

ON THE SLATE

March 29 results

COLLEGE SOFTBALL
College of Idaho 1, Eastern O
College of Idaho 3, Eastern O

Thursday, March 31

PREP TENNIS
La Grande at Pendleton, 3 p.m.

Friday, April 1

COLLEGE SOFTBALL
Eastern Oregon at Warner Pacific (2), 2 p.m.

COLLEGE TRACK & FIELD
Eastern Oregon at NNU Invitational, Nampa, Idaho, TBA

PREP BASEBALL
La Grande at Seaside/Jewell, 4 p.m.
La Grande vs. North Marion, 7 p.m.

PREP SOFTBALL
Banks at La Grande (2), 2 p.m.
Elgin/Imbler at Union/Cove (2), 2 p.m.

PREP TRACK & FIELD
Cove, Elgin, Imbler, La Grande, Powder Valley, Union at Carnival of Speed, McLoughlin High School, 10 a.m.

PREP TENNIS
Pendleton at La Grande, 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 2

COLLEGE BASEBALL
Eastern Oregon at British Columbia (2), 1 p.m.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL
Eastern Oregon at Warner Pacific (2), 11 a.m.

COLLEGE WOMEN'S

LACROSSE
Eastern Oregon at Corban, 1 p.m.

PREP BASEBALL
La Grande at Astoria, noon

Sunday, April 3

COLLEGE BASEBALL
Eastern Oregon at British Columbia (2), 11 a.m.

Monday, April 4

PREP SOFTBALL
Echo/Stanford at La Grande (2), 2 p.m.

Tuesday, April 5

COLLEGE SOFTBALL
Eastern Oregon at College of Idaho (2), 1 p.m.

PREP BASEBALL
Union/Cove at Weston-McEwen, 4 p.m.

PREP SOFTBALL
Pilot Rock/Nixyaawii at Union/Cove (2), 3 p.m.

PREP TRACK & FIELD
Elgin, Imbler, Powder Valley at Small Schools Meet, Grant Union, 4 p.m.

PREP TENNIS
Vale at La Grande, 4 p.m.



Kathy Aney and Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian, File Photos

Union head coach Jordan Klebaum-Johnston reacts during an exciting moment of the 2A semifinal game against Central Linn on Friday, March 4, 2022, at the Pendleton Convention Center.



Union's Callie Glenn (22)



Union's Audrey Wells (4)

Icing on the cake

Union girls basketball team earns all-state recognition

By DAVIS CARBAUGH

The Observer

UNION — Capping off a storybook ending to the season, the Union girls basketball team hauled in high marks in the postseason awards.

On the heels of leading the team to a 2A state championship, seniors Callie Glenn and Audrey Wells earned spots on the all-state teams — Glenn earned player of the year honors and Wells was selected to the second team. Head coach Jordan Klebaum-Johnston was named 2A coach of the year after guiding Union to the program's first state championship.

"It really is, in my opinion, icing on top of a team accolade as big as winning a state championship," Klebaum-Johnston said. "For them to win some individual accolades is pretty cool stuff."

Glenn was the anchor for Union on both sides of the ball, leading the charge in all facets of the game. The senior averaged 21.4 points, 5.7 steals, 3.7 rebounds and 3.2 assists per game.

The guard was lethal from long range, converting 69 three-pointers on the season. Her 125 steals this year created a nightmare for opposing guards, alongside Wells who averaged four steals, eight points, 6.8 rebounds and 2.6 assists per contest.

For Glenn, the player-of-the-year selection rounds out a season where she also was

a unanimous first-team selection on the Blue Mountain Conference all-league team.

"That's been my goal since my sophomore year," she said of the recognition as the state's top 2A player.

Glenn is set to play college basketball at Clackamas Community College next winter.

"Going into playing collegiate basketball, it's a pretty good reminder and confidence booster," Klebaum-Johnston said. "She's put in the hard work and it's all been for a reason."

Wells wrapped up her prep career with an all-state second-team nod and first-team league recognition after a productive season. She totaled 175 points, 150 rebounds, 88 steals and 57 assists.

