

ON THE SLATE

THURSDAY, DEC. 9

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL
Elgin at Four Rivers, 6:30 p.m.
Calvin Hiatt Memorial Basketball Tournament, North Powder
Union vs. Prairie City, Powder Valley Middle School, 5:30 p.m.
Echo vs. Powder Valley, Powder Valley High School, 5:30 p.m.
Joseph vs. Adrian, Powder Valley Middle School 8:30 p.m.
Imbler vs. Jordan Valley, Powder Valley High School, 8:30 p.m.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL
Elgin at Four Rivers, 5 p.m.
Calvin Hiatt Memorial Basketball Tournament, North Powder
Echo vs. Powder Valley, Powder Valley High School, 4 p.m.
Union vs. Prairie City, Powder Valley Middle School 4 p.m.
Joseph vs. Adrian, Powder Valley Middle School, 7 p.m.
Imbler vs. Jordan Valley, Powder Valley Middle School, 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 10

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL
Cove at Central Christian, 4:30 p.m.
La Grande at Molalla, 7 p.m.
Wallowa at Horizon Christian/Hood River, 7:30 p.m.
Calvin Hiatt Memorial Basketball Tournament, North Powder
Adrian vs. Enterprise, Powder Valley High School, 1:30 p.m.
Union vs. Pine Eagle, Powder Valley Middle School, 4 p.m.
Jordan Valley vs. Joseph, Powder Valley High School, 4:30 p.m.
Dufur vs. Imbler, Powder Valley Middle School, 7 p.m.
Powder Valley vs. Prairie City, Powder Valley High School, 7:30 p.m.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL
Cove at Central Christian, 3 p.m.
La Grande at Molalla, 5:30 p.m.
Wallowa at Horizon Christian/Hood River, 6 p.m.

Calvin Hiatt Memorial Basketball Tournament, North Powder
Adrian vs. Enterprise, Powder Valley High School, noon
Union vs. Pine Eagle, Powder Valley Middle School, 2:30 p.m.
Jordan Valley vs. Joseph, Powder Valley High School, 3 p.m.
Dufur vs. Imbler, 5:30 p.m.
Powder Valley vs. Prairie City, Powder Valley High School, 6 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING
La Grande, Elgin, Enterprise, Imbler, Union/Cove at Milenburg, La Grande High School, 3 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 11

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL
La Grande at Estacada, 12:30 p.m.
Sherman at Elgin, 2:30 p.m.
Wallowa vs. Trout Lake, Hood River, 2:30 p.m.
Cove/Central Christian winner vs. South Wasco County/Dayville-Monument winner, South Wasco County High School, TBA

Calvin Hiatt Memorial Basketball Tournament, North Powder
Jordan Valley vs. Enterprise, Powder Valley Middle School, 11:30 a.m.
Joseph vs. Tri-Valley, Idaho, Powder Valley Middle School, 2:30 p.m.
Imbler vs. Adrian, Powder Valley High School, 3 p.m.
Powder Valley vs. Union, Powder Valley High School, 6 p.m.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL
La Grande at Estacada, 11 a.m.
Sherman at Elgin, 1 p.m.
Wallowa vs. Trout Lake, Hood River, 1 p.m.
Cove/Central Christian winner vs. South Wasco County/Dayville-Monument winner, South Wasco County High School, TBA

Calvin Hiatt Memorial Basketball Tournament, North Powder
Jordan Valley vs. Enterprise, Powder Valley Middle School, 10 a.m.
Joseph vs. Tri-Valley, Idaho, Powder Valley Middle School, 1 p.m.
Imbler vs. Adrian, Powder Valley High School, 1:30 p.m.
Powder Valley vs. Union, Powder Valley High School, 6 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING
La Grande, Elgin, Enterprise, Imbler, Union/Cove at Milenburg, La Grande High School, 7 a.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 14

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL
Fruitland, Idaho, vs. La Grande, 6 p.m.
Enterprise at Joseph, 7 p.m.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL
Enterprise at Joseph, 5:30 p.m.

SPORTS SHORT

La Grande set to host 2021 Muilenburg tournament

By DAVIS CARBAUGH
The Observer

LA GRANDE — One of the biggest wrestling events of the year is set to return to La Grande this weekend.

The Muilenburg Wrestling Tournament is set to welcome in elite wrestlers from Oregon and out of state to take part in the competition at La Grande High School. The action begins at 3 p.m. on Friday Dec. 10, and concludes after a full day of wrestling on Dec. 11.

According to La Grande head coach Klel Carson, 16 teams will

be in attendance for the tournament. Several out-of-state wrestling programs will be attending from Idaho, as well as powerhouse schools from across the state.

The tournament honors Brian Muilenburg, a district champion wrestler at La Grande who went on to wrestle at Oregon State University. Muilenburg died in a traffic accident in the 1980s.

The top four wrestlers in each weight division will receive awards, which takes place at the conclusion of the final match of each division. The top placing teams will be selected for the

6A/5A/4A/3A division and the 2A/1A team scores.

A new feature of the event will be an honorary award dedicated to Ryan Jorgensen, a former La Grande wrestler who recently died at the age of 41. Jorgensen graduated from La Grande in 1999 and wrestled for Oregon State University for two years. Outstanding wrestlers of the tournament will receive an honorary award named in Jorgensen's honor.

Tournament passes are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students, while daily passes are \$6 for adults and \$5 for students.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



Alex Wittwer/The Observer

Elgin freshman Collin Smith dribbles between Enterprise JV defenders Levi Orswam, left, and Ethan Lyon, right, during a matchup on Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021. Smith is one of five freshmen on Elgin's roster that will be looking to lead the way this season.

FROM THE BOTTOM UP

Elgin rebuilding after graduation of nine seniors from last year's team

By DAVIS CARBAUGH
The Observer

ELGIN — The Huskies are building from scratch. After a season with no basketball last year that saw nine seniors graduate from the school, the Elgin boys basketball team is looking for its young players to step up. While wins may be tough to come by this season, the Huskies are looking to establish an identity.

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Alex Wittwer/The Observer

Elgin's Brandon Medlock (22) drives as teammate Austin Bergman (21) sets a pick on Enterprise JV player Levi Orswam on Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021. The Huskies fell to Enterprise 57-10.

Huskies ready to be back on the court

Elgin did not play any spring season games

By JEFF BUDLONG
For The Observer

ELGIN — Last season was a lost campaign for the Elgin girls basketball team and head coach Brian Evans. The third-year coach did not get a chance to lead his team into any games because of the pandemic, and it is having an impact on this year's deep but inexperienced squad.

"We were able to do a monthlong basketball conditioning camp where we just did fundamentals and conditioning drills," he said. "We never got the green light to play games."

Because of that, Evans believes he is starting from where his team left off two years ago. The Huskies have 15 players on the roster this season, but just two seniors in guard Gracie Evans and post Erika Adams. The remaining members are either sophomores or freshmen.

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Alex Wittwer/The Observer

Elgin's Erika Adams (25) drives between Enterprise defenders Jada Gray, left, and Rilyn Kirkland, right, at Elgin High School on Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021. Adams, along with teammate Gracie Evans were part of an Elgin team that went 20-6 two seasons ago, but their most important contribution — at least early on this season — may be leadership.



The Observer, File

La Grande's Braden Carson tries to break the grip of Tillamook's Quintin Metcalfe on Saturday, March 2, 2020, during the 126-pound final in Portland in his state-title victory. Carson and the Tigers are set to host the Muilenburg Wrestling Tournament, which begins on Friday, Dec. 10.