

**MEN**

*Continued from Page 7A*  
second. He and Jones combined to score 13 of EOU's first 16 points in the second half as Eastern built a 51-45 lead.

The Raiders eventually pulled even at 53-53 after a Tate Hoffman 3-pointer. A 3-pointer by May and jumpers by Jones and Peter Hamilton helped push the lead to 64-55 with nine minutes to play.

The margin hung between five and nine points until May iced the game in the closing minutes. He scored nine straight at one juncture for EOU, capping that

personal run with a tough fadeaway jumper with 1:24 left and following it with a dagger 3 from the right wing for a 78-68 lead with just 52 seconds to play.

"We needed to get this game," May said. "(Assistant) Coach (Chris) Kemp reminded us that this was the team that knocked us out of the conference tournament last year, and I think for a lot of the returners that helped us drive the energy in practice."

Labarda said he talked to May at halftime about being more efficient on offense and "letting the game come to him." It clearly paid off. "When he does that, he

may be the best player in the league offensively," the coach said of May.

Eastern found itself in an early hole, falling behind 29-19 midway through the first half when Conor Carroll's 3-pointer capped a 15-2 SOU run. Eastern chipped away to briefly take the lead before the teams settled into a 35-35 tie at the break.

Jones said the message throughout was for the team to stay level-headed.

"Coach told us don't get too

high, don't get too low. Stay even," Jones said. "It's a game of runs. Even if they go up eight, we're going to have our runs right back, and if we go up eight, don't get too big of a head."

Joel Anderson added eight points, 10 assists and five boards for the Mountaineers, and Jarek Schetzle grabbed 11 rebounds. May and Jones were also in the hip pockets of SOU, collecting four and three steals, respectively.

Tristen Holmes led the

Raiders with 24 points, and Hoffman added 19.

The Mountaineers weren't able to maintain the momentum, falling Saturday night at home to No. 22 Oregon Tech, 92-78.

EOU never led, though twice in the second half they drew even before the Owls pulled ahead for good. Like Friday, Eastern trailed by double digits in the first half before rallying, and they got within two points, 41-39, at halftime. But the Owls, who

were led by 21 points and eight assists from Mitchell Fink and 20 points and nine rebounds by Kaison Faust, shot 55 percent for the victory.

May again led Eastern in scoring with 18 points. Four players joined him in double figures. Anderson had 15 points and six assists, Hamilton scored 12 points and Jones recorded 11.

EOU (5-7 overall, 1-1 CCC) travels to Whitman College Saturday.

**WOMEN**

*Continued from Page 7A*  
in situations (in practice) where there's something on the line, like (running), so it helps in situations where there's pressure," Herrud said.

EOU appeared ready to run away early in a first half full of wild swings. The Mountaineers built an 18-7 lead seven minutes into the game. SOU rallied to take a 21-20 lead after one quarter and led as much as 33-25 in the second on a Destinee Jones jumper. But two jumpers by Andi Warm — both after she grabbed offensive rebounds — helped EOU go into the half up 36-35.

Southern bounced back for a 51-47 lead after three quarters but couldn't maintain the advantage.

Daranda Hinkey led the Raiders with 16 points, while Jones and Ariel Augustine both had 11.

Kylie Smith had 12 points for the Mountaineers, and Madison Crews had seven assists.

Saturday, EOU never trailed as it secured a 71-61 win over Oregon Tech in Quinn Coliseum to move to 2-0 in CCC play. The victory ran Eastern's home winning streak to 33 games, and its winning streak in CCC action — including tournament games — to 38 straight.

Herrud and Nelson again led the Mountaineers in scoring, with 11 and 10 points, respectively. The scoring, however, was much more spread out than it was Friday. Crews added nine points, both Neumeyer and Beverly Slater

had eight, and Julia Hammi and Whitney Meier each added seven.

Slater had nine boards and Crews dished out five assists.

Eastern led by as much as 18 points in the second quarter and was up 42-30 at the break. OIT closed within 63-59 midway through the fourth quarter, but EOU ended the game on an 8-2 run, including hitting all six free throws in the final four minutes, for the win.

Bailey Nelson had 11 points to lead OIT.

Eastern (6-2 overall, 2-0 CCC) hosts the inaugural Coach Mike Memorial Tournament, honoring late EOU Assistant Coach Mike Weissenfluh, next weekend. Eastern plays an alumni game Saturday and faces Lewis and Clark College Sunday.

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