

VOLLEYBALL

Local players take home all-league honors

By **DAVIS CARBAUGH**
The Observer

UNION COUNTY — After strong team performances from a number of teams in the area this season, Union and Wallowa county volleyball players were well represented on this year's all-league teams.

In the 4A Greater Oregon League, La Grande went 8-5 in the regular season and lost in the first round of the 4A state playoffs. The Tigers had three players named to the first team and three selected to the second team.

La Grande's first-team nominees were senior setter Izzy Kump, senior libero Felicia Murphy and junior setter Makenna Shorts. The team's second-team players were junior offensive hitter Ari Meyer, sophomore middle hitter Belle Near and junior offensive hitter Shelby Burgess.

In the 2A Blue Mountain conference, Union hauled in five all-league nominees after making it to the state quarterfinals this season.

Senior Callie Glenn was named to the first team, while senior Kaylin Nowak was selected to the second team. The Bobcats' honorable mentions were freshman Jesse Ledbetter, senior Emma Ricker and junior Megan Winterton.

At the 1A level, Union and Wallowa county players



Aimee Meyers (6) sets the ball for Joseph at the Old Oregon League District Tournament held in Baker City on Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021. Meyers was named the 2021 Old Oregon League player of the year.

across the Old Oregon League earned all-league honors.

Coming off a 24-4 overall record and a run to the state quarterfinals, Joseph head coach Jill Hite earned coach of the year. Sophomore Aimee Meyers was named player of the year.

The Eagles also earned a first-team nomination from sophomore Cooper Nave. Junior Molly Curry made the second team and Sarah Orr and McKenzie Keffer earned honorable mentions.

After a 14-6 season that

saw Imbler knocked out in the first round of the state playoffs, the Panthers garnered three all-league nominations. Seniors Joelle Treat and Allison Stirewalt were selected to the first team, while junior Harvest Coston was named to the second team.

Powder Valley had three players make all-league teams after a 24-10 season that ended in the state second round. Sophomore Ayla Bingham and senior Trinity Nesser both earned second-team honors. Freshman Marli Lind

earned honorable mention.

Cove finished the year 9-13 overall and compiled a strong 9-5 league record. Senior Rachel Baird earned a spot on the first team, while sophomore Autumn Dobbs was selected to the second team and senior Carlee Porter was given honorable mention.

Elgin senior Erika Adams was selected to the first team, leading the way for the Huskies. Wallowa senior Haley Crockamp was named to the second team and junior Libby Fisher made honorable mention.



Alex Wittwer/The Observer, File
Rosie Aguilera (18) kicks the ball out at Community Stadium in La Grande on Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2021. Aguilera was named Greater Oregon League player of the year at the conclusion of the 2021 season.

La Grande hauls in league soccer honors

By **DAVIS CARBAUGH**
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LA GRANDE — The La Grande boys and girls soccer teams both put in strong performances this year, with each team making the state playoffs. The girls team went 11-3-1 on the year and ended the season in the 4A quarterfinals, while the boys team went 5-3-3 and lost in the first round of the state tournament.

Coming off the strong showings, each team had numerous players earn all-league honors.

On the girls side, junior Rosie Aguilera was named Greater Oregon League player of the year. Head coach Sam Brown was selected as coach of the year after the Tigers won the league title this season.

La Grande's seven first-team selections were Aguilera, senior Susanna Durvik, sophomore Kaitlin Brock, junior Haylee McCall, junior Sophia Petty, junior Giselle Sanchez and junior Rylie Huddleston.

Junior Nora Crews, sophomore Maezie Wilcox, freshman Lyndie Isaacson and freshman Carlee Strand were selected to the second team.

On the boys side, La Grande's three first-team nominees were senior Jarom Huntsman, senior Lamar Langidrik and junior Owen Rinker.

The Tigers garnered second-team nominations from senior Carter Perry, senior Brady Hutchins, senior Brayden Sudbrock and junior Gage Mathson.

ON THE SLATE

THURSDAY, DEC. 2

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL
La Grande at Umatilla, 7 p.m.
Jordan Valley at Powder Valley, 7:30 p.m.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL
Umatilla at La Grande, 5:30 p.m.
Jordan Valley at Powder Valley, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 3

COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL
Eastern Oregon at Southern Oregon, 7:30 p.m.

COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Eastern Oregon at Oregon Tech, 5:30 p.m.

COLLEGE MEN'S WRESTLING
Eastern Oregon at Providence Triangular, Great Falls, Montana, TBA

COLLEGE WOMEN'S WRESTLING
Eastern Oregon at Battle of the Rockies, Great Falls, Montana, TBA

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL
Cove vs. Adrian, Union Lion's Tournament, 4:30 p.m.
Joseph vs. Crane, Prairie City, 4:30 p.m.
Echo at Union, Union Lion's Tournament, 7:30 p.m.
La Grande JV at Elgin, 7:30 p.m.
Imbler at Stanfield, 7:30 p.m.
South Wasco County at Wallowa, 7:30 p.m.
Enterprise at Prairie City, 7:30 p.m.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL
Adrian at Cove, Union Lion's Tournament, 3 p.m.
Joseph vs. Crane, Prairie City, 3 p.m.
La Grande JV at Elgin, 5:30 p.m.
Enterprise at Prairie City, 6 p.m.
Banks at La Grande, 6 p.m.
Echo at Union, Union Lion's Tournament, 6 p.m.
Imbler at Stanfield, 6 p.m.
South Wasco County at Wallowa, 6 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING
Imbler, Elgin, Union/Cove, Enterprise at Enterprise Kickoff, TBA

SATURDAY, DEC. 4

COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL
Eastern Oregon at Oregon Tech, 5 p.m.

COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Eastern Oregon at Southern Oregon, 3 p.m.

COLLEGE MEN'S WRESTLING
Eastern Oregon at Battle of the Rockies, Great Falls, Montana, TBA

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL
Union, Elgin and Cove at Union Lions Tournament, TBA
Enterprise vs. Crane, Prairie City High School, 1:30 p.m.
Wallowa at Jordan Valley, 2:30 p.m.
South Wasco County at Joseph, 2:30 p.m.
Powder Valley at Dufur, 4:30 p.m.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL
Union, Elgin and Cove at Union Lions Tournament, TBA
Enterprise vs. Crane, Prairie City, noon
Wallowa at Jordan Valley, 1 p.m.
South Wasco County at Joseph, 1 p.m.
Powder Valley at Dufur, 3 p.m.

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