

SPORTS BRIEFS

EOU hosts volleyball camp this weekend

The Eastern Oregon volleyball team will host a two-day skills camp Saturday and Sunday at Quinn Coliseum. The camp, which is for fifth through 12th graders, is \$80 for youth up through eighth grade, and \$100 for grades 9-12. Athletes can also attend for one day for \$60. On both days, the camp runs from 9 a.m. to noon and 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. for all grades, with an extra 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. sessions for grades 9-12.

For more information, contact Kaki McLean-Morehead at 541-962-3687 or kmclean@eou.edu.



Ronald Bond/Observer file photo
La Grande's Anna Green is competing in both the javelin and the discus for the Tigers.

TIGERS

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jockeying for position with at the top.

The LHS girls, meanwhile, have 11 entries, and their best chance to score at state likely lies with four athletes who qualified in multiple individual events: Rachael Keniry (1,500 and 3,000), Jacki Martini (800 and 1,500), Katie Brown

(100 and 200) and Anna Green (javelin and discus).

The Tigers girls have been improving at state each of the last three years following a drop-off after the 2015 team tied for fifth. In 2016, the Tigers tied for 26th, and La Grande took 17th two years ago and 16th last year. With some solid performances from the above athletes or a couple surprises, a top-10 finish is possible. ■



Ronald Bond/Observer file photo
Union's Jaimee Baxter is less than a second off the pace in the 2A girls 400.

2A MEET

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behind Heppner's Hunter Nichols. Andrew Lackey in the 1,500, Griffin Nash in the shot put, Israel O'Reilly in the 3,000 and Jaxon Blackburn in the pole vault could also find their way to the podium for the Bobcats.

Union is taking just three

athletes on the girls side, but one of those three — Jaimee Baxter — has a realistic shot at a state title, as the junior enters with the second-best 400 time in the state at 59.82. Abriel O'Reilly is also just 1.5 seconds off the pace in the 800, and freshman Audrey Wells is Union's third competitor, running in the 3,000. ■

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Ronald Bond/Observer file photo
Elgin's Aaliyah Burton leads the state in both the 100 hurdles and 300 hurdles, and is third in the 100.

1A MEET

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thrower (Allie Best).

Aaliyah Burton could single-handedly thrust the Elgin Huskies into a range unseen by the program in a decade. The sophomore leads both the 100 hurdles and the 300 hurdles by a substantial margin and is third in the 100. The Huskies also have a top-four seed in Jocelyn Palmer in the 800 and fifth-seed Maddison Harvey in the 100 hurdles. The Huskies project to score about 35 points, which would put them in range for their first top-10 finish since 2009.

The Powder Valley Badgers girls qualified in three events, and their best chance to place at state is in the 4x400 relay, which is seeded sixth.

The Imbler Panthers girls have one competitor, pole vaulter Erin Coston, who is seeded fourth in the event.

For the boys teams, Joseph enters projected to finish third, a stark turnaround from three years ago when the Eagles took just one athlete to state. Tyler Homan, who ran the 3,000 for the Eagles

that year, enters as the favorite in the 300 hurdles. Joseph's best opportunity to net points, though, is in the pole vault, where it has three competitors, including T.J. Grote, who enters tied for first in the state. Kade Kilgore and Carsen Littlepage could also put up a high mark for the Eagles and would propel the team higher into the title talks with a strong effort. The Eagles also have the No. 2 seed in the 800 in Justin Rogers, and should receive a boost from freshman Henry Coughlan, who is fifth in the 1,500 and sixth in the 3,000.

The Elgin Huskies are also primed for the program's best finish in several years, as they are projected to take sixth on the boys side. Elgin, which enters with the state favorite in javelin in Tristan Simpson, is ranked second in both the 4x100 and 4x400 relays and could move itself into trophy range with solid effort from Geoy Greenlee (100), Clay Wilhelm (400) and Brandon Caldwell (110 hurdles), all of whom are projected to place in their events. Chris Hanson and Keifer Ivins are also on the cusp of scoring range for



Ronald Bond/Observer file photo
Cove's Tim Stevens is in position to repeat in both the 1A boys 1,500 and 3,000.

the Huskies in the shot put.

Cove's Tim Stevens enters favored to wrap up his career with titles in the 1,500 and the 3,000. He has the top time by far in the 3,000 and is in position to make a run at the meet record of 8:43.19. In the 1,500, even though he's seeded second, he has the top time in the state by seven seconds. Cove also has teams in both relays, and with strong runs there and by Jack Silveira in the 800,

the Leopard boys could crack the top 10.

Powder Valley could also break into the top 10 and enters as the favorite in the 4x400 relay, has a potential top-five finisher in the 400 in Reece Dixon and has a pair of high jumpers in Dominick Grende and Kaden Krieger who could make a splash.

Imbler missed out on sending an athlete to state on the boys side this season. ■

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