



Horizon third at 1A state tourney

Hawks bounce back from semifinal loss Friday, finish year with 21-point win

BAKER CITY — It wasn't the placing the Horizon Christian School boys basketball team had in mind, but in the end, a win in its final game at the Class 1A state tournament provided a soothing dose of satisfaction for the Hawks.

Nixyaawii derailed top-ranked Horizon's dream of a state title in Friday's semifinals at Baker City High School, but the Hawks bounced back Saturday afternoon to defeat Siletz Valley in the third-place contest.

Horizon's 63-42 win against Siletz capped a 26-4 season and ended the prep basketball careers of six seniors, including captain Mason Bloomster.

Bloomster had double-doubles in scoring and rebounding in each of Horizon's three games and was a unanimous first-team, all-tourney selection by a vote of coaches. The stat line on his final high school game was 18 points, 11 rebounds, three assists, three steals and two blocked shots.

"Mason played well. In fact he had a great tournament... Mason has been consistent all year. He has been double-double all year and he continued to play that caliber of basketball," Hawks Coach Darrin Lingel said. "Without Mason, we wouldn't be where we are today."

"(Against Siletz) He had three points in the first half and he ended up with 18... He took charge in the second half and said, 'Hey, give me the ball and I'll take care of it.'"

The 6-foot-4 Bloomster had plenty of help, especially in the third-place game — always a tough contest for teams who have had their championship aspirations dashed a mere 24 hours earlier.

"The kids bounced back

really well," Lingel said. "We had a meeting and we talked about some things, cleared the air a little bit and came out and played well... for them it was a great moment."

In his Saturday pre-game talk, the coach implored his seniors to call upon the mojo the group had developed in

their many years of playing together. He told them they could erase some

of the sting of their 65-47 semifinal loss to Nixyaawii by playing the type of ball they honed as middle schoolers: free-flowing offense, in-your-face, team defense.

"One of our keys this game was to come out and play loose and have fun; do the things we do and just do

well," Lingel said. "Since they were eighth-graders they used to just transition and play together."

"This was their last game, so it was important for them to come out and just have a lot of fun. So they did that. You could just see the stress leave their bodies as they went out and played and had a great time."

The only stress was on the net hanging under Horizon's basket. Ryan Aldrich, the heart and soul of the team, nailed a 3-pointer from the left wing 25 seconds into the game and Horizon was on its way. A one-sided first quarter was capped by reserve senior guard RJ Hicks' trey, giving Horizon a 25-12 lead. Hicks' eight first-half points led his team to a 33-18 advantage at the break. The margin was never less than 11 the rest of the way and the lead bulged to as many as 25 points in the fourth quarter.

Horizon hit six of its first seven shots - including a couple of 3-pointers by Jared Davis. More telling of the

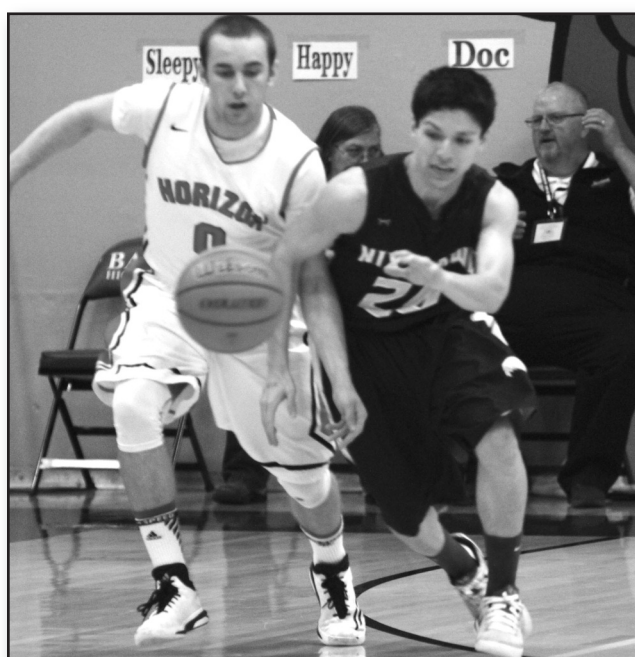


Photo by Northwest Sports Photography
HORIZON'S JARED DAVIS, left, battles with Nixyaawii's Fredy Campos during Friday afternoon's semifinal game in Baker City.

