An Eastern jam session

By Ronald Bond
The Observer

LA GRANDE — The last time Multnomah came to Quinn Coliseum, the Lions hit 23 3-pointers and stunned Eastern Oregon University as they won a shootout.

Friday night, the Mountaineers emphasized guarding the 3-point line and dominated in the post as they rolled over Multnomah in their Cascade Collegiate Conference opener.

Landon Jones scored a career high 31 points and added 15 rebounds, Jarek Schetzle also had a double-double, and EOU scored a whopping 80 points in the paint as it pulled away for a 118-88 win.

"Our coaches the whole week stressed getting the ball inside," Jones said. "We knew they only had one big (post player), and they have to choose to either guard me or Jarek. They can't guard both of us, and we were in attack mode the whole night."

The Mountaineers — and particularly Jones and Schetzle — lived on the low block and racked up basket after basket around the rim. Of Eastern's 41 2-point field goals, 40 were in the paint — or the key.

The combo of Jones and Schetzle shot 25-for-36, with most of the baskets layups, short jumpers or dunks.

"We knew they (Multnomah) were going to have to pick between him or me (on) who was going to get the dunk. That's the toughest thing," Schetzle, who had 22 points and 10 rebounds, said of himself and Jones. "He'll get it at the high post and drive, and it's either a lob or he's getting his own dunk. That's pretty hard to beat."

The Eastern frontcourt players may have had the lion's share of inside points, but the Mountaineer guards did their own feasting inside with ample opportunities at the rim — none more authoritative than an explosive rim-rattling dunk by 6-foot guard Josh Brown, who had 12 points.

"I love when that guy dunks. He doesn't do it all the time, but...when he does it, it's big time," Schetzle said.

While the Mountaineers were scoring almost at will inside, they had a strong game from the 3-point line as well, shooting 11-for-24 from deep and limiting Multnomah's 3-point attack. The Lions hit 16 treys but needed 51 attempts to do so, well off the 46% clip they shot from deep in last year's game.

"We've been thing about Multnomah for like two weeks because they swept us last year, and they didn't make the conference tournament, but they're still dangerous," head coach Carlito Labarda Jr. said. "Their style of play bothered us last year to where it kept me up at night. So we focused on guarding the 3, and they did that really well."

The Lions did connect from deep early, and they took their largest lead, 30-20, on a Justin Martin 3-pointer with 12:01 to play in the opening half.

See **Men** / *Page 10A*

Staff photo by Ronald Bond

Eastern Oregon University's Josh Brown throws down a dunk Friday against Multnomah.

Ducks smell the roses

By Greg Beacham
The Associated Press

PASADENA, California — Although Oregon and Wisconsin have been regular visitors to the Rose Bowl over the past decade or so, very few people currently on their rosters or coaching staffs have had the honor of lining up in Pasadena on New Year's Day

That's just one reason why both of these revitalized powerhouse programs are so excited about yet another trip to the Granddaddy of Them All.

No. 7 Oregon (11-2) will face No. 11 Wisconsin (10-3) in the 106th edition of the Rose Bowl, the game announced Sunday.

The Badgers are in the Rose Bowl for the fourth time in 10 seasons, albeit the first in seven years, while the Ducks have earned their fourth berth in 11 seasons, but their first in five years.

See **Ducks** / *Page 10A*

Mountaineers' season ends in round of 16

By Ronald Bond
The Observer

LA GRANDE — One of the best seasons in Eastern Oregon University volleyball history came to an end Friday morning as the seventh-ranked Mountaineers fell in four sets to Westmont (California), the eventual national runner-up, in the first round of bracket play at the NAIA national tournament, 25-22, 24-26, 25-19, 25-23.

The loss came on the heels of dropping a dramatic five-set battle against Lindsey Wilson (Kentucky) Thursday, and head coach Kaki McLean-Morehead said that had an impact, but she didn't offer it as an excuse.

"Anytime you go five sets like that last (match), that's three hours, and there are going to be some lasting side effects," she said. "(But) at the end of the day, we're at the national tournament where you have to survive and advance."

