

# Badgers achieve perfection

Observer staff

The Powder Valley Badgers completed their perfect regular season by sweeping the Griswold Grizzlies, 25-14, 25-17, 25-6, and the Nixyaawii Golden Eagles, 25-8, 25-10, 25-11, on the road in Old Oregon League play Saturday.

"This is a very focused and hardworking group of girls," Head Coach Marji Lind said. "They have demonstrated great fortitude at every test and challenge that came their way. These girls trust each other and trust the system."

Stats were not available.

Powder Valley (28-0 overall, 11-0 OOL), which claimed the top spot in the south half of the OOL, waits to see who their opponent will be in the district tournament is Saturday at La Grande High School.

## Also Saturday TIGERS REACH SEMIS AT SEASIDE

The La Grande Tigers went 1-1 in bracket play after dropping a pair of pool play matches and tying a third at the Seaside Tournament Saturday.

La Grande topped Molalla in the quarterfinals, 25-14, 25-11, before losing to Seaside in the semifinals, 18-25, 25-23, 17-15.

Jayce Seavert had 33 kills, 53 digs and 11 aces to lead the Tigers in the tournament. Presley Justice had 26 kills, 41 digs and seven aces. Felicity Houston added 55 digs, and Kenzie Williams had 36 assists, 32 digs and 16 kills. Jacie Howton had 37 assists and 28 digs.

The Tigers (15-5 overall) wrap up the regular season

## VOLLEYBALL ROUNDUP

Tuesday against Ontario.

### JOSEPH SWEEPSTWO

The Joseph Eagles volleyball team finished the 2018 regular season with a pair of road sweeps in Old Oregon League play, dropping the Nixyaawii Golden Eagles, 25-9, 25-18, 25-12, and the Griswold Grizzlies, 25-14, 25-14, 25-14.

Emma Hite and Sabrina Albee both had seven kills in the win over Nixyaawii. Hite added seven assists and three aces, and Albee had six assists and four aces.

Against Griswold Hite had nine kills, nine assists, nine digs and six aces. Albee had six kills, seven assists and three aces, and Camille Crenshaw added nine digs.

The Eagles (21-7 overall, 11-1 OOL), who claimed the top spot in the north half of the OOL, wait to see who their opponent will be in the district tournament is Saturday at La Grande High School.

### LEOPARDSTOPPLE PINE EAGLE

The Cove Leopards wrapped up the regular season with a straight-set home win over the Pine Eagle Spartans in Old Oregon League play Saturday, 25-12, 25-14, 25-15.

Stats were not available.

The Leopards (10-12 overall, 5-6 OOL) face Wallowa in the first round of the OOL district tournament Saturday morning at La Grande High School. The winner meets Powder Valley in the semifinals, while the losing team sees its season end.

### OUTLAWS FALL TWICE

The Enterprise Outlaws dropped a pair of Blue Mountain Conference matches in John Day Saturday, losing to the Pilot Rock Rockets, 25-14, 25-16, 25-18, and the Grant Union Prospectors, 25-10, 25-16, 25-9.

Stats were not available. The Outlaws (6-14 overall, 1-9 BMC) conclude the season Tuesday at Weston-McEwen.

### Friday BADGERS SWEEP COVE

The Powder Valley Badgers handled the Cove Leopards in three sets in Old Oregon League play Friday, 25-21, 25-21, 25-11.

Stats were not available.

### WALLOWA OUTLASTS CRANE

The Wallowa Cougars finished the regular season by grinding out a road win against the Crane Mustangs Friday, 25-15, 10-25, 21-25, 25-21, 15-11.

Stats were not available.

The Cougars (11-12 overall) meet Cove in the first round of the OOL district tournament Saturday morning at La Grande High School. The winner meets Powder Valley in the semifinals, while the losing team sees its season end.

### HUSKIES END WITH A WIN

The Elgin Huskies finished the season on a high note with a sweep of the Pine Eagle Spartans in Old Oregon League play Friday, 25-16, 25-13, 27-25.

Jayden Palmer had four kills and five digs for the Huskies, and Kaelin Evans added four blocks.

Elgin finishes the season at 6-14 overall and 4-8 in the OOL.

