

## Bunn, Ackerman earn all-American nods

Observer staff

Two members of the Eastern Oregon volleyball team garnered all-American recognition after leading the Mountaineers to a 25-9 record and a berth in the round-of-16 at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics national tournament.

Junior outside hitter Megan Bunn was a second-team all-American selection, and junior outside hitter Hailee Ackerman was named honorable mention.

"(I'm) incredibly proud of them for achieving that award as juniors, and so excited to see how they grow into senior impact players even more next year," EOU Head Coach Kaki McLean-Morehead said.

Bunn turned in a historic season for the Mountaineers. According to the EOU website, she became the first player in program history to record more than 400 kills and 400 digs in a single season. Her season total of 418 kills was also the second

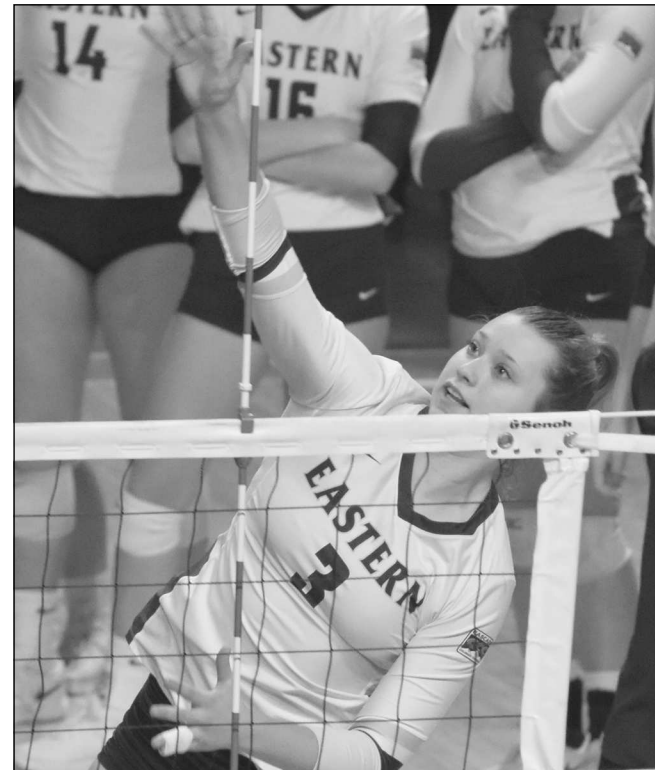


Eastern Oregon's Megan Bunn, left, was a second-team NAIA all-American, while teammate Hailee Ackerman, right, was named honorable mention.

highest in program history behind only Casey Loper's 494 in 2014. She added 431 digs, second on the team.

Ackerman had a career-

best season with 388 kills, giving her the fifth-highest total in a season in program history. She added an attack percentage of .264, the high-



Cindy Potter/Columbia College Athletics

est of any player on the team with at least 10 kills.

Bunn and Ackerman also made history, marking just the second time EOU has

had two players tally at least 350 kills in a season. Loper (394 kills) and Stefani Sorensen (377) both reached the mark in 2013.

## Boyer, Cottrell are honorable mention all-Americans

Observer staff

Eastern Oregon women's soccer players Taylor Boyer and Cydni Cottrell were both named honorable mention all-Americans after helping the Mountaineers to arguably the best season in program history.

Boyer, a senior midfielder, had one of the best offensive seasons in program history. She scored 16 goals — second most for EOU behind Crystal Schuder's 17 goals in 2015 — and had seven game-winning goals. She also had five assists and was a major catalyst for the EOU offense.

Cottrell, a junior goalkeeper, recorded 72 saves on 88 shots on goal by the opponents for a save percentage of .818. She tallied eight shutouts on her own, and was in net for part of three other shutouts by the Mountaineers. Her total number of saves was eighth-most in program history, and her save percentage was the



Eastern Oregon women's soccer players Taylor Boyer, left, and Cydni Cottrell, right, were honorable mention all-Americans.

program's fifth-best mark. She also holds the top save percentage in the program of .887 in 2017.

The two helped EOU,

which went 16-3-2 claim a second-straight Cascade Collegiate Conference title, the program's first-ever victory in the NAIA playoffs and the

first ranking in program history. EOU reached as high as 20th in the national polls during the regular season.

"They are very deserving

of those awards," EOU Head Coach Jacob Plocher said. "It's a full team effort that allowed them to have the individual success they had."



Ronald Bond/Observer file photo

## Roundup: Tiger girls fall in regular-season opener at Hermiston

Observer staff

The La Grande Tigers girls basketball team fell in their regular season opener on the road against the Hermiston Bulldogs Tuesday, 47-35.

The Tigers found themselves in a 19-9 hole after one quarter that they were unable to climb out of. The deficit grew to 35-20 after three before La Grande found a rhythm to score 15 points in the fourth, but it wasn't enough.

Camryn Collman scored 14 points, including 10 in the second half, to lead the Tigers. Kenzie Williams and Ella Dunlap both added seven points.

Jayden Ray and Jazlyn Romero both scored 11 points to lead Hermiston.

The Tigers (0-1 overall) host Nyssa next Tuesday.

### LHS BOYS ROUTED BY HERMISTON IN OPENER

The Hermiston Bulldogs boys basketball team poured in 27 points in the second quarter and coasted to a 67-47 win over the La Grande Tigers Tuesday in the Tigers' regular-season opener.

The big second quarter left the Tigers trailing 39-17 at halftime. The margin grew to 56-32 after three quarters.

Justin Jenner scored 12 points

in the loss for La Grande. Cristian Mendoza added seven points.

Ryne Andreason led Hermiston with 18 points.

La Grande (0-1 overall) faces Hood River Valley at the White Buffalo Classic in Madras Friday.

### COVE BOYS OUTLAST IONE

Blake Witten scored a game-high 24 points, 11 of which came in the fourth quarter, to lead the Cove Leopards boys basketball team past the Ione Cardinals Tuesday night, 51-48.

The teams were tied at 36-36 after three quarters before Witten took off. He hit two 3-pointers in the fourth and scored all but four of

Cove's points in the period.

The Leopards had taken a 26-17 lead into the half, but Ione had a big third quarter to tie the score and set up the dramatic fourth.

Wacey Fite added 11 points for Cove, and Dawson Gaertner scored seven points.

Taylor Rollins led Ione with 20 points.

The Leopards (2-0 overall) face the Pendleton JV at the Union Lions Tournament Friday.

### BIG THIRD QUARTER LIFTS COVE GIRLS

The Cove Leopards girls basketball team moved to 2-0 on the young season with a close 47-42 win

over the Ione Cardinals at home Tuesday.

The Leopards used a strong third quarter, one in which they outscored Ione 13-6, to turn a three-point halftime deficit into a 35-31 lead, and they held on in the fourth.

Rebekah Farrell led seven Cove players in scoring with 17 points. Kierra Moore added seven points. Cove also had a 43-30 rebounding advantage.

Marie Chretien led Ione in scoring with 19 points.

Cove (2-0 overall) next squares off against the Baker JV Friday at the Union Lions Tournament.

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