



Ronald Bond/Observer file photo

Henry Coughlan, shown during the Tiger Invite in La Grande in October, ran with the winning USATF Junior Olympic team Dec. 8.

## Henry Coughlan helps Timberhill Harriers win Junior Olympic title

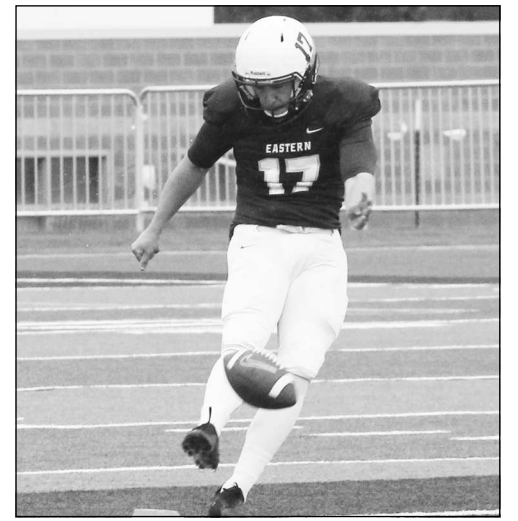
Observer staff

Joseph freshman Henry Coughlan recently joined with the Timberhill Harriers, based in Philomath, to win a cross country title in the USATF Junior Olympics Dec. 8 in Rancho San Rafael, Nevada.

Coughlan took second on the team, and 13th overall, in the 4,000-meter run for 13- and 14-year-olds.

He finished with a time of 14:24.78. The Harriers had five runners in the top 19 to easily win with 54 points. The second-place team, the Parker Panthers, scored 152 points.

Last month, Coughlan was part of a freshmen-laden Enterprise/Joseph/Wallowa boys cross country team that took second in the OSAA Class 3A state cross country meet.



Ronald Bond/Observer file photo

Eastern Oregon kicker Nathan Harden was an honorable mention all-American.

## Ducks knock off No. 4 Miss. St.

The Associated Press

Sabrina Ionescu scored 29 points, including all 17 of her free throws, and No. 7 Oregon handed No. 4 Mississippi State its first loss this season, 82-74 on Tuesday night.

The Bulldogs (10-1) had won 46 regular-season nonconference games, but couldn't catch up once the Ducks (9-1) started to pull away in the fourth quarter, boosted by their home fans. Maite Cazorla added 20 points for the Ducks.

Anriel Howard led Mississippi State with a career-high 30 points. Oregon held senior Teaira McCowan to five points, but she had 11 rebounds.

Oregon went up 64-57 on Ruthy Hebard's short jumper with 7:47 left. Cazorla added a layup for the Ducks before Bre' Amber Scott's 3-pointer for Mississippi State.

A driving layup from Cazorla made it 76-65 and got the crowd at Matthew Knight Arena on its feet. Jazzmun Holmes' layup got the Bulldogs within 80-74 with 1:23 left, but Howard fouled out a short time later.

The Ducks went into the game leading the nation with an average of 92.4 points a game, while the Bulldogs were a close second at 92.3.

Oregon's lone loss came on Dec. 9 at Michigan State. The team's only other game against a ranked opponent was back on Nov. 1, when they downed then-No. 18 Syracuse 75-73.

McCowan, Mississippi State's leading scorer, whose eight double-doubles this season lead the nation, was defended well by Hebard from the start.

McCowan was handed an unsportsmanlike conduct call after an elbow on Hebard, and Ionescu made both shots to put the Ducks up 28-17 midway through the second quarter. Ionescu's 3-pointer and Cazorla's layup stretched the lead to 37-31.

A technical foul was called on Oregon coach Kelly Graves with 0.8 seconds left in the half, and Mississippi State made both



Andy Nelson/The Register-Guard via AP

Oregon's Ruthy Hebard is fouled by Mississippi State's Teaira McCowan during the second quarter Tuesday night in Eugene.

shots, then added a free throw to take a 40-39 lead into the break. Howard led all scorers with 14 points at the break for the Bulldogs.

Mississippi State pushed the lead to 51-44 in the third quarter, after Howard's jumper, layup and free throw. But the Ducks wouldn't let the margin go to double digits, and Oregon tied it at 55 on a pair of free throws from Taylor Chavez. Mississippi coach Vic Schaefer got a tech and Ionescu made both shots to take a 57-55 lead into the

final period.

The Bulldogs were hurt when guard Jordan Danberry collected her fifth foul early in the quarter, leaving the game with 11 points.

Mississippi State was coming off an 86-42 victory over Southern Miss on Friday, in the 700th game in program history. The Bulldogs had two wins this season over ranked opponents.

Oregon rebounded from their loss to Michigan State with an 87-79 win at South Dakota last Wednesday.