Hawks' fast start was the fact that five of their first six field goals came off of assists.

"We knew that we didn't play our best against Nixy — and they came out hungry. We just had to bounce back," Davis said. "If we weren't going to take first, we might

as well take third. "I think we played great. We played as a team. We played like we did (as eighth-graders). We had a lot of fun doing it and we came out with the win."

Davis led the team in assists. See *HORIZON, Page A8*

HRV ski team first at state



Photo by Mike Juliana Photography

LUCY MCLEAN was a force to be reckoned with in the slalom and GS events.

HRV dominates alpine events

By **BEN MITCHELL**
News staff writer

Mt. Hood's snowpack may be lacking, but Hood River Valley's ski-racing abilities are not.

The HRV ski team took first place overall at last week's Oregon Inter-scholastic Racing Association state championships after three days of racing up at Mt. Hood Meadows — the host of the event for the second year in a row.

HRV had a good showing at the championships, both with the number of participants as well as the amount

of hardware athletes took home.

The team has been improving all year and after last season's second-place finish, Coach Scott Keillor had a feeling 2015 would be HRV's time to take the title. "We've been building our team," he said. "I was saying, 'This is our year. This is our best shot.'"

HRV athletes dominated across the board, particularly Lucy McLean and Austin Keillor who delivered "banner performances," according to their coach.

McClean, who has conquered nearly every race she's entered this season, took first in the giant slalom (GS) and second in

the slalom, which was good for first place in the combined standings.

In the slalom, McLean's two-run time of 1:21.41 was a mere 0.12 seconds behind the winner, Carolina Maenza of Lincoln.

"Lucy McLean was phenomenal. If you look at the record books, three out of four wins for Lucy at state," Keillor said, referring to McLean's four individual runs. "I'm extremely proud of her accomplishments on behalf of the team as team captain."

Austin Keillor started out the GS with a "pretty good hip check on the steeps," Scott Keillor noted, that affected his

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Photo by Mark Crompton

PATRICK CROMPTON made great strides in the rail jam event, as well as in alpine events.

HRV team sweeps freestyle events

By **BEN MITCHELL**
News staff writer

While the alpine skiers were racking up victories on one side of Mt. Hood Meadows, HRV's freestyle skiers were doing the same on the other side.

HRV took first place in every single freestyle event during the state championships — from slopestyle to skiercross to rail jam — for both the boys and girls teams.

Just as she did last year, HRV's Hannah Bergemann achieved a first-place sweep of every event in the

freestyle competition.

Tucker FitzSimons nearly managed the same honor, taking first place in the rail jam and the slopestyle and placing second in skiercross behind his teammate, Austin Keillor.

FitzSimons took first overall at state for the third consecutive year.

Coach Michael FitzSimons made note of the "good results" from Savannah Boersma and Abigail Bergemann who went second and third slopestyle and "went big" on their jumps.

He also praised the performance of Patrick Crompton, whom he said "was the best I'd ever seen

him on rails," in reference to Crompton's silver-medal finish in the rail jam.

FitzSimons noted that both Crompton and Charlie Sutherland had their hands full bouncing from giant slalom race to slopestyle back to the giant slalom race on Thursday, and executed good performances.

FitzSimons said that the jumps in Vista Park were "significantly bigger than any jumps they competed on all year," but that HRV skiers hit the jumps undaunted. He lauded Meadows' work on the park and was pleased with the "awesome conditions."

