

# Lincoln City HOMEPAGE

SPORTS EDITION Local news that fits in your pocket

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## Hattons bid fond farewell



Heather, Maya and Rick Hutton

### Hattons close out home golf careers in fitting fashion

by JIM FOSSUM

Excuse Taft High girls golf coach Heather Hutton for feeling a little like she'd just finished 18 grueling holes of competitive tournament play using just a putter — only to find she'd been extended to sudden death. "This is my 20th season coaching, my last home match as the head coach, and my senior daughter's final home athletic event of her high school career. I was an emotional wreck today, but made it through," she said. Hutton, her assistant coach and husband, Rick, and her star player, daughter Maya, bid farewell to organized tournament golf at Chinook Winds Golf Resort on Thursday by winning the team title and medalist honors in fitting fashion.

"Today was filled with emotions and energy, and Maya handled it like a champ," Hutton said of her 17-year-old star player, who broke 80 for the first time in her stellar four-year varsity career with a 79 to lead the Lady Tigers to the championship with their lowest score of the season. "Today was the most emotionally and athletically exciting day of my high school golf career," Maya said. "I would like to thank my parents for their support and patience with me. They are the sole reason I have been able to accomplish everything within my golf and academic history." Maya, who will attend the College of Idaho on a golf scholarship,

bettered her previous-best score on the resort hotel course by four shots. Blanchet Catholic's Katie Goodwin and Sweet Home's Haley May tied for second at 85. "I'm so proud of her — not just because of her golf skills, but because she has become an amazing human," Hutton said. "I'm so impressed with her work ethic. She doesn't know the word quit." Taft took advantage of gorgeous playing conditions to overcome the challenge of eight schools, including five that fielded full teams. In addition to Maya Hutton, senior twin sisters Jocelyn

and Jorja Arguello were honored prior to the competition for their contributions to the program. "It was humbling to see the people who showed up to support our senior athletes," Hutton said. Former player Shelby Wright, who graduated in 2017, was among those following the Tigers. "Maya and Shelby have been friends a long time, and to see a former teammate show support like that is a coach's dream," she said. The support carried over to other Taft players, such as sophomore Sammy Halferty, who posted a



Maya Hutton

career-low 99. "Sammy has really showed up in a big way at a time we need her to," Hutton said. In closing, Hutton cited the involvement of the Chinook Winds Golf Resort staff for making the day special for the players, coaches and fans. "I couldn't be a prouder coach for my final home tournament," she said. "This has been an amazing day that I will remember for a long time."



**STEAM Expo a hit**  
Science, technology, engineering, art, and math. at Taft High. See below...



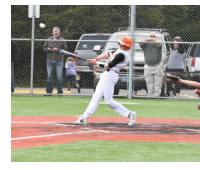
**Softball Key Win**  
Emma Coulter and the gang hand Dayton defeat in key game. See below...



**Swim Lincoln City**  
Swimmers came from all over the state for the annual April Invitational. See below...



**Boy's Golf Wins**  
Logan Merry shoots 81 to propel Taft Boy's golf team to win at Creswell.



**Taft Routs Dayton**  
No. 1-ranked Tigers routed Dayton 19-0 in a West Valley League home game.



**Home Run Derby**  
Lincoln City Youth League put on a home run derby to raise funds. SEE FACEBOOK

## Comeback earns Hatton medalist honors

by JIM FOSSUM



Taft High senior Maya Hutton rallied from two shots down at the turn Monday to catch Salem Academy star and longtime rival Katie Goodwin and win the Special District 2 Preview girls golf tournament in Aumsville. Hutton shot 39 on the back nine on an 18-hole 46-39-85 to win by two strokes over the former Blanchet Catholic player at Santiam Golf Club. "Again, I can't say enough about Maya's hard work," her coach and mother, Heather Hutton, said. Taft placed second behind the co-op team of Salem Academy and Blanchet Catholic. A merger of the two squads earlier this season

allowed Goodwin to play on a team rather than as an individual this season, Hutton said. "It created a strong team in our league that will be hard to beat," she said. Taft junior Violet Palermini carded her lowest career round with a 102. "She was hitting her irons very well and has just been working on relaxing and not getting so nervous," Hutton said. "When Violet just goes out to play golf for fun instead of for score, she does well." Junior Olivia Baker compiled a 108 for Taft's third-best score. **FULL STORY ON OUR WEBSITE**

