

EOU runs over Arizona Christian behind Gregus hat trick

Observer staff

The Eastern Oregon women's soccer team finished the Arizona portion of its season-opening road trip in dominant fashion.

Mackinley Gregus netted a hat trick in less than eight minutes in the first half and the Mountaineers

rolled over Arizona Christian, 5-0, Monday evening in Phoenix, Arizona.

Eastern wasted no time putting Arizona Christian away behind Gregus' flurry. The freshman scored her first collegiate goal in the fifth minute on a pass from Taylor

Boyer, then scored again 42 seconds later on a feed from Nan Kiebert to quickly put EOU up 2-0.

Morgan Farrington made it 3-0 in the 10th minute when she scored on a pass from Jenna Jensen, and Gregus punctuated the opening flurry with her third goal in the

13th minute.

The four goals were scored in a span of 7:32.

Abri Cardenas scored in the 71st minute on a pass from Yahaira Chaverria-Mondragon for the final margin.

EOU had a sizeable 21-10 edge

in shots, and a 13-2 advantage in shots on goal. Goalkeepers Cydni Cottrell and Val Gaffney recorded a save — one in each half — for EOU in net.

The Mountaineers (2-0 overall) face Hope International Sept. 5 in Incline Village, Nevada.

PREP BOYS SOCCER

Pirates raid La Grande

Riverside scores three late goals to steal opener from Tigers, 3-2, Tuesday

By Ronald Bond
The Observer

The La Grande Tigers boys soccer team has had fits with the Riverside Pirates in recent years.

The Tigers were raided by Riverside again in their home opener Tuesday afternoon.

Adair Rodriguez scored two goals, including the winner on a penalty kick in the closing minutes, and the Pirates rallied from a 2-0 deficit to stun La Grande, 3-2, in the season-opening match for both teams.

"We did okay, especially for our first outing," Head Coach Wade Wright said. "We've got a lot of new players to the varsity, so we're still sorting some things out and we're still getting used to each other. That's what the preseason is (for)."

It marks the third time in the last four years that Riverside has beaten La Grande, including 3-0 last year on its way to an undefeated season.

"They're a 3A school, but they won state last year so they're a quality team, and I'm glad we have that caliber of team near us to pick up the matches," Wright said.

La Grande seemed in control of the match after freshman Lamar Ward scored the opening goal midway through the first half and Adam Endress took a perfect through ball from Luke Bloodgood for a goal in the 42nd minute.

But the tables turned late. Rodriguez scored his first goal in the 59th minute to get the Pirates on the board and swing the momentum. He hit Fran-



La Grande freshman Lamar Ward jumps over Riverside goalkeeper Jose Sanchez on his way to scoring the game's first goal in the 19th minute.

cisco Chavez on a cross for the equalizer in the 72nd minute, then put home the winner on a penalty kick taken with about two minutes to play after La Grande committed a foul in the box.

"Kudos to Riverside," Wright said. "We had them down 2-0, they battled (and) we let our guard down a couple times. They have some quality players and punished us for it."

The Tigers had one final push to pull even and force a tie, but Logan Sandoval's shot rung off the crossbar, and a header by Ward was caught by Riverside goalkeeper Jose Sanchez — who had six saves — just in front of the goal line.

Sandoval wasn't the only La Grande player to clip the



Adam Endress, right, shown during the first half Tuesday, scored early in the second half of the Tigers' 3-2 loss.

Panthers get past Rockets



Ronald Bond/The Observer

Caysie McGinness, shown Saturday in La Grande, had eight kills for Imbler Tuesday.

Observer staff

The Imbler Panthers volleyball team picked up its first win of 2018, outlasting Pilot Rock in a tight four-set battle, 26-24, 21-25, 25-23, 25-22, Tuesday night.

Caysie McGinness had eight kills and 12 digs to lead the Panthers. Sydney Treat had four kills, four aces and four blocks, and Karington Troyer had 16 assists.

The Panthers (1-3 overall) travel to the Prairie City Tournament Saturday.