# Tigers lose shot at GOL title

Observer staff

The La Grande Tigers boys soccer team locked up a spot in the state playoffs, but also saw their shot at a Greater Oregon League title fade following a 0-0 tie against the McLoughlin Pioneers Saturday afternoon in Milton-Freewater.

"It was back and forth all game long. It was a great match," LHS Head Coach Wade Wright said. "We were a little more prepared this time. We knew what to expect. It was a pretty good battle. Both teams had chances."

Mac-Hi did have a slim 8-6 edge in shots. La Grande goalkeeper Christian Waugaman made four saves.

The draw, coupled with Ontario's 1-0 win over Baker Saturday, secured the GOL title for Ontario, even if La Grande wins the regular-season finale next Saturday. The tie does, though, mean a second-place finish in league for La Grande and a fifth-straight playoff berth.

La Grande (6-3-2 overall, 2-1-2 GOL) and Ontario (9-0-2, 4-0-1), who played to a 2-2 tie

last month, meet at noon Saturday at La Grande Middle School.

### LHS girls blast Pioneers

Alaina Carson and Audrey Garlitz each scored two goals in the second half as the La Grande Tigers girls soccer team pulled away for a 7-0 road win against the McLoughlin Pioneers in Greater Oregon League play Saturday.

Lexee Gomes and Katie Perry both scored in the first half to give the Tigers a 2-0 lead at the break. Kara Gooderham extended the lead to 3-0 before Carson and Garlitz tacked their goals on to polish off the win, which was La Grande's fifth straight shutout. Perry also had two assists, and Faith Akers recorded two saves in goal.

"We played hard, didn't back down and worked together the whole time," LHS Head Coach Kristen Rice said. "We had some nice combo plays up the field and into the box that allowed us to score."

The Tigers (10-0 overall, 5-0 GOL) host Nyssa Tuesday at Community Stadium.

## HOOPS

*Continued from Page 7A* son's trey late in the half gave Eastern its 16-point halftime advantage, the largest of the half.

Anderson helped spark a 9-0 run early in the second half with a 3-pointer and assists on a pair of layups. Landon Jones, who finished with 20 points, capped the run with his own layup for a 70-48 lead with 15:10 to play. The Mountaineers eventually extended the lead to as much as 34 in the second half.

Jordan May also chimed in with 20 points for EOU. Zane Wright had 12 and Hersi scored 11. Fernando Barron led NHC with 18 points.

### EASTERNTAKES OPENER

The Mountaineers' offensive potential was on display in its season opener as Anderson scored 35 points and added seven assists in the win over Salish Kootenai.

Jones and May had 22 and 17 points, respectively. Johnson poured in 15 and Hersi added 12. Anderson and Jones also had eight rebounds apiece.

EOU did find itself down 38-24 midway through the first half, but outscored Salish 41-20 in the final 8:57 to take a 65-58 lead at the break.

A 22-11 run to open the second half did help Eastern go ahead 87-71. Salish, which was led by 34 points from Julian Jones,

### LOCAL SCHEDULE

#### Tuesday

##### PREP GIRLS SOCCER

- Nyssa at La Grande, Community Stadium, 3 p.m.

##### PREP VOLLEYBALL

- Enterprise at Weston-McEwen, 5 p.m.
- Union at Pilot Rock, 6 p.m.
- Ontario at La Grande, 6:30 p.m.

— Subject to change

only once cut the margin to single digits the rest of the way.

EOU (2-0 overall) hits the road for the first time this season when it travels to Carroll College Oct. 22.

## BOOST

*Continued from Page 7A*

gave an extra 'Let's go,'" Bailey said.

Eastern's blocking, which has improved as the season progressed, was solid in the deciding fourth set. The Mountaineers had six blocks, with Taylor and Bailey's imprint again visible. EOU took control of the fourth set with an 8-1 run that included four blocks, three of which

came from Bailey and Taylor and the fourth from Megan Bunn and Taylor.

"That was so fun," Taylor said. "(It) felt like a well-oiled machine in the front row. I felt like everything was flowing and working. One thing we've been focusing huge on all season, but especially this week in practice, is blocking the ball. I feel like we definitely got that done in the fourth set."

The block party was contagious, too. Taylor and Tibbetts later teamed up for a block for an 18-10 lead, and Tibbetts and Crisp finished the match minutes later with a block.

"We tried to make some changes, and the girls definitely honed in on a couple of those changes," McLean-Morehead said of the improved block in the fourth set. "That definitely helped."

