



Weekly's two HRVs propel HRV to win over Centennial

Eagles win two in a row with victories over Centennial and Mountain View

By **MIKE WEBER**
For the News

The Hood River Valley High School softball team turned its season around and regained momentum following two confidence building nonleague wins. The Eagles (4-6) won 4-2 Monday over the Centennial Eagles (2-8) in Gresham. On Friday, the Eagles utilized a strong offensive attack while recording a season-high 14 hits in a 9-3 home win over the Mountain View Cougars. The No. 23-ranked Eagles will try to extend their win streak to three games when they host the Century Jaguars (3-5) in a

4:30 p.m. preseason contest Wednesday at Westside Elementary School in Hood River. HRV then travels to Gresham for a 4:30 p.m. contest Thursday versus the Barlow Bruins (5-1). Based upon comparative scores of previous contests, the Eagles should have a good chance to get a win Wednesday. HRV won 9-2 at home Mar. 21 over West Anchorage.

Century lost 12-9 to West Anchorage on Mar. 23 in a spring break tournament in The Dalles. Hood River, the defending Columbia River Conference co-champions (with Pendleton), demonstrated resilient qualities of a high-caliber team in overcoming a 2-0 deficit Monday on the road versus Centennial. The Eagles, guided by

coach Eric Keller, responded by scoring four runs over the next three innings and holding Centennial scoreless for the remainder of the game to get a second consecutive victory. "We've started a little win streak now," said Keller. We'll have to continue playing hard again in order to get another win on Wednesday and we'll see what happens. Our two pitchers (freshmen Hannah McNeerney, Kaylin Winans) are really doing good and they're starting to adapt to pitching at the varsity level.

'We've started a little win streak now.'

ERIC KELLER

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HRV track teams go 1, 2 at ECC

By **BEN MITCHELL**
News staff writer

The East County Classic meet is circled every year on the HRV track team's calendar as the first official competition of the season where it's more about wins and losses than it is about personal best times and distances. The meet gives the Eagles to compete against other 5A teams such as The Dalles and Hermiston, as well as teams from other classes. HRV came in determined to take the title after last year's meet that saw the girls team take first, and the boys team take fifth overall. This year, the girls grabbed second — first went to Clackamas — and the boys team took first in a victory that bowled over coach Donnie Herniesen.

"As happy as we were with the girls performance, the boys were truly outstanding," he said. "Last year's team win by the girls was a bit of a surprise, but the boys win this year was completely unexpected, even though it probably shouldn't have been. We had boys winning events and scoring points across all events, both track and field events."

Typically, Herniesen said the team is "chasing (personal records) and solid marks to improve and prepare ourselves for the District Championships in May," at this point in the season. Herniesen said that "with the weather being a limiting factor, we instead tasked our kids with going out and competing for meet points."

And they did. And while first-place finishes are important, Herniesen noted that second- and third-place finishes — as well as seventh- and eighth-place finishes — are key if a team wants to win overall. That was especially the case with the boys team, who squeezed past Hermiston by just four points.

"It was a total team win, and it was important for us to scrap out every point and every finish in order to get those points. With a 4-point margin of victory over Hermiston, if even one boy doesn't place where he did, if we don't get one of those seventh-place scorers, or a Hermiston athlete beats us in one more event, Hermiston ends up with the team trophy," Herniesen said. "We had wins by many of our superstars, in the jumps, the distances, and the throws, without which we wouldn't have been in position to win at all — but it was the points scored by our seventh- and eighth-place finishers which closed the deal for us. Track is a team game that relies on individual efforts, just like every other sport. Every athlete we took to that meet owns a small chunk of the trophy we brought home on Friday night."

HRV will compete next in the Sandy Invitational on Saturday starting at 10 a.m.



SENIOR MADDY GRAHAM returns a volley during Monday's match against Benson Polytechnic in Hood River. Graham, who coach Jaime Rivera is going after the state title this year won No. 1 singles Monday in two sets, 6-0, 6-0.

Photo By Ben Mitchell

Girls tennis ties in sets, wins in points at home debut

The girls tennis team has struggled to get matches in so far this season, with scheduling conflicts and rain cancellations, but was able to get in their first home match of the year Monday night, which ended in a draw in sets against Benson Polytechnic, although coach Jaime Rivera said the team "won in points and sportsmanship."