Huskies split matches

The Elgin Huskies opened the season with a split in the Mac-Hi three-way Tuesday, topping Umatilla in four sets, 22-25, 25-21, 25-13, 25-15, and falling to host McLoughlin in four sets, 25-15, 25-17, 23-25 25-21.

In the win over the Vikings, Tymra Anderson had seven kills and four aces. Lillie Harvey also had four aces, and Taelynn Murrill had 10 digs.

Against the Pioneers, Anderson had four aces, and both Murrill and Kaelin Evans had five digs.

"The girls are starting the season well and made many critical changes and adjustments during the game," Head Coach Tiana Murphey said.

Elgin (1-1 overall) visits Pilot Rock Thursday.

Outlaws battle at Athena

The Enterprise Outlaws went 1-2 in pool play, then swept Griswold in its lone bracket play match at the Weston-McEwen Tournament Tuesday in Athena.

In single-set pool play matches, the Outlaws beat Griswold (26-24), then lost to Irrigon (25-16) and Weston-McEwen (25-12). That seeded Enterprise third and into another match against Griswold, where it earned a sweep, 25-17, 25-18, 25-17.

Shelby Moncrief led the Outlaws with 13 kills and 14 digs. Ashlyn Gray added 12 kills and Lexie Gasset had 11 kills. Carsyn Miller and Claire Farwell combined for 31 assists.

"Our passing was solid, and our net play improved dramatically from last weekend," Head Coach Lisa Farwell said. "We had more confidence and it showed on the court."

Enterprise (1-1 overall) visits Wallowa Thursday.

Badgers sweep Bobcats

The Powder Valley Badgers ran their record to 7-0 with a sweep over the Union Bobcats Tuesday, 25-18, 25-17, 25-20.

Stats were not available.

The Badgers travel to the Dufur Classic Friday, while the Bobcats (1-2 overall) host Wallowa Sept. 5.

M's offense goes quiet in 2-1 loss to San Diego

By Bernie Wilson
The Associated Press

Even after watching Nelson Cruz drive his 79th pitch over the center field fence to make it a one-run game with one out in the ninth, San Diego Padres rookie Jacob Nix hoped manager Andy Green would let him finish.

"I thought for sure he was going to leave me in there because of my pitch count," Nix said after coming within two outs of his first complete game in his fourth big league start, a 2-1 victory against the Seattle Mariners on Tuesday night. "I thought for sure I was going to be able to finish."

Green wasn't buying it.

"He'd done enough today. I didn't want to put him in a situation where he was walking off that mound in a tie situation or a losing situation," Green said.

Nix, backed by stellar defense by short-stop Freddy Galvis and 21-year-old second

baseman Luis Urias, who was making his big league debut, had the low pitch count because he had the Mariners swinging early and putting the ball in play. The 22-year-old Nix allowed one run and eight hits, walked none and struck out none.

"That was crazy efficient. Clearly he had enough pitches to get the last few outs. He showed a glimpse," Green said.

"One day I'll go nine," Nix said. "And maybe I'll mix in some punch-outs, too. I didn't really get to two strikes a whole lot. They were putting the ball in play really early. Outs are outs. I'm here to get outs. I don't care how I get them."

Travis Jankowski homered on Felix Hernandez's first pitch and Urias had a nice game for the Padres, who snapped a five-game losing streak and won for just the second time in seven games.

Nix (2-2) retired Jean Segura to open the ninth before Cruz homered to center, his

32nd. Kirby Yates came on to get the final two outs for his sixth save.

Hernandez (8-12) pitched well but lost his sixth straight decision over eight starts. The former AL Cy Young Award winner, who briefly was demoted to the bullpen earlier this month, struck out a season-high nine and walked only two in seven innings. He allowed only four hits but three of them factored into the scoring.

Jankowski drove Hernandez's first pitch over the fence in right field, his third homer. Wil Myers doubled off Hernandez with one out in the fourth and scored on Hunter Renfro's two-out single to left.

King Felix said there was "frustration about the loss for sure. I haven't won since June 30. It's tough. I think I did a good job except for the bunts. The second bunt was pretty good."

Hernandez twice bunted into inning-ending double plays.



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