## Harden earns all-American

Observer staff

Eastern Oregon senior kicker Nathan Harden was named an honorable mention National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics all-American late last week.

The announcement of the honorable mention athletes came out following the initial release of the first- and second-team athletes. Harden joined Brenden Kelly (first-team receiver) and Mick Wilson (second-team offensive lineman) with all-American accolades.

Harden finished the 2018 season connecting on 15-of-22 field goals, hitting a long of 49 yards, and made 31-of-32 extra point attempts. He also had an average of 40.3 yards per kick on 63 punts, with a long of 79 yards. His punt average was 10th best in the nation.

## Panther boys get first victory

Observer staff

Grant Slater led the way with nine points and the Imbler Panthers boys basketball team picked up its first win of the season Tuesday, 28-25, on the road against the Stanfield Tigers despite not scoring in the third quarter.

Jayce Burnette added eight points and Isaac Herron had five — all in the fourth quarter.

The scoreless third quarter left Imbler trailing 15-13 in the low-scoring battle. But the Panthers scored 15 points in the fourth — Burnette and Herron combined for 11 — to eke out the victory.

Imbler (1-4 overall) travels to Weston-McEwen Thursday.

### PANTHER GIRLS FALL TO STANFIELD

The Imbler Panthers girls basketball team missed out on its second win of the season, falling on the road to the Stanfield Tigers Tuesday, 45-36.

A big first quarter by the Tigers left the Panthers in a double-digit hole. Imbler cut the deficit to 22-17 by halftime, but the gap grew again to 10 after three quarters at 32-22.

Caysie McGinness scored 15 points, including 10 in the fourth quarters, to lead the Panthers. Anika McDonald added nine points and Shay Goodman scored six.

Imbler (1-4 overall) visits Weston-McEwen Thursday.

### LHS DROPS CONTEST TO FRUITLAND

For the second time in four days, the Fruitland Grizzlies boys basketball team got the best of the La Grande Tigers, holding on for a 65-56 win in overtime Tuesday in Fruitland, Idaho.

The Tigers rallied in the fourth quarter from a seven-point deficit to tie the game at 56-56 and force the extra session. Fruitland, though, kept La Grande off the scoreboard to send the Tigers to a third consecutive loss.

Hunter Youngblood scored 13 points to lead three Tigers in double figures. Nick Tsiatsos added 11 points and Kaden Chandler scored 10.

La Grande (3-5 overall) is off until the SCTC Holiday Tournament Dec. 27 when it opens with a game against the host Eagles.

## Herrud's heroics save EOU from upset bid

Observer staff

The 14th-ranked Eastern Oregon women's basketball team saw a 15-point second-half lead against the College of Idaho get whittled away to nothing, but escaped the Coyotes' upset bid when Maren Herrud made a winning layup with less than a second to play for an 86-84 win in a Cascade Collegiate Conference thriller Tuesday in Caldwell, Idaho.

Alyssa Case made two free throws for the Yotes to tie the score with 24 seconds left, leaving the Mountaineers with one final shot for the win. Herrud, who scored 17 points, drove to the basket and converted the go-ahead layup with 0.8 left on the clock, giving EOU its 35th straight CCC win, and 41st counting CCC tournament play.

Maya Ah You-Dias led the Mountaineers

with 28 points, 11 rebounds and six assists. She had 17 points in the first half to help EOU build a 45-37 halftime lead.

Eastern's margin grew to 15 twice in the third, the last at 57-42 on two Beverly Slater free throws. The Yotes cut the margin to 65-63 late in the third, then erased a seven-point margin in the final 2:31 before Herrud's heroics.

Madison Crews and Jane Nelson both added eight points for Eastern.

The Mountaineers (10-2 overall, 5-0 CCC) face Pacific on the road Dec. 29.

### EOU FALLS TO NO. 1 YOTES

The top-ranked College of Idaho men's basketball team shut down Jordan May and Eastern Oregon, as it never trailed in a 78-61 win over the Mountaineers Tuesday in Cascade Collegiate Conference action in

Caldwell, Idaho.

May had averaged 37 points per game in the last two EOU contests, including a career-best 41 Sunday against Corban, but was held to just five points in the loss.

Landon Jones led EOU with 14 points. Jarek Schetzle added 12 points, and Peter Hamilton scored eight.

EOU erased an eight-point first half deficit to briefly pull even at 23-23 on a pair of Schetzle free throws with 4:51 to play in the half. The Yotes scored the next seven points and went into the half leading 37-30, then pushed the margin to 48-38 on a tip-in by Jake Bruner early in the second half. Eastern never cut the deficit to single digits the rest of the way.

The Mountaineers (8-8 overall, 3-2 CCC) travel to Utah State for an exhibition Dec. 28.

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