Bunn led Eastern with 11 kills and added 12 digs. Kiley McMurtrey led EOU with 21 digs, and both Aspen Christiansen and Sarah Carpenter had 12 digs. Carpenter also had 20 assists. Tibbetts added five block assists.

### MOUNTAINEERS HANDLE MULTNOMAH

Eastern didn't need an extra boost Saturday night as it rolled over Multnomah, 25-17, 25-14,

25-17.

Bunn and Hailee Ackerman led the attack with nine and eight kills, respectively. McMurtrey led the defense with 13 digs, and both Taylor and Crisp had three block assists. Madison Pilon dished out 17 assists, and Carpenter added 15 assists and eight digs.

EOU (17-5 overall, 12-2 CCC) visits Northwest Friday in Kirkland, Washington.

## INVITE

*Continued from Page 7A*

(17:21) and teammate Cristian Mendoza (17:31) finished third and fourth, respectively.

Three other Bobcats finished in the top 10: seventh-place Andrew Lackey (18:22), eighth-place Israel O'Reilly (18:23) and 10th-place Matthew Sheehy (18:53) to help Union/Cove to a first-place finish with 28 points. Enterprise (46 points) was second, just edging La Grande (49) for third.

"The team's looking good this year," Stevens said. "If we can keep it together, we'll do pretty well. I'm excited to see what will happen."

Enterprise's freshmen laden squad had two runners right behind the La Grande duo as Henry Coughlan (18:03) and Zac Knapp (18:06) finished fifth and sixth. Bayden Menton cracked the top 10 in ninth at 18:35. Cole Gomes, the only non-freshman in the top six for the Outlaws, was 11th in 18:54, and Ian Goodrich placed 15th in 19:13.

Calvin Smith (19:03) and Eli McLean (19:11) were 12th and 13th for the third-place Tigers. Braxton Bisenius (19:39) placed 17th. "They were hoping to at

least get first or second, but it was a really close score, and we are competing against great teams," LHS Head Coach Alma Crow said. "When we compete against Union and Enterprise they're some of the top teams in state. We're lucky we're competing against them."

Jordan Palmer was the top runner for Elgin in 22nd at 20:32. Kaden McClure (21:11) followed in 24th and Brandon Caldwell (23:52) was 38th.

The girls race also saw a 1-2 finish, this time from La Grande's Abby Crews and Maia Vandervlugt. Crews pulled away in the latter portion of the race for a sizeable victory, clocking in 21:08. Vandervlugt followed

in second at 21:38.

"We were sticking together pretty well like we did last (race)," Crews said of her and Vandervlugt. "Last time I was a few paces behind her. We were in the back part of the (course) and we started to pull away from each other."

The 1-2 effort boosted the Tigers to a second-place finish overall with 41 points. La Grande landed a third runner in the top 10 as Corbyn Sexton placed 10th in 23:03. Jenna Ault (24:01) came in 14th and Yo Saito (25:32) was 16th.

Union/Cove edged out La Grande for the team title with 36 points, and had four top 10 runners. Abriel O'Reilly and Jaimee Baxter paced the Bobcats with a 3-4

finish in 21:46 and 21:58. Audrey Wells (22:00) followed in sixth and Kaitlin Martens (22:44) was ninth.

Sheehy said he was surprised by O'Reilly being the top runner for Union/Cove with her typically running third for the Bobcats, but said the course fit her.

"She's a really tough runner, (and) this course is a tough course," Sheehy said. "Lot of wind. Some long hills. I think that suited her well, and she had something to prove because she didn't run well last week."

Audrey Hill rounded out the Bobcat top five in 15th (24:40).

Enterprise, running at an easier pace and also with a

pack mentality early after also racing Thursday, was third with 43 points. The Outlaws, though, still had three top-10 runners in fifth-place Ellyse Tingelstad (21:58) seventh-place Kyla Hook (22:05) and eighth-place Ella Coughlan (22:26). Lannie Stonebrink (23:27)

finished in 12th and Sydney Rouse (23:28) was 13th.

Jocelyn Palmer paced Elgin by taking 11th in 23:12. Anika Jacobson (25:53) was 17th and Kaylee Smith (29:06) was 27th.

The teams return to action Thursday at the Kyle Burnside Invite in Pendleton.

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