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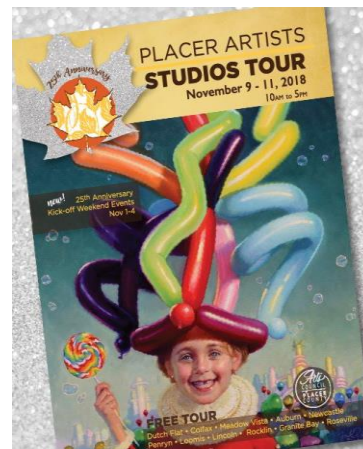
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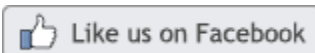


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Erik Saari

Q & A with the Armored Combat League's Pacific Region Commander

We sat down with Erik to chat before the Pacific Grizzlies Armored Combat League's next big event - the Feast of Steel - which will take place on Sunday, Nov. 18 @the Grounds in Roseville and found out just what it takes to be a true USA Knight and much more!

Q: How and when did you become involved with Armored Combat?

A: I became involved with the Armored Combat League (ACL) in 2013 after seeing a video of the very first European Tournament with the USA Knights. After that I simply reached out to the organization and was welcomed into its bottom ranks.

Q: You are an official USA Knight and Regional Commander - what did you have to do to earn those titles?

A: To earn the title of Regional Commander I had to fight - literally and figuratively. As a new fighter, an "Aspirant", I had to earn my place on the team by fighting in tournaments across the country all year long. Once selected I had to fight in the International Tournament against other countries as a member of the USA Knights. Every step proving I was also capable off the field in Leadership roles. As the ACL grew and Chapters formed I became the President of the Sacramento Chapter. Again, fighting and proving myself on and off the field. Then in 2015 I was appointed as Regional Commander and the fight continued. The incredible growth and popularity of our sport has brought many welcomed challenges and in the ACL you get to earn your place.



Q: When you aren't battling it out as a knight for the ACL, you are still a hero in many ways -especially with your chosen profession. Can you tell our readers what you do and how this may make you a better armored combat warrior?

A: Away from the ACL, professionally, I am a Fire Captain. As a Captain I am in command of a Company and this makes a very equal translation from fighting fires with group tactics and strategy to armored combat where our melee is fought in small groups. It is very similar. The training, the expertise with equipment, the practiced tactics, the communications and the reliable leadership is what makes it all work. Top to bottom. What makes a good fire fighter often makes a good steel fighter.

Q: For you personally, what is the most rewarding and exciting aspect of your Knighthood and Armored Combat journey?

A: For me the most rewarding part of my journey with the ACL has been the people. The combat is intense and uniquely exhilarating for sure. But to share in that experience, to bring people up from the bottom and see them succeed at something so challenging is my greatest reward. The growth and the success we have had in the Pacific Region has been a testament to that spirit of camaraderie and willingness to sacrifice for your teammates. Being able to be a part of something that is bigger than yourself is something very special.

[Click here to for more information on the Feast of Steel.](#)

[Click here for more information on the Pacific Grizzlies.](#)

World Youth Football Championship

The Bay Area Regional Games to be Played at Rocklin and Whitney High Schools on Nov. 29-Dec. 2

Placer Valley Tourism is thrilled to announce they are teaming up with the Pro Football Hall of Fame Academy to bring the World Youth Football Championship Bay Area Regional to Placer Valley. This exciting event will take place on Nov. 29 through Dec. 2 in Rocklin.



Teams from all throughout California will arrive on Thursday, Nov. 29 for weigh-ins and official registration. On Friday afternoon the games will begin and continue all day on both Saturday, Dec. 1 and Sunday, Dec. 2 on the football fields of Rocklin and Whitney High Schools. The tournament will showcase players as young as 8-years-old up to 14-years-old with a two-bracket format that features unweighted and weighted divisions.

Only the top eight teams will move on to the World Youth Championship that will take place in Canton, Ohio at the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Dec. 13-16. Canton is calling and these teams are ready for the challenge!

"What makes the World Youth Football Championship so great is that regardless of what league your youth football team is in, you are eligible to compete here," explained Gary Howard, the National Scouting Director for the Pro Football Hall of Fame Academy. "It really makes this a true championship because you have teams playing each other that typically never would plus it's a great representation of the best regional teams from all youth leagues."

Mark your calendars and be sure to come down to check out the action! These young players are fired up to leave it all on the field in hopes for making it to the Pro Football Hall of Fame field! Admission fees will be \$5 and concessions will be available at

both locations. Rocklin High School is located at 5301 Victory Lane and Whitney High School is 701 Wildcat Blvd. in Rocklin.

[Click here for more information on the World Youth Football Bay Area Regional Championship.](#)

Placer Arts Studios Tour

Arts Council of Placer County Celebrates Amazing Artists in Placer County



Calling all art lovers! The 25th Anniversary of the Placer Arts Studios Tour kicks-off Nov. 2-4 with a preview weekend and then the official tour will take place on Nov. 9-11. The Arts Council of Placer County's (ACPC) mission for this event is to showcase the wide array of talented artist throughout Placer County by means of a self-guided tour. There will be opportunities to meet the artist, experience live demonstrations and enjoy the diverse art our county has to offer.