"This is beyond my wildest dreams," Wells said. "I'm super grateful for all the people who have been behind me all these years."

Klebaum-Johnston noted that Union senior Kaylin Nowak is another player who deserved state recognition for her strong season on the hardwood this year.

Nowak averaged 6.3 points per game and was a key part of Union's core trio of players who started playing together in second grade. The forward averaged nearly a double-double in the playoffs for the Bobcats — and she converted four three-pointers and finished with 16 points in Union's win over Salem Academy in the 2A championship game.

"It's really cool to see those girls that have

worked so hard since they were in second grade to get recognition," Klebaum-Johnston said. "It's a very well-deserved recognition."

For Klebaum-Johnston, the coach-of-the-year award comes in just her second year at the helm of the Union girls basketball program. The Bobcats averaged just under 50 points per game and held opponents to 30 points per game. Union tallied a 25-3 overall record and went 11-1 in league play — the Bobcats rode a 13-game winning streak through the end of state tournament action.

For coaches and players alike, the state recognition showcases the team's mentality from the start of the season.

"It recognizes all the hard work our team has put in," Glenn said.

Alongside Union's nominations, Enterprise saw two players earn all-state recognition. Seniors Rilyn Kirkland and Jada Gray both were honorable mention selections.

While the Union girls team is pleased with individual honors to wrap up the season, Union's leader on the bench still prefers the euphoria of winning a state championship. "I don't know if it will ever feel real," Wells said.

"It's still a pretty magical feeling, even a couple weeks later," Klebaum-Johnston said. "When you put in a lot of time and hours, it feels good. I have to say, when our state championship rings come in, that will feel quite a bit better."

SPORTS SHORT

MLS fines Timbers \$25,000 for handling of Andy Polo incident

By RYAN CLARKE

The Oregonian

PORTLAND — Major League Soccer will fine the Portland Timbers \$25,000 for failing to report an alleged incident of domestic violence to the league when former midfielder Andy Polo was cited for misdemeanor harassment last May.

But the league's independent investigation into the Timbers' handling of the May 23 incident cleared the Timbers of allegedly trying to cover up the incident or influence the legal decisions of Polo's estranged wife, Génessis Alarcón.

MLS released the findings of the investigation, conducted by New York-based law firm Proskauer Rose, on Tuesday, March 29. The Timbers' failure to report the incident, the investigation concludes, was a result of a lack of understanding of the MLS Constitution, rather than intent to conceal what happened.



Sean Meagher/The Oregonian, File

Portland Timbers' Andy Polo during a game against the Vancouver Whitecaps in an MLS match at Providence Park in Portland Sunday, Sept. 27, 2020.

"Although the investigation found no evidence that the Timbers organization influenced Ms. Alarcon's decision to press charges and that they did not attempt to conceal the incident, prompt reporting is

critical to League oversight, addressing potential misconduct, and ensuring that players and their families are referred to appropriate resources, including potentially the League's Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Program," MLS said in a statement.

The Timbers said in a statement that they "acknowledge and accept" the independent review's findings.

"For the past several months, the club has put in diligent work to enact a set of programs designed to improve our accountability, equity and engagement," the Timbers' statement says. "The full set of action items will be unveiled in the coming days. We strive to be a club this city and our supporters can be proud of. We have more than a decade of outstanding work in the community and off the pitch of which we are extremely proud. However, we are not perfect and will make mistakes occasionally. When that

happens, corrections will be made, and we will learn from them."

Portland terminated Polo's contract in February following additional, more violent allegations made by Alarcón on a Peruvian talk show. Polo has denied all of Alarcón's allegations.

"The investigators found that while the Timbers offered to assist Ms. Alarcón and her children with certain essentials, including food, transportation and seeking to ensure that Mr. Polo provided funds for necessary living expenses, that assistance was not intended to induce or pressure Ms. Alarcón to decline to pursue the criminal charges against Mr. Polo," the investigative report says. "The investigators concluded that Ms. Alarcón understood she would receive assistance from the Club regardless of whether she decided to pursue the charges, and the decision was entirely up to her. This conclusion is based on several findings."

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