



University of Providence photo

Drake Randall, center, wrapped up his career with a fourth-place finish at nationals.

## WRESTLING

*Continued from Page 6A*  
over Reinhardt's Jacob Henderson, and a 3-2 decision over Eric Deluse of Cumberlands in the blood round for all-American. He then won a rematch against Matsimela by a close 3-2 decision before dropping two in a row to slip to sixth. He fell to Baker's David Dow by a 5-3 decision, and lost in the fifth-place match to Embry-Riddle's Eli Mason by a 7-3 decision.

"That shows a lot. He loses his first match and

battles all the way back to all-American status, and beat the guy he lost to. He did a good job of just keeping composure as well," Azure said.

Mhar Caballa (125) opened with a 4-2 win by tiebreaker over York's Pierce Mederios, then was eliminated after back-to-back losses to Kolby Millner of Reinhardt by a 5-2 decision and to Nick Kunz of MSU-Northern by a 4-2 decision.

"He's been a huge part of bringing this program back. I can't say enough nice things about how hard of a worker he is," Azure

said of Caballa. "The tournament didn't go his way, but he had a great year and great career."

Ryan Redford (184) lost his first match by a 7-4 decision to Max Emerson of Cumberlands. He beat Truett McConnell's Jacob Matheson by a 3-2 decision in his first consolation match, then was eliminated after an 8-3 loss by decision to Sam Osho of Marian.

Blake McNall (133) went 0-2, losing to Jordan Pitt of Reinhardt by a 13-4 major decision and to Missouri Valley's Zachary Durbin by a 4-2 sudden victory. ■

## BADGERS

*Continued from Page 6A*  
and put the game out of reach.

"I think we were a little nervous," said Megan Bingham, who along with Blair scored 10 points to lead the Badgers. "It was an exciting environment. I think we were ready to play, but it just wasn't falling tonight."

Counts scored 14 points to lead St. Paul, which wrapped up a perfect 30-0 season. Wyss had 13 points and 10 rebounds, and Emma Connor scored 10 points.

While disappointed about the title game setback, Badgers' players and coaches said they were proud of the effort that got the team to the championship game — the first time the program reached the finals since winning it all in 2006.

"This doesn't happen very often, that you're in the title game, even if you get beat," Allen Bingham said. "I told them there aren't very many second place trophies or first place trophies. (We're) pretty fortunate to have the opportunity to do it."

The run to the final came in a season that, at the start, many believed could have been a down year after the team lost four seniors off last year's third-place squad.

"No one really thought we were going to get this far," Blair said, adding later that it was "a big thing" to be playing in the championship.

"Second in state is pretty good. I'm happy with it," she said.

It was the second time in four months St. Paul and Powder Valley met in a championship, with the teams facing off in volleyball in November, a title match also won by the Buckaroos.

Megan Bingham said the expectations during volleyball were different — and higher — than in basketball.

"In volleyball we were expecting ourselves to get that far. We knew that we were good and that we could go super far, but in basketball we lost four or five huge players, and we were like, 'This year is going to be a rebuilding year,'" she said. "I think toward the end of the year we surprised ourselves. We were glad we made it this far."

The team's growth, particularly on the defensive side, was one of the keys to making the unexpected deep run and a 26-4 final record — 25-0, in fact, in games where

Powder Valley allowed 40 points or less.

"I thought we could be a good competitive team and have a chance to make a run, but to get to the title game (considering) the competition that is around the state (means) we developed as a team really well," Allen Bingham said. "They bought into that defense and just won us a lot of basketball games."

On Friday the Powder Valley Badgers overcame three sluggish quarters and double-digit second-half deficit to escape an upset bid and defeated the Perrydale Pirates, 46-37, in the 1A state semifinals at Baker High School.

The Badgers scored just two first quarter points, were down as much as 12 points in the first half and, despite cutting the margin to two by halftime, saw the Pirates go back up 31-21 midway through the third quarter on an Amity Deters free throw. They still trailed 35-27 late in the third after a Deters layup, but then stormed back, finishing the game on a 19-2 run.

"We were able to wear Perrydale down enough to where we got a few steals and some layups," Allen Bingham said. "Anytime you can get those kind of baskets, you get a lot of momentum (and) it energizes the players."

