

LHS girls win seven races to win at Baker Invite

Observer staff

The La Grande Tigers girls swim team won seven races to pave the way to a victory at the BHS January Invitational Saturday in Baker, while the LHS boys claimed the top spot in three events on their way to a second-place finish.

Kristal Jensen and Kennedy Kruse both won two individual races and swam on winning relay teams to lead the LHS girls, who finished with

125 points. Jensen won the 50-yard freestyle (26.32 seconds) and the 100 butterfly (1:05.04) and teamed with Romyne Ricker, Reagan Kruse and Laramie Ricker in winning the 200 freestyle relay (1:47.36). Kennedy Kruse grabbed the top spot in the 200 freestyle (2:08.50) and the 500 freestyle (5:48.46). She also swam with Laramie Ricker, Riley Weigand and Tulea Setser on the 400 freestyle relay team, which tied for first with Baker (4:05.80).

Romyne Ricker posted the Tigers' other victory in the 100 breaststroke (1:12.22) and was second in the 200 individual medley (2:17.29). Reagan Kruse added a second-place finish for La Grande in the 100 backstroke (1:08.83).

The Tigers boys, who finished with 104 points for second behind Pendleton, picked up victories from Logan Flynn in the 200 IM (2:27.93), Caden Ricker in the 100 freestyle (55.98) and the 200 freestyle relay team of T.J. Clay,

James Thurman, Ricker and Grayson Jensen (1:41.06). La Grande added second-place finishes from the team of Clay, Jensen, Flynn and Ricker in the 200 medley relay (1:54.53), Ricker in the 200 freestyle (1:59.74), Adam Remily in the 200 IM (2:37.05), Jensen in the 50 freestyle (25.31) and Clay in the 100 freestyle (57.19) and the 100 backstroke (1:01.84).

The Tigers are in action Saturday when they host their January meet.

GIRLS

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lead by halftime, then out-scored Imbler 19-6 in the third for a 46-21 advantage.

Caysie McGinness led the Panthers with 18 points.

Imbler (4-10 overall) travels to Powder Valley Friday.

BOBCATS BURY TIGERSCOTS

Callie Glenn and Abriel O'Reilly both scored 13 points as the Union Bobcats girls basketball team coasted to a 57-24 road victory over the Weston-McEwen TigerScots Friday in Blue Mountain Conference play.

Autumn Daggett added eight points for Union, which used a 20-point second quarter to build a 31-14 halftime lead before holding the TigerScots scoreless in the third for a 43-14 lead.

COUGARSTOP GRIZZLIES

The Wallowa Cougars girls basketball team earned a

42-33 road win over the Griswold Grizzlies Friday in Old Oregon League action.

The Cougars build a lead by halftime of 23-17, then stretched their margin to 36-22 by the end of the third to help lock up their third OOL victory.

Saturday ELGIN BOUNCES BACK FOR WIN

The Elgin Huskies girls basketball team rebounded from a close loss Friday to earn a 46-37 road win over the Pine Eagle Spartans Saturday in Old Oregon League action.

Jayden Palmer scored 18 points in the win to lead the Huskies, while Tymra Anderson added 14 points.

Elgin (6-8 overall, 3-3 OOL), which moved to fourth in the league with the win and third in the OOL North, hosts McLoughlin Tuesday.

BOBCATS FALL TO LEAGUE-LEADING PROSPECTORS

Callie Glenn heated up in

the second half to score 15 of her game-high 19 points, but it wasn't enough to fuel a comeback at the Union Bobcats girls basketball team fell at home to the Grant Union Prospectors, 55-41, Saturday in Blue Mountain Conference play.

Grant Union, which led 18-13 at halftime, netted 22 points in the third to build a double-digit lead at 40-28, then added on in the fourth to stay undefeated in BMC play.

Abriel O'Reilly added six points for the Bobcats.

Union (10-7 overall, 4-3 BMC) travels to Enterprise Saturday.