The varsity team went 4-4 in sets at the Tsuruta courts, with singles wins coming from Maddy Graham, Ann Evans, and Nikki Paulus and HRV's lone doubles victory coming from Olivia Newcomb and Camaryn Chambers in three sets (full results below).

The season is young, but Rivera likes already what he sees from his team.

"The team looks solid after only two competitions," he said. "What I am

most proud of is their desire to compete and the way in which they have approached the season, especially considering the new team culture we have established. We are loaded with juniors and freshman so our future is bright."

Rivera said athletes to watch out for this season are returning standout senior Maddy Graham, who is aiming for a shot at the state title in the singles category. Other notables in singles include AnnElise Acosta, Ann Evans, and freshman Nikki Paulus. In doubles, the team of Olivia Newcomb and Camaryn Chambers look to lead HRV.

Rivera said his top priority this season is to work on creating a team culture.

"This group is looking to become a team in the true sense of the word," he

said. "That is our number one goal."

The Eagles will next head to Pendleton for a match against the Buckaroos Wednesday at 4 p.m.

VARSITY SINGLES

1. Maddy Graham - WIN (6-0, 6-1)
2. AnnElise Acosta - Loss (4-6, 4-6)
3. Ann Evans - WIN (6-1, 6-4)
4. Nikki Paulus - WIN (6-4, 6-3)

VARSITY DOUBLES

1. Olivia Newcomb & Camaryn Chambers - WIN (6-4, 5-7, 1-0)
2. Tia Semmes & Vanessa Olivias - Loss (6-1, 4-6, 0-1)
3. Madison Mooney & Crystal Flores - Loss (4-6, 5-7)
4. Yasmeen Ziada & Mattie Elise Back - Loss (3-6, 0-6)



Photo by Donnie Herniesen

THE HRV boys track team celebrates with their first-place trophy they took home from the ECC meet on Friday.

HRV boys lax looks to keep foot on the gas pedal

Eagles make it two in a row with Friday's win over the Oregon City Pioneers

By **BEN MITCHELL**
News staff writer

The Hood River Valley boys lacrosse team has gotten off to a good start, going 2-1 in their first three games and looking to dominate the flow of games with the team's signature up-tempo style of play.

In a Friday night home game, the Eagles ground out a win against Oregon City, edging the Pioneers 8-7.

"It was a nail-biter for sure," said coach Matt Luchsinger. "It started off kind of slow for both teams. First quarter, both teams were trying to figure out each other's strategy."

It took a timeout in the second quarter for the Eagles to find their bearings, whom Luchsinger said were stunned by the speed of Oregon City's game.

"The hardest thing for our defense was to figure out their offense they were really fast," he said. "So I called a timeout in the second and said, 'This is our offense: It's transition ball; they're just doing it better than we are.'"

HRV pushed the pace, and eventually took control of the flow of a game that had largely been dictated by Oregon City.

"We were able to move the ball fast from one side to the other," Luchsinger said. "They were playing unselfish ball. It allowed for the guys to make a lot of great goals."

Half of those goals for HRV came from attack Henry Barton, who had a team-high four goals — two of which were behind the back, Luchsinger noted.

Middie Cody Wheat led the team with eight ground balls "which is a lot of ground balls, which is good to see,"

Luchsinger said. "I've been telling the team all year that ground balls and face-offs win games."

On defense, Luchsinger praised goalie Dallen Olmstead, who had "a ton" of saves with a total of 14 on the evening and was "definitely one of the main reasons for us winning the game."

At the moment, HRV sits near the top of the Columbia Con-

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HENRY BARTON

Offense for girls lax explodes against Wilson High

By **BEN MITCHELL**
News staff writer

The HRV girls lacrosse team had their highest scoring game of the season Monday evening, when the Eagles absolutely dominated their opponent, Wilson High School, 18-6 — and on the road no less.

HRV (2-2) "brought their A-game," according to coach Andrew McElderry, after the team recovered from a less than ideal start.

