

SPORTS NEWS

First Annual Crowley Classic Finals:

SVHS Men First in New Tourney; Lady Rams Battle to Second

By Gale Armstrong Moses
ALASKA PIONEER PRESS

SUNSHINE —Su Valley basketball teams played several intense, stimulating and heart-breaking games against well-matched opponents for three days last week.

The Crowley Classic Basketball tournament was hosted by Susitna Valley Jr./Sr. High School Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 11-13.

In the girls championship game, the Fort Yukon Lady Eagles outlasted a late surge by Su Valley to squeak out a 45-44 victory.

Tournament MVP Candace Carroll led all scorers with 34 points, but fouled out late in the game. Su Valley overcame a 12-point deficit in the 4th quarter to tie the game, according to Su Valley Athletic Director Jimmy Sickler.

A delay of game technical foul against Su Valley gave Fort Yukon's

Chasity Herbert the opportunity to make the game winning free-throw in the final seconds of the game.

In the boys championship game, Tournament MVP, Bill Kelly had 18 points and Skyler Hamler had 15 points to lead the tournament host Su Valley Rams past the Nenana Lynx 60-44. Tim Standifer led all scorers with 26 points.

Chris Bartel led the Rams with 6 assists and Skyler Hamler had 10 rebounds. Bill Kelly had 3 blocks.

Su Valley was led by Sierra Pedersen with 21 points, 6 assists, and 8 rebounds. Bailey Stevenson had 4 steals. Katherine Wollett had a double-double with 10 points and 14 rebounds while adding 3 blocks. At one point it appeared as if she was trampled by the opponents.

Awards included ribbons with medals for the All Tournament Team members and trophies to winning teams. The MVPs (most valuable players) awards were made to

Fort Yukon's Candace Carroll and SuValley's "Big" Bill Kelly.

Crowley Fuel provided the tournament's underwriting and long sleeve tournament t-shirts for all participants.

Schools participating in the tournament included the Tri-Valley Vikings of Healy, Matanuska Christian Eagles, the Cornerstone Spartans the Fort Yukon Eagles, the Valley Christian Bears, the Nenana Lynx the Wings Christian Eagles and Whittier.

All-Tournament Team - Boys

Tim Standifer	Nenana
Nick Swain	Whittier
Alexander Petty	Wings
Roland James	Fort Yukon
Jon Turner	Valley Christian
Darrell Pine	Valley Christian
Dylan Figley	Su Valley

Paxson Matthews	Su Valley
Jared Wood	Wings
Edwin Whaskey	Nenana

All-Tournament Team - Girls

Haley Tyler	Nenana
Daphne Williams	Nenana
Chasity Herbert	Fort Yukon
Bailey Stevenson	Su Valley
Sierra Pedersen	Su Valley
Katherine Wollett	Su Valley
Kelsie McGraw	Cornerston
Sierra O'Connor	Su Valley
Leyla Sinyawski	Valley Christian
Rachel Smith	Matanuska Christian

Athletic Director Sickler of Su Valley was given the tournament's overall MVP award for his part in organizing the 12-school, multi-day tournament at the brand new Su Valley campus.

An Eternal Question — Where Will Oosik Race Start?

By John R. Moses
ALASKA PIONEER PRESS

TALKEETNA — Two years ago the Oosik Classic Ski Race started at Fish Lake on the Talkeetna Spur Road.

Last year it began on Talkeetna's Village Airstrip, and people parked at what now is Church on the Rock in Talkeetna.

This year? It would take the Farmer's Almanac, a letter from Old Man Winter and divine intervention to guarantee a place more than a month before the race.

Race organizer Billy Barstow said details of the course and its starting

line are somewhat a moving target. The race could start from last year's spot, the Fish Lake site, or some other locale — it depends entirely on river ice conditions on March 20.

The annual Oosik Classic survived a brush with cancellation, and will once again begin somewhere near or in Talkeetna on March 20.

The cross country ski race usually has a 25K and a 50K course, and course grooming is already underway.

The problem for organizers, participants and interested residents and

merchants is this: Where will the course begin?

Barstow said last year's race drew 337 skiers.

This year the regional winter sports event "Arctic Winter Games" may draw some participants and their families to other venues. He still expects a lot of people for a race that usually draws people to the village on Friday for entertainment purposes and traditionally carries over to a post-race dance.

People coming to town on March

19th may choose to take in Denali Drama's show "How to Make Love like an Alaskan... Sleepless in Soldotna."

The Web site that usually handles Oosik race registration is <http://www.anchoragenordicski.com/Events/oosik.htm>.

Call Bill Barstow more information at 733-1411. KTNA Community Radio (www.ktna.org) and the Alaska Pioneer Press (www.akpioneerpress.com) will also have updated race information as it becomes available.

Mat-Su Pike Derby Winners — Week 2

• **Longest Pike:** Susan Schachle-35 inches AK COZY COAL gift Certificate, Pittman and Wasilla Gas Cards, Deshka Landing T-Shirt.

• **Shortest Pike:** Bob Witz-14 3/8 inches-Raven Glass Works-Stained Glass Pike, Silverbear Sundries-Mug and Lotion, New Sponsor Alaska Forge-Moose Coat Hooks.

• **Heaviest Pike:** Jason Sharlow 9 lb 14 oz Dinner at the Rock,

Houston Lodge T-Shirt, Weekend at the Little Su campground. Mat-Su Anglers Membership

• **Most Number of Pike:** Bob Witz — 38-in week 2-Sportsman's Warehouse Gift Card, MasterAngler T-Shirt.

Overall Winners

Bob Witz-Most # 70 fish
Jason Sharlow longest -39 1/2 inches 2nd Most Number 30 fish-Heaviest (17lb 9 oz)

Susan Schachle-2nd heaviest 10

lb. 3 oz. 2nd longest 35 inches

Bob Witz - Shortest 14 3/8 inches

Memory Lake Family Fun Day-is March 27, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Follow the signs

The derby ends March 31. The 2010 Awards Banquet takes place on April 11 at the Houston Lodge starting at 6 p.m.

Go to www.matsupikederby.com for the latest details.

ONLINE

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many positive attributes. Post pictures of your living circumstances, the area around you. You might be surprised to learn who has a hankering to make a change as big as moving to Alaska.

The Internet is a rich and rewarding place to get information and to explore life alternatives. Use it to the best of your ability. Local libraries and some other public places have free computers for use by those who don't own computers. You can bring your laptop to many public locations to use free wi-fi to access the Internet. If you're looking for a great SO, companion or partner, get out there. Start with a three- or four-word search that might be the title for your story. For example, "Single Female Likes Outdoors." Happy searching.

Su Valley High to Host Scholarship Fair March 2

SUNSHINE — Juniors and Seniors attending Susitna Valley Jr./Sr. High School and home school students (ages 14-18) bound for education beyond high school are invited to attend the 2010 Su Valley Scholarship Fair.

Representatives for different

scholarship sponsors will be on hand to discuss applications and requirements.

Volunteers will be available to answer scholarship questions.

A wide variety of scholarship opportunities will be made available to students who are thinking of attending vocational or scholastic schools and need financial help

with the tuition and other expenses.

The Scholarship Fair will be held Tuesday, March 2, starting at 11:20 a.m. at the new Su Valley High School campus near Mile 98 of the Parks Highway.

For details contact June Ruda at 733-93xx or e-mail her at june.ruda@matsuk12.us.