter. Open to fishing all year. Restricted to fly-fishing only with barbless hooks.

HAYSTACK RESERVOIR: rainbow trout, kokanee, largemouth bass, black crappie

There are spots of open water as the ice is breaking up. The ice is not safe to walk on. Fishing for trout is usually good following ice off.

HOOD RIVER: winter steelhead

Winter steelhead are beginning to pass over Bonneville, and should be showing in the Hood River in decent numbers. In fact, a few bright winter steelhead already have been reported. Predicted warming temperatures should improve success.

HOSMER LAKE: brook, rainbow and cutthroat trout

Cascade Lakes Highway snow gates closed. Open to fishing all year. Restricted to fly-fishing only with barbless hooks. Catch-and-release for all species.

LAKE BILLY CHINOOK: bull, brown and rainbow trout, kokanee, smallmouth bass

Angling has been fair for bull trout. Opportunities should improve as adults return to the reservoir after spawning in the Metolius River tributaries. Anglers are reminded there are small numbers of spring Chinook, Sockeye Salmon and summer steelhead in Lake Billy Chinook as part of the reintroduction effort. Please release these fish unharmed.

LAKE SIMTUSTUS: bull trout, rainbow trout, smallmouth bass

Open year-round.

LAVA LAKE (BIG): rainbow trout

Cascade Lakes Highway snow gates closed. Open to fishing all year.

LAVA LAKE (SMALL): rainbow trout, brook trout

Cascade Lakes Highway snow gates closed. Open to fishing all year.

Two Bulldog boys named to CBC teams

Mike Davis and Weston Basl receive first-time recognition

BY WILL DENNER
Sports Editor

A pair of Culver boys basketball players were named to All-Columbia Basin Conference teams, which was a first for both of them, according to head coach Johnny Wilson.

Senior Mike Davis earned second-team honors after a season in which he averaged a double-double of 10.9 points and 10 rebounds per game. The 6-foot-3 post also averaged a team-high 2.4 blocks per game, establishing himself as the team's primary rim protector and inside defender.

Davis also chipped in one assist per game, as he developed a passing touch from the post throughout the season and set his teammates up for open looks from the perimeter.

Culver junior Weston Basl was also named a CBC honorable mention. Basl led the Bulldogs in scoring with an average of 13.1 points per game, to go along with 3.5 rebounds and 1.5 steals per game.

Basl's scoring came from a variety of areas, but much of it came from 3-point field goals.

He shot 35 of 114 from behind the arc for the season, which was a good for 31 percent — a team best. Basl played in all but one game, as a result of an ankle injury, but was the team's main source of offense when he was on the floor.

Although the Bulldogs lose Davis, as well as fellow seniors Tony Olivares, Ian Stevens and Chris Munoz-Toldo, to graduation, they will return a solid core of Basl, Matt Krueger and David Gutierrez, to name a few.

Of course, that doesn't account for the expected growth of several JV players who will make the leap to varsity next season. The boys basketball program as a whole grew from 17 to 22 players this season, which helped both teams tremendously.

Despite a weather-shortened schedule this season, the Culver JV team, led by coach Zak Caldwell, finished 3-11, which was the most any Culver JV team had won since the 2010-11 season, according to Wilson. Many of those JV players were eased into varsity minutes this season, but several of them will now be called on to fill voids left by departing seniors.

Although the Bulldogs varsity squad finished with a 1-18 record for the season, this year marked the first time in three years that multiple players were named to an all-league team.



WILL DENNER/MADRAS PIONEER

Above left, Culver senior Mike Davis (right) earned second-team CBC honors after averaging 10.9 points and 10 rebounds per game this season. Above right, junior Weston Basl (3) led the Bulldogs in scoring with an average of 13.1 points per game, and was named a CBC honorable mention.

Culver: Fritz, Houle named co-head coaches of the year

■ From Page B1

and grit made opposing teams hard pressed to gameplan for and stop her. Per game averages of 16 points, 11.2 rebounds and 5.5 steals are proof that her impact for the Bulldogs on the offensive and defensive side of the ball are unmatched.

Those impacts can sometimes be difficult to quantify for a high school player, but one particular stat, efficiency, shows how important Retano is to the Bulldogs. The stat is calculated by adding the major statistical categories (points, rebounds, assists, steals, etc.) and subtracting missed shots, missed free throws and turnovers. While most Culver players' efficiency hovered in the range of 0 to 8, Retano's efficiency was rated at 18.8 for the season.



Left, Mia Gamboa's sophomore season as Culver's primary ballhandler earned her a spot on the CBC first team. Above, senior Jessica Johnson (25) made steady improvements throughout her high school career to earn a CBC second-team nod.

Johnson, along with Retano, primarily played wing positions before this season, but smoothly adjusted to playing closer to the basket. She also led the team's full-court press off of made baskets by defending the inbounds pass.

"She's really worked her butt off to get to a point where she's a second-team all conference player," Fritz said.

In addition to those three all-league players, Culver's two head coaches, Fritz and Houle, shared CBC coach of the year honors.

The plan at the beginning of the season was for Houle to assume sole head-coaching duties, while Fritz would coach the JV team and handle administrative work for the team.

But after Houle was in a car accident and missed several games, Fritz jumped back into the head coach's seat. Culver's players were forced to switch between each coach's style on several occasions, but did so smoothly.

Culver finished with a 13-8 record, and came within one game of making the playoffs.

"That's a testament to the girls and how they play," Fritz said of the coaching award. "They just play; they don't worry about mistakes or who was in the coaching box that particular game."

As two of their biggest playmakers return next season with more experience, the Bulldogs are eyeing a deep run at the playoffs.

Gamboa also took a major step from her freshman to sophomore season, as she was tasked with being the team's primary ballhandler. Culver's offense is built around passing and cutting less than set plays, which requires the point guard to read and react to the defense often.

Gamboa answered the call, and put together a season of 10.2 points, 4.2 steals and 1.2 assists per game.

"I was really proud of how far she came, not just in her play, but her leadership," Fritz said. "She really ran the show and was basically in charge out there."

With two seasons remaining for each of them, Retano and Gamboa still have plenty of room to grow. The difference going forward, however, is that they are no longer unknown to opponents. Culver's coaches will have more work to do next season to get them open, though it's a challenge they welcome.

"The hard part for Irma is, they know her now, and same with Mia," Culver coach Rene Houle said. "It's nice coming underneath the radar, per say."

In her last high school basketball season, Johnson was a presence in the post, with season averages of 8.2 points and 5.9 rebounds per game.

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