The coach also said Eastern wasn't as aggressive on its attack as it had been earlier in the tournament, tipping more kill attempts than the previous three days.

"That should have been a game we won," she said. "Hindsight is 20/20 (and) that is the bitter pill to swallow. We were right there and had control of the match, we just didn't terminate."

EOU held a lead late in the first set at 21-20 on a kill by Hailee Ackerman,

See **Volleyball** / *Page 8A*

EOU women take two to open CCC

By Ronald Bond
The Observer

LA GRANDE — The defense set the tone, and the offense found a couple of early sparks Friday to overcome a slow start and power the Eastern Oregon University women's basketball team to a win in its Cascade Collegiate Conference opener.

Beverly Slater led three Mountaineers in double figures with 14 points, and No. 17 EOU limited Multnomah to just 32% shooting to rout the Lions, 76-50.

EOU, which struggled from the floor early, took the lead for good with a 13-0 run, with Megan Still scoring seven of her 13 points during the rally to give EOU a 15-6 lead.

"We stopped thinking and just played, and (we) executed really well in our offense," said Rachel Fielder, who had 11 points for the Mountaineers. "We finally got some chemistry, and we're working really (well)."

The Mountaineers pushed the lead to double figures early in the second quarter on back-to-back field goals by Fielder, then broke the game wide open with a lengthy run spanning the second and third quarters. A 3-point play by Still and a 3-pointer by Whitney Meier just before the half triggered the run and pushed EOU to a 44-26 lead at the break. Eastern extended the run — and the lead to its largest at 62-30 — on field goals by Jane Nelson and Jill Albright with about three minutes to play in the third quarter.

EOU head coach Anji Weissenfluh said the defense was the key, as was Eastern's effort on the glass with a 51-37 rebounding advantage.

"I was proud of them. I was proud that in the first three possessions we took a charge, and I think that set the tone for our defense," she said. "We talked about being tough (and) I saw some of that."

The coach also said EOU succeeded in establishing a post presence, even working against Multnomah's 6-foot-6 center Erykah Campbell.

"I thought our bigs got big tonight, and that was one of our keys — our bigs get big and establish a low block presence," she said. "We did a nice job regardless of who was guarding us."

Albright, who scored just four points but had a team-best 12 rebounds, said

See **Women** / *Page 10A*

Staff photo by Ronald Bond

Eastern Oregon University's Megan Still, right, drives to the basket for a layup during Friday's win over Multnomah.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Big second half boosts Bobcats past Leopards

By Ronald Bond
The Observer

UNION — For the better part of three quarters, the Union Bobcats couldn't buy a basket.

But once they — and, in particular, Callie Glenn — found the range, they turned what for most of the afternoon was a close contest into a decisive win.

Glenn scored 22 of her game-high 25 points in the second half and added seven rebounds and seven steals, and Union shot 41% in the second half — and 58% in the fourth quarter — after an icy first half to earn a 47-31 win over Cove in the title game of the Union Lions Tournament Saturday.

"We are a shooting team. We have lots of great shooters," Union head coach Rhondie Rickman-Johansen said. "It's early in the season, and some girls get back into the rhythm and motion a lot quicker than others. I look forward to the day that we all fire on the same cylinder and all our shots are falling."

Both teams struggled offensively through the first 16 minutes, but it was Cove that went into the break with a 15-14 lead after hitting 33% to Union's 17%. The Leopards still held a 20-17 lead early in the third on a 3-pointer by Raegan Duby.

Then Glenn found the range and turned the game in the Bobcats' favor. The sophomore hit her first 3-pointer of the game to put Union ahead for good 22-20, then scored five straight to push the lead to nine and cap a 12-0 run.

Cove pulled within 31-25 after the third quarter on an Elli Hines-Dunlap field goal and was still down just 33-27 after a Kierra Moore rebound and putback early in the fourth.

But another Glenn 3 triggered a game-sealing 12-0 run in which she scored all but two of the points. Her pullup trey pushed the lead to 14, and consecutive layups — one off her own steal, and one off a steal and assist from Brianna Kohr — made it 45-27.

See **Hoops** / *Page 8A*

Coming up:
See results from prep wrestling in Wednesday's Observer.