Admittedly, some of the See *SKI, Page A8*

Alpine ski results:

Boys GS
(1st: Ashlay Ruddick, Lakeridge, 1:27.9)

Austin Keillor, 6th, 1:31.92
Patrick Crompton, 19th, 1:35.49

Oskar Anderson, 27th, 1:38.18
Charlie Sutherland, 59th, 1:51.8
William Lamer, 79th, 2:11.78
HRV boys 3rd overall

Boys slalom
(1st: Trevor Maxwell, West Linn, 1:13.17)

Austin Keillor, 2nd, 1:13.38
William Lamer, 5th, 1:17.95
Patrick Crompton, 18th, 1:24.44

Charlie Sutherland, 26th, 1:27.61
Oskar Anderson, 44th, 1:34.39
HRV boys 1st overall

Girls slalom
(1st: Carolina Maenza, Lincoln, 1:21.29)

Lucy McLean, 2nd, 1:21.41
Claire Davies, 15th, 1:35.01
Sarah Hall, 33rd, 1:45.77
Kelli Clarke, 39th, 1:48.45
Nicolette Paulus, 42nd, 1:50.44
HRV girls 3rd overall

Girls GS
Lucy McLean, 1st, 1:26.56
Claire Davies, 13th, 1:34.24
Kelli Clarke, 27th, 1:39.21
Nicolette Paulus, 44th, 1:42.83

HRV girls 2nd overall

Boys combined
(1st, Ashlay Ruddick, Lakeridge, 2:41.48)

Austin Keillor, 3rd, 2:42.8
Patrick Crompton, 14th, 2:59.93

Oskar Anderson, 27th, 3:12.57
Charlie Sutherland, 33rd, 3:19.41
William Lamer, 47th, 3:29.73
HRV 2nd overall

Girls combined
Lucy McLean, 1st, 2:47.97
Claire Davies, 11th, 3:09.25
Kelli Clarke, 27th, 3:27.66
Nicolette Paulus, 31st, 3:33.27
HRV girls 3rd overall

Freestyle results

Girls skiercross
Hannah Bergemann, 1st
Erin Mayer, 2nd
Avrie Van Tilburg, 4th
Lucy McLean, 5th
Abigail Bergemann, 6th
Claire Davies, 7th
Savannah Boersma, 8th
Sophie Caldwell

Boys skiercross
Austin Keillor, 1st
Tucker FitzSimons, 2nd
Patrick Crompton, 3rd
Charles Sutherland, 8th
Reese Carroll, 13th
Trey Roeseler, 16th
Sammy Stevenson, 17th

Girls rail jam
Hannah Bergemann, 1st
Casey Sherrerd, 2nd
Savanna Brentlinger, 3rd
Abigail Bergemann, 4th
Avrie Van Tilburg, 5th
Savannah Boersma, 6th

Boys rail jam
Tucker FitzSimons, 1st
Patrick Crompton, 2nd
Reese Carroll, 3rd
Trey Roeseler, 4th
Sammy Stevenson, 6th
Jackson Lebsack, 7th
Austin Keillor, 9th
Charles Sutherland, 10th

Girls slopestyle
Hannah Bergemann, 1st
Savannah Boersma, 2nd
Abigail Bergemann, 3rd
Savanna Brentlinger, 4th
Casey Sherrerd, 5th
Avrie Van Tilburg, 6th

Boys slopestyle
Tucker FitzSimons, 1st
Trey Roeseler, 2nd
Patrick Crompton, 5th
Reese Carroll, 6th
Charles Sutherland, 7th
Sammy Stevenson, 8th
Jackson Lebsack, 9th

HRV SWIM TEAM'S Sarah Arpag (left) and Celilo Brun recently competed in the 11-14 Swimming Championships in Tualatin and posted 15 personal best times between the two.



Contributed photo

HRV Swim Team's Arpag and Brun take home hardware at state champs

Celilo Brun (12 years old) and Sarah Arpag (11 years old) competed for the Hood River Valley Swim Team at the 11-14 Swimming Championships at Tualatin Hills, from Feb. 26-March 1.

Arpag placed second in the 200 free (2:10.3), third in the 50 back (31.37), fourth in both the 200 IM (2:29.00) and 50 free (27.61), fifth in the 100 free (59.67) and eighth in the 100 IM (1:09.94).

Brun finished 10th in the 200 free (2:10.9),

12th in the 200 IM (2:30.3) and 17th in the 100 fly (1:13.6).

The meet required all swimmers to swim qualifying heats in the morning session, then the top 10 swim in the evening to determine final placement. This was the first prelim/finals meet for both girls. Arpag finished in all six events, and Brun finished in the 200 freestyle, with the second alternate position in the 200 IM. Out of the 16 swims, 15 were best times.