WALLOWA TAKES DOWN COVE

Shanna Rae Tillery scored 14 points to lead a balanced attack as the Wallowa Cougars girls basketball team pulled away in the second half for a 46-32 home win over the Cove Leopards Saturday in Old Oregon League play.

Jamie Johnston and Kyla Hook both added eight points for Wallowa, who led just 16-15 at the half before the offense got rolling. Tillery had 12 of her points in the second half to power the surge.

Maggie Frisch scored 10 points to lead Cove, while Kierra Moore added six points.

Wallowa (7-9 overall, 4-2 OOL) travels to Elgin Friday, while Cove (7-7, 1-3) visits Pine Eagle Friday.

BADGERS BLAST GRISWOLD

Autumn Davis scored 10 points to lead nine players in scoring as the Powder Valley Badgers girls basketball team shook off Friday's loss to Joseph to earn a 51-18 home win over the Griswold Grizzlies Saturday in Old Oregon League action.

Logan Nedrow and Josi Krieger both added eight points for the Badgers.

Powder Valley (15-3 overall,

6-1 OOL) travel to Echo today for a nonleague matchup.

OUTLAWS DIFFUSE ROCKETS

Shelby Moncrief had 11 points to lead nine players in scoring and four in double figures as the Enterprise Outlaws girls basketball team pulled away in the second half for a 65-31 home win over the Pilot Rock Rockets on Saturday in Blue Mountain Conference play.

Ashlyn Gray, Lexie Gasset and Zari Bathke each added 10 points, and Rilyn Kirkland just missed a double-double, finishing with eight points and 12 rebounds.

The Outlaws led 28-19 at the half, then used a 20-9 third quarter to break the game open.

Enterprise (13-4 overall, 5-2 BMC) travels to Weston-McEwen Friday.

EAGLES DROP NIXY

The Joseph Eagles girls bas-

LOCAL SCHEDULE

Monday PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

• Powder Valley at Echo, 4 p.m.

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL

• Horizon Christian vs. Powder Valley at Echo, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

• College of Idaho at Eastern Oregon, 5:30 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

• College of Idaho at Eastern Oregon, 7:30 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING

• La Grande at Baker, 6 p.m.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

• McLoughlin at Elgin, 4:30 p.m.

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL

• McLoughlin at Elgin, 6 p.m.

— Subject to change

ketball team stayed undefeated in Old Oregon League play with a 51-34 home win over the Nixyaawii Golden Eagles on Saturday. Stats were not available. Joseph (15-2 overall, 5-0 OOL) hosts Griswold on Friday.

EASTERN

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69-68 on two Jacob Plunkett free throws with 7:18 to play. The teams traded the lead over the next three minutes before Schetzle — who went 9-for-9 at the free-throw line — hit a pair to give EOU the lead for good at 77-75 with 3:45 to go. Two Gardea free throws and a dunk by Schetzle pushed the lead to six.

NCU's Tyrus Hosley hit a 3-pointer and a runner in the lane to make it a one-point game with 1:41 left, but missed a potential tying 3-pointer with 26 seconds to play and NCU down by three. EOU finished off the win at the free-throw line.

"It was gritty. NCU is a great team," Schetzle said. "It came down to the wire and we came

out on top."

Jones finished with 20 points and 11 rebounds, and May, who left briefly in the first half after re-aggravating an injury, had 19 points.

"Once we start getting balanced scoring like we had (Friday and Saturday), we'll be a better team," Labarda said. "Jarek had 25 points, Landon had (20), and Jordan was our third leading scorer. That's great."

Schetzle's emergence has been a big part of that boost. He's gone for double figures in scoring in six of his last seven games, and in that stretch he shot 73 percent from the floor.

"Now he's relaxed, he's thinking the game, and when he gets the ball down low, most of the time he's going to score," Labarda said of Schetzle.

EOU (12-10 overall, 7-4 CCC) hosts No. 2 College of Idaho Tuesday.

