



The Observer/File

Grace Gaither (15) receives a hero's welcome at home plate after hitting a home run during the match between Eastern Oregon University and Providence University at Peggy Anderson Softball Field, La Grande, on Friday, March 25, 2022. EOU won all four matches against the visiting team.

**SOFTBALL**

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mentions. Starr hit .327 on the year across 107 at-bats and recorded 39 total bases. She scored 16 runs and knocked in 15 RBIs during the regular season. Zaragoza was second on the team with 31 runs and totaled 21 RBIs on the year. She hit .301 across 123 at-bats and tallied 37 hits.



Starr



Zaragoza

The Mountaineers finished the regular season with a 39-13 record, going 24-6 in conference play. Eastern is just two wins away from tying the program record for wins in a

season at 41, which was set in 1999 under now-athletic director Anji Weissenfluh's coaching.

The Mountaineers hit their stride late in the year, taking three consecutive conference wins over No. 3 Oregon Tech on the weekend of Friday, April 22. The series propelled Eastern to a tie for first place in the conference standings at the time.

Upon completion of the regular season, the Mountaineers finished in third place in the competitive Cascade Collegiate Conference. Eastern is set to travel to Klamath Falls for the conference tournament, with the team's first-round matchup scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on Friday, May 6 — the game was completed after The Observer's print deadline. The conference championship game is scheduled for May 8 at 1:30 p.m.

**GOLF**

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year, so we're definitely seeing improvements. I'm excited to see how we'll do at districts and state."

Cox and Marissa Lane are the only upperclassmen anchoring the team, but a wide range of experience has not hindered the Tigers' success. Cox noted that as the team's lone senior, she has worked at establishing a positive atmosphere.

"We're all pretty equal," Cox said. "It just depends on our mindset that day and if we play up to our potential."

Individual golfers have alternated top scores on a regular basis this year. Waldrop seeded the golfers for the district tournament based on average scores, which illustrates the consistency of this year's roster.

"The top four all averaged out within six strokes of each other, so they're all kind of shooting around that 100 to 110 mark," he said. "It's pretty consistent as far as skill level and what the girls are shooting in tournaments."

Marissa Lane noted that the Tigers' well-rounded

performances will make an impact in the postseason.

"It's really nice to see because everybody is able to do their part every tournament," she said. "If one person is having a bad day, there's always another person who's ready to pick up the slack."

La Grande has seen consistent success this year, despite an onslaught of windy, rainy and cold conditions at nearly every tournament. While the team members are crossing their fingers for favorable conditions in Pendleton, its senior leader noted that the adverse conditions prepared the Tigers well for any challenges that may arise in the postseason.

"We have had some challenges with weather, basically every tournament, so I think we're ready," Cox said.

After a near flawless regular season, the bar is set high in the upcoming district and state competitions.

"I'd like us to aim for the top at districts," Lane said. "At state, we might as well shoot high and go for the title."

"Everyone just has to be ready and be positive about it, helping each other out," Cox said.

**ON THE SLATE**

**Saturday, May 7**

**PREP BASEBALL**

Lyle/Wishram/Klickitat/Trout Lake at Union/Cove (2), 11 a.m.

**COLLEGE TRACK & FIELD**

Eastern Oregon at Linfield Open, McMinnville Oregon, 10 a.m.  
Eastern Oregon at Portland Twilight, 3:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 10**

**PREP BASEBALL**

Joseph/Enterprise/Wallowa at Weston-McEwen (2), 3 p.m.  
Stanfield/Echo at Union/Cove, 4 p.m.

**PREP TENNIS**

Four Rivers at La Grande, 3 p.m.

**Thursday, May 12**

**PREP SOFTBALL**

Pendleton/Griswold at La Grande, 4 p.m.

**Friday, May 13**

**PREP BASEBALL**

Nyssa at Joseph/Enterprise/Wallowa (2), 1 p.m.  
Baker/Powder Valley at La

Grande (2), 2 p.m.

**PREP SOFTBALL**

Nyssa at Joseph/Enterprise/Wallowa (2), 1 p.m.

Baker/Powder Valley at La Grande (2), 2 p.m.

Heppner/Ione at Union/Cove (2), 2 p.m.

**PREP TRACK & FIELD**

Union, Enterprise at 2A District 5 Championship, Weston-McEwen, 11 a.m.

Cove, Elgin, Imbler, Powder Valley, Joseph at 1A Special District 4, Baker High School, 1 p.m.

**COLLEGE TRACK & FIELD**

Eastern Oregon at Cascade Collegiate Conference Outdoor Championships, Ashland, all day

**Saturday, May 14**

**COLLEGE TRACK & FIELD**  
Eastern Oregon at Cascade Collegiate Conference Outdoor Championships, Ashland, all day

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL**

Eastern Oregon Blue & Gold spring game, 6 p.m.

