

SPORTS BRIEFS

Boys lax to face Rex Putnam in Cascade Cup

The boys lacrosse team just barely missed the playoffs this year after losing to Central Catholic in the final game of the regular season last week. However, barely making the playoffs means a good seed in the Cascade Cup: a competition between the top 16 teams that didn't get a postseason berth. HRV received a No. 3 seed and will host Rex Putnam on Tuesday, May 26 at 7 p.m. The Eagles played against the Kingsmen earlier this season, which saw HRV come away with an 8-5 win. "Rex Putnam played a great game and we played a sloppy game, but we came away with a win," coach Matt Luchsinger recalled. "We have to make sure we don't overlook these guys because they gave us a run for our money last time." Last year, HRV, then a fifth seed, also faced Rex Putnam in the first round, and crushed the Kingsmen, 19-0.

HRV golf wraps up season

The HRV boys and girls golf teams finished up their seasons last week at the 5A Special District No. 2 District Championships at the Eagle Crest Golf Course in Redmond. Both boys and girls finished in last place, with coach Mark Gradin noting that district-level competition was a new experience for many, especially for the girls team, as they "are all freshman and this was their first experience at a district tournament." Gradin said that the field of teams had expanded greatly at the tournament compared to last year, from four to 11, making qualifying for state, even at the individual level, exceedingly difficult.

Hood 2 River Relay

The second annual Hood 2 River Relay occurs Friday May 30, which features a relay race from Mt. Hood Meadows all the way down to the Columbia River. Normally, the race features alpine and Nordic skiing as two of the six legs, but due to the low snowpack, those two have been replaced by a quarter-mile uphill sprint and a 1.5 mile trail run, respectively. Other legs include a 6.2-mile mountain bike course, a 27-mile road bike course, a 6.7-mile run course, and ending with a 1.5-mile paddle course. Do the race with friends, a partner, or if you're really hardcore, by yourself. The event is hosted by Breakaway Promotions; register by May 23 to receive a discount. For more information, head to the event's website at hood2riverrelay.com.

Gorge Area Middle School Soccer League

The Gorge Area Middle School Soccer League will be getting underway soon, with practices starting May 25. The league features students from grades 6-8 who attend Wy'East, Hood River, Henkle (White Salmon), and The Dalles. The league will feature one practice and one game a week; boys and girls play on separate teams. Games run from June 4 to July 16. Cost is \$60, which includes a jersey; \$40 who are on free and reduced school lunch. Register online at hoodriver.k12.or.us/coe, register in person at the Community Ed office at 1009 Eugene St., or turn in your registration form and money to Lorena Salgado, secretary at Wy'East. For more info, call Jaime Rivera at 541-490-0699.

WIN

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two innings. Walker followed up an excellent pitching performance from starter Ryan Ward, who struck out 14 batters over five innings, walked four and gave up just two hits

and two runs (one earned). Ward had a good day during his three at-bats as well, responsible for two of HRV's five total hits (both singles) as well as an RBI. Other hits came from Van Hoose (who had a team-high two RBI), Hunter, and Duffy — all singles, with the exception of Duffy, who had HRV's lone double.

With league games completed this season, HRV will have one final regular season game against non-league opponent Central Catholic Wednesday at 5 p.m. in Hood River: Central Catholic finished with a third-place ranking in Class 6A and should provide good competition for HRV, ranked No. 7 in 5A. Playoff information hadn't officially been announced as of press time, but it seems likely that No. 7 HRV will host No. 10 Dallas on Wednesday May 27. Check the News for updates.

BATTLE

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(fly ball to left field) that allowed Kelsey Wells to advance home from second base. With neither team able to score for the next couple innings, HRV knotted the game 6-6 when Jessica DeHart crossed home plate after Weekly hit a fly ball to center field, good for a single.

With the game tied at the top of the seventh, with two outs and Riverhawks runners on first and second, The Dalles' Grace Helyer smashed one over the left field fence for a three-run homer that gave The Dalles a 9-6 lead. With last ups, HRV still wasn't able to gain any traction, ending the inning with three quick outs and no runs.

Hits were spread out, with almost every member of the roster getting at least one of HRV's nine hits. Leading the way once again was Munn, who had two singles in four at-bats. Other hitters included Kelsey Wells (1 for three, single), Weekly (1 for 2, single), Hannah McNerney (1 for 4, double), Packer (1 for 3, single), Zeller (1 for 4, single), Winans (1 for 4, double), and Jessica Hardy (1 for 3, single). Zeller led the team in RBI with two, followed by Weekly (1) and Winans (1).

In pitching, Winans started the game, but both she and McNerney pitched a little more than three innings. The loss was given to McNerney, who gave up five hits, three runs (all earned) and struck out three. Winans surrendered seven hits, six runs (five earned), walked two, and struck out two.

Standings and rankings froze Monday night, showing that No. 20 HRV will play the No. 7 St. Helens Lions on Friday, May 22 at 5 p.m. in St. Helens.

TRACK

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to top it off with a victory in the 1500," said Crosswhite, a first-time state qualifier. "Going to the state meet is a great way to end the season and it's going to be a lot of fun there."

Crosswhite, the CRC Boys Track Athlete of the Year, ran to first place Friday in the 1500 with a time of 4:11.34 and on Day 1 of districts in the 3000 with a time of 9:07.43. Barajas set a school record in discus with his throw of 188-11. HRV totaled 106 points to win districts over Hermonston (94).