## Taft High's Knott breaks own record

by Jim Fossum



Talk about a short shelf life! Taft High sophomore Ella Knott broke her own school record in the javelin Friday after setting the mark just two days earlier in Corvallis. Knott hurled the javelin 130 feet, 6 inches at the Central Coast Invitational track and field meet in Florence mere hours after breaking Rose Hollingsworth's 13-year-old school record with a throw of 129 feet, 2 inches. Knott also won the pole vault with a personal-best jump of 8 feet in leading the Taft girls to sixth place in the 13-team event hosted by Siuslaw High School. The Taft boys, led by senior sprinter Gabe

Arce-Torres' victories in the 200- and 400-meter dashes, placed fifth. Perennial Class 4A power Philomath won both the boys and girls team titles. While Knott was the only Taft representative with a top-three finish in the girls competition, senior distance runner Preston Nightingale won the 1,500-meter run, Arce-Torres finished second in the 100 and junior Mad Scott was third in the javelin for the boys.

Boys		
1.	Philomath	122
2.	Dallas	114
3.	Pleasant Hill	93
4.	Siuslaw	75
5.	Taft	69
Girls		
1.	Philomath	187
2.	Central Linn	95
3.	Pleasant Hill	80
4.	Dallas	69
5.	Siuslaw	65
6.	Taft	43

## STEAM Expo a hit for Taft

by JUSTIN WERNER

The Foucault pendulum was where Noah Lambie, head of the Science Department at Taft High School, had the idea to strap our GoPro on it as it proved the rotation of the Earth. it was a great video, with Taft High golf star Maya Hutton making guest appearances in it. Students and visitors mingled in this mashup of science, technology, engineering, art, math, and the public. A highly successful and educational event, we hope we are invited back next year.

## Pirates walk plank

by JIM FOSSUM

Sophomore Emma Coulter hit and pitched Taft High to victory with two RBIs and a six-hitter Friday for a key 4-2 home win over Dayton in a showdown between unbeaten West Valley League teams. "Tonight's game was a huge win for us," Taft coach Sandy Stuart said. "We came out totally confident and clear-headed. We earned a big win and a big step in taking the league title. Dayton is a rival in our league and the team to beat." Senior third baseman Naomi Rini, sophomore catcher Hailee Dannecker and freshman shortstop Clair Tolan had two hits each for Taft, while Dannecker and senior centerfielder Alyssa Tanksley drove home runs against the Pirates (10-6, 4-1). "Not only did we have nine base hits off of a great pitcher, but we played tough defense and maintained a winning attitude throughout the game," said Stuart, who cited Dannecker for a pivotal throw to second to help keep the Pirates off the base paths.

## No place like home

by JIM FOSSUM

The Lincoln City Swim Club boys, led by a dominant group of 12-and-under athletes, splashed their way to the team title, while the girls placed third Sunday in the annual April Invitational that featured approximately 230 competitors. More than a thousand family, friends and fans thrust a shot in the arm of the local economy over three days of competition that showcased young swimmers of all ages in various sprint and distance events. The competition, which began Friday evening with the longer races, included qualifying heat races and finals in the sprints and other events as the weekend progressed. Featured was competitive drama that ran the gamut from early elementary schoolers to teenagers. Huge drops in times were the order of the day throughout the weekend as several swimmers posted their lifetime-best efforts in kicking off the summer swimming season in the Lincoln City Community Center pool.

### A LAST WORD FOR OUR READERS

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Thanks for reading!

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# Lefty Kimbrough blazes way for Tiger's 10th straight baseball win

by JIM FOSSUM

Junior reliever Bleiz Kimbrough made the most of a rare start Tuesday with a one-hit, 10-strikeout road shutout of Sheridan for Taft High's 10th straight victory and seventh in a row shortened by the state's 10-run mercy rule.

The top-ranked Tigers moved to 16-2 overall and 7-0 in Class 3A West Valley League play behind the southpaw's 10-0 five-inning victory over the Spartans, who fell to 1-13, 0-7.