EOU women continue winning streak

Maya Ah You-Dias led the way with 27 points and nine rebounds, and the No. 13 Eastern Oregon Mountaineers women's basketball team finished the first half of Cascade Collegiate Conference play undefeated with a 79-64 home win over the Corban Warriors Friday in a matchup of the CCC's top two teams.

Beverly Slater added 13 points and eight rebounds off the bench for the Mountaineers, who never trailed. Jane Nelson added 10 points.

EOU quickly took control of the game, going ahead 18-8 in the first quarter on a 3-pointer by Ah You-Dias. The Mountaineers led 25-14 after

one, and went up as much as 14 points in the second on their way to a 42-30 halftime lead.

The Warriors got within single digits in the second half, and were as close as 59-53 after three quarters before EOU pulled away in the fourth.

On Saturday Eastern Oregon continued its domination of CCC opponents and ran its overall winning streak to 17 games with a 89-51 home victory over the Northwest Christian Beacons. The weekend sweep secured the Mountaineers 41st straight regular season CCC win, and 43rd straight win at home.

Five of EOU's last six wins in CCC play have come by double digits, and four by 20 points or more.

"It's just playing great team ball," EOU Head Coach Anji Weissenfluh said. "People are

stepping up."

She praised the play of the defense on the weekend, and pointed to Nelson and Emma Logan for their play guarding the top two scorers on each team — Corban's Jordan Woodvine and NCU's Morgan McKinney. The two entered the games over the weekend averaging nearly 40 points per game between them, but were held to just six points combined.

"The key to this weekend was Jane and Emma being able to shut down their go-tos," the coach said. "Our defense got our offense going. We made the extra pass (and) people knocked them down."

The Mountaineers broke the game open Saturday with a 21-3 run in the second quarter and went into the half doubling up NCU with

a 46-23 lead. The advantage reached as much as 44 points in the second half. Eastern shot 56 percent for the contest — including 66 percent in the first half.

Ah You-Dias had 23 points and nine rebounds to lead EOU, and all 13 players who saw the floor scored. Madison Crews added 13 points and 10 assists, and Maren Herrud had 10 points.

"I saw us come out and capitalize on a lot of things we've been working on in practice this last week," Crews said. "We had a tough week in the weight room and on the court, and I think it challenged us mentally and physically. It kind of showed us what we could be as a team."

Eastern (17-2 overall, 11-0 CCC) hosts rival College of Idaho Tuesday.

BOYS

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margin to 39-24 after three quarters. The Eagles, who had shot 20 percent from deep in the first half, hit at a 45-percent clip in the third.

"A hot night for me, I guess," Murray, who hit seven 3-pointers, said. "I got open a lot. My team found me."

Another cold spell, though, allowed the Badgers to get back in the game in the fourth. Moziss Nesser had two putbacks to get Powder Valley within 39-31 with 4:05 to play. A runner by Omar Benites and another basket by Nesser made it a four-point game with three minutes go to.

And then Joseph found its touch again. Murray hit a triple from the top of the key and Mason Ferré connected twice — all on three straight possessions — to put the Eagles back up by 13.

A last-ditch effort by the Badgers ran out of time, ending a game Head Coach Warren Wilson said was a struggle for both teams.

"It was not a very good shooting experience in the first half," Wilson said. "I think part of that was attributed to the defense. Both teams played pretty good defense. It's the first time we faced each other this year. I knew they were going to be able to shoot from the perimeter."

Joseph did, indeed, connect often from deep, shooting 11-for-30, and 8-for-15 in the second half. Overall, the Eagles shot 32 percent. Ferré added 11 points for Joseph.

Nesser had 10 points and 12 rebounds to lead the Badgers, who

shot just 29 percent on the game. Reece Dixon also had 10 points.

"Powder is a really good team," Fulfer said. "They're explosive. We just got them on a night when they weren't hitting, and they got us on a night where we were, at least for a couple of quarters."