"One of the biggest highlights of the tour is our preview events weekend that includes a VIP first look," explained Placer Arts Studios Tour Coordinator Tony LeVeaux. "From the Taste of the Tour reception at Blue Line Arts to the State of

the Arts Reception at High Hand Gallery in Loomis there is such wonderful works on display to get the tour started!"

The ACPC has a downloadable interactive map for tour goers that directs them to the 39 stops which include 74 artist studios and six galleries. If you pre-register you can enter to win \$100 toward your purchase of art from the tour!

"It's a great way to spend the weekend with your friends and family plus the tour is free; it really is a wonderful way to familiarize yourself with the vast amount of talent in our county," added LeVeaux. "Someone who loves art won't want to miss out on learning techniques that artists share along with the opportunity to find quality local art to add to their personal collections."

[Click here for more information on the Placer Arts Studios Tour.](#)

PVT NEWS

@the Grounds Awarded Best Real Estate Renovation Project of the Year

When Placer Valley Tourism (PVT) and Placer County embarked on the \$10 million project of renovating the Placer County Fairgrounds, now @the Grounds, back in July of 2017 everyone involved had the foresight to know something special was in store.

PVT signed on to have architecture firm William + Paddon Architects + Planners Inc., general contractor Roebbelen Contracting and project manager Coastal Partners work their magic and the rest is history in the making! The major renovation project transformed the decades-old facility to a more modern event space that now enhances our community and serves a wider array of events in Placer Valley.

The Sacramento Business Journal took notice with their annual real estate competition that acknowledges development projects which showcase the creativity and imagination of architects, developers, engineers and general contractors. PVT along with

William + Paddon and Roebbelen Contracting were awarded the Best Real Estate Renovation Project of the Year for the work done @the Grounds!

"Everyone involved in this project has helped shape our vision and played a critical role to establish a one-of-a-kind event space," stated David Attaway, CEO of PVT and @the Grounds. "This award is just the latest chapter and helps share our still-evolving success story."



The dream team with representatives from William + Paddon, Roebbelen Contracting, Placer County and Placer Valley Tourism accepting the award for Best Renovation Project of the Year from the Sacramento Business Journal on Sept. 28.

[Click here for more information on @the Grounds.](#)

Room Nights Sold

September 2018: 58,091

September 2017: 60,079

YTD: 518,659

Prior YTD: 515,360

Occupancy

September 2018: 80.0%

September 2017: 83.1%

YTD: 78.5%

Prior YTD: 78.3%



The Feast of Steel Armored Combat Tournament will take place @the Grounds on Sunday, Nov. 18.

November Events

Sport Events

CIF Girls Tennis Sectionals: Nov. 1-2, Roseville

Bill Holtz Warrior Classic: Nov. 2-3, Rocklin

Sierra College Women's Volleyball: Nov. 2, 7, 20, Rocklin

Hardwood Palace Basketball Tournaments: Nov. 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, Rocklin

Sierra College Women's Soccer: Nov. 2, Rocklin

USA BMX Races: Nov. 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, 24-25, Roseville

USSSA All Star Softball: Nov. 3-4, Roseville

[William Jessup Volleyball:](#) Nov. 3, Rocklin

[AAU Basketball Tournaments:](#) Nov. 3, 17, Rocklin & Roseville

[California State Senior Bowling Championships:](#) Nov. 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, Citrus Heights

[Best of the West:](#) Nov. 6-8, Rocklin

[USA Softball Tournaments:](#) Nov. 10-11, 17-18, Roseville, Rocklin & Lincoln

[Owings Martial Arts Tournament:](#) Nov. 10, Rocklin

[Match Club Bowling Tournaments:](#) Nov. 10-11, Rocklin

[Speedworld RC Race:](#) Nov. 1, 25, Roseville

[William Jessup Men's Basketball:](#) Nov. 12, 29, Rocklin

[Sierra College Women's Basketball:](#) Nov. 16, Rocklin

[William Jessup Women's Basketball:](#) Nov. 19, 20, 29, Rocklin

[NorCal Tip-Off Basketball Tournament:](#) Nov. 28-30, Rocklin

[World Youth Football Championship Regional:](#) Nov. 29-30, Rocklin

Community Events

[Thunder Valley Entertainment Series:](#) Nov. 2, 17, 24, Lincoln

[Collie Club Shows:](#) Nov. 2-4, Roseville

[Placer Arts Studio Tour:](#) Nov. 2-4, 9-11, Placer County

[All American Speedway Race:](#) Nov. 3, Roseville

[Sunset Run or Walk:](#) Nov. 3, Rocklin

[Cowpoke Fall Gathering:](#) Nov. 8-11, Loomis

[International Railfair:](#) Nov. 10-11, Roseville

[Night out at the Museum:](#) Nov. 17, Roseville

[Feast of Steel Armored Combat:](#) Nov. 18, Roseville

[Lincoln Turkey Trot:](#) Nov. 22, Lincoln


[Roseville Turkey Trot 10K & 5K:](#) Nov. 22, Roseville

[North Pole Tavern:](#) Nov. 27, Roseville

[Tree Grove:](#) Nov. 28, Roseville

[Christmas Tree Lighting:](#) Nov. 29, Roseville

[49er Historical Bottle Show:](#) Nov. 30, Roseville

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