"We came out flat tonight and the energy went where we need it to be," Taft Coach Matt Higers said. "We were glad to get the win tonight, but we know we better be looking ahead and not overlook anyone."

The Tigers scored a run in the top of the second inning and three in the third before erupting for six in the fourth for a 10-0 lead after defeating the Spartans 28-0 at home on March 21.

Junior second baseman Cody Knott went 3-for-3 with four RBIs to lead the Tigers at the plate.

Senior shortstop Josh Salsbery and sophomore Eli DeMello, playing third, had two hits each for Taft.

Senior centerfielder Caleb King drove home three runs, while King, Salsbery and senior first baseman Jack Stempel scored twice each.

Salsbery, Stempel and junior Kam Kessler, starting at catcher, also drove home runs for the Tigers, while DeMello,



TAFT  
Bleiz Kimbrough (W) IP H R ER BB SO HR  
5.00 1 0 0 2 10 0



Eli DeMello robs a Sheridan base hit

## Taft 10, Sheridan 0

TAFT	AB	R	H	BI
Josh Salsbery	4	2	2	1
Eli DeMello	4	1	2	0
Caleb King	4	2	1	3
Jack Stempel	3	2	1	1
Cody Knott	3	1	3	4
Kam Kessler	3	0	1	1
Tyee Fisher	3	1	1	0
Bleiz Kimbrough	3	0	0	0
Trenton Fisher	1	1	1	0
W McAllister	1	0	0	0
Spencer Adair	1	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>



Gerber TIRE

Gerber TIRE

Gerber TIRE

Gerber TIRE

Say what you want about the Taft High softball team's spring-break tournament experience last month in California that resulted in five straight defeats to bigger out-of-state schools ...

The Tigers take losing to heart.

Unbeaten at 6-0 and ranked No. 1 in the state at the time, Taft transformed the humbling encounters into a six-game winning streak by pummeling Sheridan 30-3 and 28-0 on the road Tuesday.

"Today was actually two of those games that are difficult to play in and to coach," Taft Coach Sandy Stuart said. "We had the pleasure of being in the warm sunshine, and we were relaxed and hit well, but we had to adjust our game-play quite a bit."

The Lady Tigers improved to

# Two softball wins for Lady Tigers

by JIM FOSSUM

12-5 and 6-0 in West Valley League play by completing a postponed game that started with the score 9-3 with a 30-run victory. They then went on to defeat the Spartans by the same margin in the second game.

Sheridan, which fell to 1-11, 0-6, allowed just 11 Taft hits, but walked 25 batters in the first game. The Tigers, who trailed 3-0 after the top of the first in the uncompleted game, scored nine runs in the bottom of the inning and 11 in the third to roll to the victory.

"It is hard when the girls are hitting well and wanting to run the bases and you want to encourage their excitement, but also have to remember that there are nine other girls out on the field working hard and struggling," Stuart said. "We did our best to play and

be a class team through both shortened games."

Senior third baseman

Naomi Rini and sophomore catcher Hailee Danneker had five RBIs apiece in the opener. Sophomore pitcher Emma Coulter and senior centerfielder Alyssa Tanksley had three RBIs each.

Outfielder Kyla Knott scored five runs, and fellow freshmen shortstop Clairia Tolan and second baseman Kayla Lininger four runs each. All 10 players crossed home plate at least once for the Lady Tigers.

Class 3A Taft, which entered play ranked fourth in the state, is at seventh-rated Clatskanie (14-2, 3-1 3A Lewis & Clark) at 4:30 p.m. Thursday.

Taft 30 Sheridan 3  
Taft 28 Sheridan 0

## SAMARITAN NORTH LINCOLN HOSPITAL ANNUAL MEDICAL MISSION



Dr. Raj Baman



Dr. Alex LaFaunce handing out stickers

For the past 25 years, a group of physicians and other staff from Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital have participated in medical mission trips around the world, organized through the Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church.

This year's two-week trip, held earlier this year, included two days at Rwamwanja Refugee Settlement in Uganda. More than 70,000 people live at the settlement, displaced by a brutal civil war in the neighboring country of Congo.