"We got off to a shaky start, allowing Wilson to score two quick goals in the first two minutes, but after that, we took the wheel and never gave it back," he said.

Leading HRV was sophomore captain Riley Bauer who McElderry said "brought an intensity that infected the whole team." Bauer had a team-high six goals on seven shots and also led HRV in ground balls, with four. Close on her heels was Erin Mayer, who scored five in eight.

Others scoring for HRV included Lydia McElderry (3), Sam Davies (2), Savannah Brentlinger (1), and Daisy Dolan (1), who also led the team in draw controls, with seven. On defense, McElderry said that the skills of frosh goalie Ella Rand, who had seven saves, "continue to improve in the cage as her confi-

dence grows."

You would think the high score would be the highlight of the night for Coach McElderry, but as good as all those goals were, he said the team's "crowning achievement" came in the last five minutes of the game when HRV already had it in the bag. "I asked the team to hold the ball, value possession and work it around the outside," he said. "They showed a patience and maturity that I have been dreaming about for a long time."

The game Monday night came on the heels of a game against Sunset High School in Beaverton, which HRV lost 16-6 against what McElderry

called "a pretty polished Sunset team."

Lydia McElderry and Erin Mayer led the team in the goals category with two apiece; Mayer had a team-high four shots. Savannah Brentlinger and Sam Davies tallied the other two goals for HRV. Brentlinger, Mayer, and Riley Bauer were each awarded an assist. Victoria Kohner-Flanagan and Lauren Trumbull each won a draw control while Savannah Boersma, Ashley Hendricks, and Laura Scarborough each won a ground ball. Goalie Ella Rand was able to save six of the 28 shots she faced Friday evening.

TRACK RESULTS

East County Classic	
Boys team results	
1st: Hood River Valley (146.5)	2nd: Hermiston (142.5)
3rd: Clackamas (116.5)	4th: Franklin (93.5)
5th: Reynolds (83.5)	6th: The Dalles (47.5)
7th: Clatskanie (31)	
HRV boys in top five	
100 meters	Parker Irusta, 5th
200 meters	Parker Irusta, 5th
1500 meters	Connor Truax, 3rd
3000 meters	Justin Crosswhite, 1st (9:12.91); Quinn Fetkenhour, 4th
110 meter hurdles	Parker Kennedy, 2nd
300 meter hurdles	Noah Noteboom, 4th
3K steeplechase	Jesse Wiley, 2nd; Jacob Bromham, 5th
4x100 relay	Parker Kennedy, Parker Irusta, Tyrone Stintzi, Gabriel Campos-Davis (3rd)
4x400 relay	Cole Osborn, Parker Kennedy, Owen Ramsey, Tyrone Stintzi (3rd)
Shot put	Sebastian Barajas, 1st (49-2); Sam Fults, 4th
Discus	Sebastian Barajas, 1st (169)
High jump	Tyrone Stintzi, 3rd
Pole Vault	Parker Kennedy, 1st (14-6); Patrick Crompton, 2nd
Long jump	Parker Irusta, 1st (20-10)
HRV girls in top five	
100 meters	Jestena Mattson, 1st (12.67)
200 meters	Jestena Mattson, 1st (25.93)
400 meters	Emily Viuhkola, 2nd
800 meters	Caitlyn Fick, 3rd; Claire Davies, 5th
1500 meters	Lauren Robinson, 5th
3000 meters	Sascha Bockius, 1st (11:10.62); Denali Emmons, 5th
100 meter hurdles	Marlie Bloomster, 5th
300 meter hurdles	Marlie Bloomster, 4th
2K steeplechase	Terri Hewitt, 3rd; Chloe Clark, 4th
4x100 relay	Clarissa Najera, Jestena Mattson, Emily Viuhkola, Cassidy Davidson (2nd)
4x400 relay	Kassidy Davidson, Caitlyn Fick, Audrey Marble, Emily Viuhkola (2nd)
Shot put	Lauren Winans, 4th
Discus	Lauren Winans, 5th
High jump	Jestena Mattson, 1st (5-3); Shae Duffy, 3rd
Pole Vault	Amber Kennedy, 3rd
Triple jump	Casey Sherrerd, 5th