**STANDINGS**

**COLLEGE BASEBALL**

Team	League	Overall
Lewis-Clark State	19-3	48-4
British Columbia	14-9	27-22
College of Idaho	14-10	29-25
Corban	10-12	23-22-1
Bushnell	9-14	11-36
Oregon Tech	9-15	30-25
Eastern Oregon	4-16	11-34

**COLLEGE SOFTBALL**

Team	League	Overall
Oregon Tech	25-5	43-10
Southern Oregon	24-6	46-10
Eastern Oregon	24-6	39-13
College of Idaho	22-8	37-13
British Columbia	17-13	20-18
Corban	12-18	19-33
Carroll	11-19	14-31
Bushnell	11-19	15-33
Northwest	11-19	16-32
Warner Pacific	4-26	6-36
Providence	4-26	6-34

**PREP BASEBALL**

Team	League	Overall
La Grande	10-0	21-1
Baker/Powder Valley	6-2	12-9

Team	League	Overall
Ontario	1-7	1-16
McLoughlin	1-9	4-11

  

Team	League	Overall
Dufur/South Wasco Co.	10-0	16-1
Weston-McEwen	10-0	12-1
Heppner/Ione	8-4	9-8
Sherman/Arlington/Condon/Wheeler	4-5	6-6
Grant Union/Prairie City	3-4	8-8
Union/Cove	3-6	3-6
Stanfield/Echo	3-8	5-11
Pilot Rock/		
Nixyaawii/Ukiah	2-7	5-10
Adrian	0-0	3-0
Lyle/Wishram/		
Klickitat/Trout Lake	0-9	0-10

**PREP SOFTBALL**

Team	League	Overall
La Grande	9-1	13-5
Ontario	5-3	13-5
Baker/Powder Valley	2-6	8-8
McLoughlin	2-8	4-12

  

Team	League	Overall
Grant Union/Prairie City	8-0	18-0
Union/Cove	6-4	12-5
Weston-McEwen	5-1	10-5
Pilot Rock/Nixyaawii	4-2	10-6
Echo/Stanfield	3-5	11-8
Heppner/Ione	2-6	3-15
Adrian	0-0	2-1
Elgin/Imbler	0-10	0-10
Lyle/Wishram/Klickitat	0-0	0-0

**Your guide to arts and entertainment around Eastern Oregon**

Read more at [GOEASTERNOREGON.COM](http://GOEASTERNOREGON.COM)

**Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia ARE YOU AT RISK?**

According to a new study by Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the National Institute on Aging, men and women with hearing loss are much more likely to develop dementia and Alzheimer's disease. People with severe hearing loss, the study reports, were 5 times more likely to develop dementia than those with normal hearing.

**Have you noticed a change in your ability to remember?**

*"The more hearing loss you have, the greater the likelihood of developing dementia or Alzheimer's disease. Hearing aids could delay or prevent dementia by improving the patient's hearing."*

-2011 Study by Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the National Institute on Aging

**IS IT TIME FOR A HEARING TEST? TAKE THIS QUIZ TO FIND OUT...**

- Do you feel that people mumble or do not speak clearly?
- Do you have trouble understanding the voices of women and small children when they are speaking?
- Do you turn the TV up louder than others need to?
- Is it hard to follow the conversation in noisy places like parties, crowded restaurants or family get-togethers?
- Do family or friends get frustrated when you ask them to repeat themselves?

If you've answered "Yes" to any one of these questions, there's good news! Miracle-Ear can help! Don't wait another moment. Call us today.

*"Hearing loss, left untreated, can lead to serious problems such as loneliness and isolation."*

**FREE PUBLIC SERVICE**

**This Week Only! All of the tests are FREE!**

- Free** Your hearing will be electronically tested\* and you will be shown how your hearing compares to normal hearing.
- Free** Your ears will be examined with a video otoscope\* to determine if your hearing problem may just be excess wax.
- Free** In-store demonstration of the newest Miracle-Ear technology so you can hear the improvement for yourself!

**OFFER ENDS May 13, 2022**

**Don't Wait! Call and make your appointment now!**



**Special Notice State Employees. You may qualify for a hearing aid benefit up to \$4,000 every 4 years. Call for eligibility status.**

<p><b>LA GRANDE</b> 111 Elm Street La Grande, OR 97850 <b>541-605-2109</b></p>	<p><b>BAKER CITY</b> 2021 Washington Ave. Baker City, OR 97814 <b>541-239-3782</b></p>	<p><b>ENTERPRISE</b> 113-1/2 Front E. Main St. Enterprise, OR 97828 <b>541-239-3877</b></p>
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Hearing tests are always free. Hearing test is an audiometric test to determine proper amplification needs only. Hearing Aids do not restore natural hearing. Individual experiences will vary depending on severity of loss, accuracy of evaluation by our Consultant, proper fit, and the ability to adjust amplification. If you are not completely satisfied, the aids must be returned within 30 days of the completion of fitting, in satisfactory condition for a full refund.