Next, the team spent five days in the city of Ishaka. Stationed outside of Ishaka Adventist Hospital, all care was provided outdoors, sheltered by tents.

Under the guidance of Dr. Erling Oksenholt, this year's team included Dr. Raj Baman, Dr. Alexa LaFaunce and Dr. Janine VanSant, along with pharmacist Dr. Joe Evans, registered nurse Laura Smith and others from the community, including Johnie Souza, a mental health care provider. While the mission trip is sponsored by the SDA Church, mission participants need only be qualified and willing workers.

Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital has supported the trip all these years by allowing several providers and other clinicians to be away from

work at the same time. The hospital has also provided medications for the teams to take.

As a guest on a recent radio broadcast of the "Samaritan Health Report," Souza told about the trip from her point of view.

"The doctors were busy seeing people with an array of medical problems," she said. "They saw an incredible garden variety of minor problems to major trauma. Ulcers, significant trauma from physical brutalization, someone suffering from headaches for 10 years, chest trauma from being hit with the butt of a rifle..."

This is the second year she participated. Previous trips have taken medical teams to where there is need and where there are connections to make it happen: throughout Africa, Asia and South America. Those not familiar with conditions in these third-world countries are quick to notice the infrastructure is quite different, the poverty is severe, and the culture is, of course, foreign. ... FULL STORY ON OUR WEBSITE



Samaritan Health Services



## Carnival on the Coast

by JUSTIN WERNER

The Carnival is coming to town! Thrilling Rides, Midway Games, and Carnival Cuisine at Chinook Winds! "All you can ride" wristband \$25 Discount Ride Tickets \$2.50 each Rides take 1 ticket per person per ride



## Firefighter Tour

by NLFR

On Saturday, April 28 we will be holding an open house at Station 1400. Come on down and meet some of our firefighters, look at the apparatus that we have, and of course tour the fire station.



# Taft's Arce-Torres, Hatton, Rini to sign college athletic letters



by JIM FOSSUM

Taft High senior track star Gabe Arce-Torres will sign a letter of intent to attend Western Oregon University on Wednesday, May 2, in the Taft High Commons.

Arce-Torres, who turns 18 Saturday, will join senior golfer Maya Hatton and senior soccer player Naomi Rini at 11:45 a.m. in signing letters to attend colleges on athletic scholarships. Hatton has committed to play at the College of Idaho in Caldwell, while Rini has committed to Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton.

"I'm just overjoyed with the opportunity to continue running in college," Arce-Torres said. "Collegiate sports have always been my dream and it's amazing to see all the hard work pay off."

Also a star soccer player, Arce-Torres is the defending Class 3A State titleholder in the 200-meter dash. He intends to study marine biology in the field of natural sciences at the

NCAA Division II school in Monmouth.

"As a coach, I am pleased he decided to go D2 rather than NIAA. The competition is much higher and the facilities much nicer," his father and coach, Joey Arce-Torres, said. "As his father, I love that he is closer to home and that the campus is larger and provides more opportunities for his studies."

A first-team All-State player and three-time team captain in soccer, the 5-foot, 11-inch, 145-pound National Honor Society member owns a 3.75 grade point average and is the 2017 West Valley League Runner of the Year.

"Ultimately, I am just thankful for all the time I have put into this sport and the fact that I get to continue doing what I love for the next four years of my life," Arce-Torres said.

Arce-Torres also swam for Taft and was the only swimmer to qualify for State in an individual event (50-meter freestyle). He is the only current Taft athlete to compete at State in every sport he or she has participated in.

"I am extremely proud of him and his work ethic," his coach and father said.

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# Homepage recognizes Jim Fossom

Have you seen the sports coverage in Lincoln City lately? Jim Fossom, sports editor, has been on fire. He's getting the stories to the newsroom quickly and most importantly, accurately. This has been great for Lincoln City Homepage

and we just wanted to take some time to recognize the hard work that Fossom has put in. The featured articles on the Hattons and Naomi Rini went far and above anything we expected, and the community

reaction has been overwhelming. Thanks to Fossom, Lincoln City athletes are getting the recognition they deserve, and it couldn't come at a better time. From all of us in Lincoln City we'd like to say...

Thank you!