"Coming into the meet, I believe our boys were the favorite to win," said Herneisen. "They came into the meet and performed in a very business-like manner, with nearly every event coming out as expected or slightly better than we predicted."

The Eagle boys state qualifying squad also includes junior Quinn Fetkenhour (3000), senior Mason McDowell (110 hurdles), senior Patrick Crompton (pole vault), freshman Gabe Campos-Davis (4x100) and junior Tyrone Stintzi (high jump). Senior Lucas Campos-Davis and junior Noah Noteboom earned qualifying spots as alternates on the 4x100 relay. Stintzi won the high jump with a leap of 6-2, a personal record. McDowell ran to victory in the 110 hurdles with a time of 16.11.

"It feels great to win the district high jump championship," said Stintzi, in just his second year on the team. "It's the first time I've qualified for state in the high jump, which is just awesome. I've been to the state meet before on our relay team last year, but this is pretty exciting to go there as district champ. It was my goal today to win the high jump, so I'm pretty happy."

Eagle track and field athletes who will be competing at 5A state for the first time include Gabe Campos-Davis, Fetkenhour, McDowell, Bloomster and Marble.

"Being able to run at Hayward Field, site of multiple U.S. Olympic Trials, NCAA Championships and where the World Championships will be held in a few years, can be a pretty big reward in itself," said Herneisen. "Coming home with a medal around your neck is usually just a bonus. We want to go down to Eugene and represent the Hood River Valley and show the state of Oregon that track and field is alive and well here."

District championship results show a Horizon track team on the rise

Boys take Big Sky Conference title, girls place second in championship meet

Four years ago, a half-dozen students gathered on a cold, blustery March day on the grassy field behind Horizon Christian School and declared themselves a track team. They had no uniforms, no track to run on and no equipment. A hard rain early on during that initial practice forced the athletes to seek shelter inside the school's gym, where they completed their workout.

Four years later, there still is no track, but the school does own some equipment and, on most days, there are enough uniforms. There also are district championship and runners-up trophies in the school lobby.

The first-place blue trophy comes courtesy of the Horizon boys team, which won the Big Sky Conference title on a windy Saturday at Sherman High School in Moro. The Hawk girls came within a couple of places of matching the boys, but settled for second — and a red trophy — behind Griswold.

"This is the first time in Horizon history that a boys group of athletes has been district champions in two different sports in the same year," said Coach Emma Neiworth-Petshow, who helped start the team in 2012. (The Hawk boys basketball team won the district title in February.) "This is also the first time, to my knowledge, that a girls team has received a district competition trophy in any sport in school history."

Seniors Ryan Aldrich and Hannah Kempf were freshmen on the inaugural Horizon team — made up of four boys and two girls. Aldrich and Kempf had big roles in the Hawks' success at the dis-

trict meet, as both placed in three individual events and will be among a large group of athletes representing Horizon at the Class 1A state meet Thursday and Friday at historic Hayward Field in Eugene.

The state meet contingent includes three relay teams, something that could only be dreamed about — at least on the girls' side — back in 2012. Kempf was the key for Saturday's success, as her anchor leg in the 4x400-meter race lifted the Hawks into second place — in the race, as well as in the team standings. Griswold's fourth place (and five points) in the relay enabled the Grizzlies to edge the Hawks 98-96 for the girls team crown.

"Hannah ran an incredible 60-second final leg to clinch the second spot," Neiworth-Petshow said. "She showed off her hard work this year by scoring 26 individual points for the team, making her the fourth-highest scoring individual athlete at district."

Ten of those points came when Kempf defended her district championship in the triple jump (with a personal best and state-leading 34-foot mark); she added eight points for second places in the high hurdles and 200.

Other multiple district placers included frosh Paulina Finn (fourth in the triple jump, and fifth in the high jump and low hurdles); sophomore Amy Requa (third 1500, fourth 3000);

sophomore Kloee Brown (third 800, sixth pole vault); sophomore Savanna Hawk (fourth pole vault, seventh 800); sophomore Haley Beanel (fifth pole vault, eighth 400); sophomore Ally Funk (sixth in the 1500 and 3000); and frosh Miranda Roberts (seventh 400, eighth 200).

Horizon's boys team earned three individual district titles. Junior Salvador Ramirez won the 1500 and 800, in addition to anchoring Horizon's 4x400 relay to third place. Senior Mason Bloomster won his newfound specialty, the discus, finished second in the 100 and was third in the 200. Bloomster also anchored Horizon's 4x100 relay to third place, which qualified it for a wild-card spot in the state meet. Aldrich was an alternate on that relay and will join his teammates at state after finishing second in the discus (three inches behind Bloomster). He also was sixth in the shot put and seventh in his first-ever try in the pole vault. Sophomore Jony Nelson earned a repeat trip to Eugene, with a runner-up finish in the 3000; he also was third in the 1500 and scored 14 team points.

Other multiple-event placers for Horizon's boys team at district were sophomore Luke Holste (third, high and intermediate hurdles); senior Jared Davis (third high jump, fifth long jump); sophomore Quinn Roetscoender (third triple jump, tie for fourth pole vault,

sixth low hurdles); sophomore Andrew Rinella (fourth 400, tie for fourth pole vault, seventh 200); freshman Andy Hung (fifth 800, eighth 3000); and freshman Makoa Whitaker (seventh javelin, high and intermediate hurdles, and eighth 400).

"Everyone who competed either scored points for the team or set personal records," Neiworth-Petshow said. "I am extremely happy and so proud of all our athletes. Everyone stepped up to the challenge."

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