Nedrow's 3-pointer trimmed the deficit to 35-30 after three quarters, and a jumper and 3-pointer by Megan Bingham gave the

Badgers their first lead, 36-35, with 5:26 to play in the game. Two Shelby Sieckman free throws and a jumper by Blair extended the margin to five, and Powder Valley iced the win by connecting on six free throws in the final 1:41. The Badgers held the Pirates to just two free throws in the last nine minutes of the game.

"We hit a couple shots, and once we started getting momentum our defense picked up and we started getting more intense, and we rolled from there," Megan Bingham said.

Bingham finished with a game-high 21 points, 11 of which came in the second half. Blair added nine points, 10 rebounds and three steals.

Sydney Lawrence led Perrydale, which shot just 21 percent in the second half, with 11 points and nine rebounds.

### Also SEASON ENDS FOR TIGERS

A big second half by the Banks Braves girls basketball team allowed it to pull away for a 55-30 home win over the La Grande Tigers Saturday in the first round of the 4A state playoffs.

La Grande used a strong second quarter, outscoring Banks 11-6, to get within just 26-23 at halftime. But the Tigers were held to just seven points in the second half.

Camryn Collman scored 18 points, including 15 in the first half, to lead La Grande, which finished at 13-9. Ella Dunlap added six points. ■

# HEALTH NOTIFICATION

## Are You Hard of Hearing?



A major name brand hearing aid provider wishes to field test a remarkable new digital hearing instrument in the area. This offer is free of charge and you are under no obligation.

These revolutionary 100% Digital instruments use the latest technology to comfortably and

almost invisibly help you hear more clearly. This technology solves the "stopped up ears" and "head in a barrel" sensation some people experience.

If you wish to participate, you will be required to have your hearing test in our office FREE OF CHARGE to determine candidacy and review your results with the hearing instruments with our hearing care specialist.

At the end of this evaluation, you may keep your instrument, if you so desire, at a tremendous saving for participating in this field test. Special testing will be done to determine the increased benefits of this technology.

Benefits of hearing aids vary by type and degree of hearing loss, noise environment, accuracy of hearing test, and proper fit.

This is a wonderful opportunity to determine if hearing help is available for your hearing loss and get hearing help at a very affordable price.

**CALL NOW AND MAKE A RESERVATION IF YOU WISH TO BE INCLUDED!**  
**OFFER EXPIRES MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**



**The Miracle Ear Foundation**  
Since 1990 the Miracle-Ear Foundation™ has been providing hearing aids, follow-up care, and educational resources to people with hearing loss who demonstrate personal inability to financially provide for their hearing health needs. We do this because we believe everyone in our community deserves quality hearing instruments.

**Special Notice State Employees**  
You may qualify for a hearing aid benefit up to \$4,000 every 4 years. Call for eligibility status.

Mention Code: 19MarHealth

**LA GRANDE** 111 Elm Street La Grande, OR 97850 541-605-2109  
**BAKER CITY** 2021 Washington Ave. Baker City, OR 97814 541-239-3782

**ENTERPRISE**  
603 Medical Parkway Enterprise, OR 97828

**541-239-3877**

visit us online at: [www.miracle-ear.com](http://www.miracle-ear.com)

Hearing tests are always free. Hearing test is an audiological test to determine proper amplification needs only. Hearing Aids do not restore natural hearing. Individual experiences will vary depending on severity of loss, accuracy of evaluation by our Consultant, proper fit, and the ability to adjust amplification. If you are not completely satisfied, the aids must be returned within 30 days of the completion of fitting in our factory condition for a full refund.

**Thatcher's ACE Hardware & La Grande ACE Hardware**

**SALE**

**\$12.99**

Kaytee® Songbird Blend Wild Food  
14 lb 81068

Heath™ Suet, 11-1/4 oz.  
Assorted flavors. 8294530, 8294548,  
8294555. 8294563

**SALE 69¢ EA**

Now through March 31st

**Thatcher's Ace Hardware**  
2200 Resort St, Baker City • 541-523-3371

**La Grande Ace Hardware**  
2212 Island Ave, La Grande • 541-605-0152  
Monday-Friday 7-6 • Saturday 8-6 • Sunday 9-5  
*photos for illustration only*