Also Friday COVE EDGES IMBLER IN OT

The Cove Leopards boys basketball team needed overtime, but came away with their first Old Oregon League win of the season, edging the Imbler Panthers, 31-28, at home Friday.

Dawson Gaertner had nine points for Cove, including a key basket in overtime. The teams went into the extra session tied at 27-27 after Cove trailed 24-20 entering the fourth. Blake Witten added five points.

Imbler was led by Grant Slater, who scored seven points. Ryan Patterson added six points.

Imbler (5-9 overall, 2-3 OOL) visits Powder Valley Friday.

NIXYAAWII BLASTS ELGIN

The Nixyaawii Golden Eagles had more points in the first quarter than Elgin did for the game in a 104-34 home blowout win over the Huskies Friday in Old Oregon League play.

Elgin found itself trailing 37-6 after one quarter and saw it only get worse, as Nixyaawii scored 21 more points in the second and 39 in the third.

Ian Adams had nine points to lead Elgin. Kaden McClure added eight points.

UNION DOWNS TIGERSCOTS

Keegan Glenn went off for 32 points, Tate Lantis added a double-double, and the Union Bobcats boys

basketball team earned a 72-54 road win over the Weston-McEwen TigerScots on Friday in Blue Mountain Conference action.

Lantis had 19 points and 11 rebounds, and Gannon Carreiro chipped in with 13 points. Union raced ahead to a 21-9 lead at the half and maintained the margin despite Weston-McEwen trying to keep pace.

WALLOWA ROUTS GRIZZLIES

Christopher Nobles led the way with 27 points as the Wallowa Cougars boys basketball team used a strong second quarter to distance itself in a 57-37 road win over the Griswold Grizzlies Friday in Old Oregon League action.

Wallowa scored 21 points in the second quarter to turn a 12-11 margin into a sizeable 33-18 lead by halftime.

BAKER TOPS TIGERS

The La Grande Tigers boys basketball team dropped its second Greater Oregon League game of the season with a 57-43 road setback against the Baker Bulldogs Friday.

Stats were not provided. The Tigers (4-10 overall, 1-2 GOL) host Ontario Friday.

Saturday UNION COMPLETES PERFECT WEEKEND

Keegan Glenn scored 18 points to lead three players in double figures as the Union Bobcats boys basketball team secured a 58-45 home win over the Grant Union Prospectors Saturday in Blue Mountain Conference action.

Tate Lantis added 13 points and Gannon Carreiro had 12 for Union, which moved into second in the BMC

with the win. Glenn and Carreiro both added four steals.

Union outscored Grant Union in every quarter on the way to the win, including leading 26-19 at halftime and 40-31 after three.

The Bobcats (12-5 overall, 5-2 BMC) visit Enterprise Saturday.

ENTERPRISE GETS SECOND BMC WIN

Devin Greer led the way with 19 points — including 16 in the second half — as the Enterprise Outlaws boys basketball team pulled away in the fourth quarter for a 45-36 home win over the Pilot Rock Rockets Saturday in Blue Mountain Conference play.

Cason Kirkland added 11 points for the Outlaws, who led just 30-27 after three but added on in the fourth for their second win in BMC action.

Enterprise (8-10 overall, 2-5 BMC) travels to Weston-McEwen Friday.

COVE PULLS AWAY FOR VICTORY

Blake Witten led the way with 13 points as the Cove Leopards boys basketball team picked up a 40-29 road win over the Wallowa Cougars Saturday in Old Oregon League play. Wacey Fite and Landon Moore both added 10 points for Cove, which used a 13-3 third-quarter advantage to pull ahead and grab a 33-20 lead.

Christopher Nobles had 13 points to lead Wallowa, while Wyatt Prince added seven points.

The Leopards (9-5 overall, 2-2 OOL) travel to Pine Eagle Friday, while Wallowa (5-11, 2-4) heads to Elgin Friday.

EAGLES FALL TO NIXY

A third-quarter run by the Nixy-



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