Girls prep basketball

Golden Eagles earn first round bye

East Oregonian

MISSION — Whether Nixyaawii will act as the top-seed at the Old Oregon League tournament will be determined by coin toss at a later date, what is certain is that the Golden Eagles won't be playing during the opening round of district play.

With a 52-34 win over Joseph Saturday and the aid of Wallowa knocking off Powder Valley, Nixyaawii (17-6, 9-3 OOL) finished tied with Echo at the top of the standings and will receive a first round bye in the district tournament.

The Golden Eagles took care of their part early Saturday. They bounced out to a 19-6 first quarter lead over Joseph (6-14, 3-9 OOL) and coasted from there. Wallowa helped a few hours later by beating PVHS 51-50.

Senior guard Charlotte Barkley once again powered the attack from distance. Barkley drilled four three pointers and finished with a game-high 23 points. Stacey Fitzpatrick added 12 points.

The Golden Eagles were particularly unselfish Saturday. Of 19 made field goals, 15 were the result of an assist.

The Old Oregon League District tournament will be played in Baker. Opening games will be played on Thursday, semifinals on Friday and finals on Saturday.

NIXYAAWII 52, JOSEPH 34

JOS (6-14)	6	10	6	12	—	34
NIX (17-6)	19	11	9	13	—	52

JOSEPH — N. Williams 8, S. Alby 7, M. Parker 2, C. Zohlman 3, L. Kemp 2, A. Cooney 2, Alexis. Sykora 10.
NIXYAAWII — Charlotte Barkley 22, T. Oatman 4, S. Fitzpatrick 12, K. Melton 2, A. Farrow 6, R. Sampson 6, D. Maddern 0.
3-point field goals — JOS 2, NIX 6. **Free throws —** JOS 6-14, NIX 6-7. **Fouls —** JOS 13, NIX 13. **Technical fouls —** K. Melton (NIX).

HELIX 43, PINE EAGLE 38 — At Helix, the Grizzlies (10-12, 5-7 OOL) solidified the fifth-seed in the Old Oregon League with a win over the last place Spartans (2-18, 0-12 OOL).

The win did not come easy. Helix trailed until the fourth quarter. Better defensive intensity and ball movement keyed the run. With the ball moving swiftly from player to player, Helix found plenty headed to the line 12 times. They converted seven of the tries to aid the comeback bid.

Freshman Emma Fehrenbacker had her best game of the season. The 5-foot-4 guard led the way with 12 points and nine rebounds in the win.

As the five-seed, Helix will play Thursday at Baker with a tip expected for noon.

HELIX 43, PINE EAGLE 38

PINE	14	6	10	8	—	38
HELI	9	7	10	17	—	43

PINE EAGLE — Tanaka 6, K. Kuda 6, S. Cooley 10, L. Walker 6, C. Diggs 10.
HELIX — Iles 3, M. Mize 11, S. Wilson 2, B. Newtson 0, M. Tullis 11, Emma Fehrenbacker 12, K. Mize 4.
3-point field goals — PINE 0, HELI 4. **Free throws —** PINE 4-5, HELI 11-20. Fouls — PINE 16, HELI 8.

UMATILLA 56, VALE 38 — At Vale, behind Hannah Bates 16 points the Vale Vikings (22-1, 9-0 EOL) completed the season sweep of Umatilla Vikings (18-6, 6-3 EOL) Saturday.

Outside of the second-ranked Vale, Umatilla ran through Eastern Oregon League play unscathed. With the 6-3 record, the Vikings took second in the EOL and will host Nyssa on Tuesday at 5 p.m. for a berth in the state tournament.

Vale held a one-point haltime edge before running away with big third and fourth quarters. Bates had 10 of her 16 in the second half.

Umatilla was led by sidney Webb and Kassandra Galbraith who scored 12 and 10 points respectively. Iri Campos grabbed 10 boards.

UMATILLA 56, VALE 38

UHS (18-6)	8	12	10	8	—	38
VHS (22-1)	13	8	15	19	—	56

UMATILLA — M. Paz 3, I. Campos 1, B. Campos 0, B. Chavez 2, S. Webb 12, K. Galbraith 10, C. Dohman 2, A. Watson 8.
VALE — Ki. Hawkins 10, Ka. Hakwins 4, M. Johnson 9, A. Trenkel 5, M. Wolfe 6, K. Weber 0, A. Hamilton 3, Hannah Bates 16, K. Cooper 0, B. Bourasa 1, A. Burkhardt 0.
3-point field goals — UHS 8, VHS 1. **Free throws** — UHS 5-14, VHS 8-13. Fouls — UHS 16, VHS 12. Fouled out — none.

IRRIGON 39, STANFIELD 34 — At Irrigon, Jada Burns scored 14 points to wrap up the Knights (9-13, 2-8 CBC) first-year under Mike Royer with a victory over Stanfield (9-13, 4-6-CBC).

As last place finishers in the Columbia Basin Conference, the Knights will not participate in this weekend's district tournament.

Burns also had six rebounds. Kelly McLaughlin joined her as a double figure scorer totaling 10 points and nine rebounds to barely miss a double-double.

Stanfield finished tied with Heppner for third place in the league at 4-6. They'll either play Culver in a play-in game on Tuesday or play Weston-McEwen on Friday.

IRRIGON 39, STANFIELD 34

SHS (9-13)	4	9	10	11	—	34
IHS (7-13)	4	7	13	15	—	39

STANFIELD — C. Curiel 2, R. Watson 11, G. Chavez 2, Y. Chavez 8, R. Braithwaite 6, S. Connell 2, N. Esquivel 3, M. Griffin 0, A. O'Neill 0, M. Banderas 0, C. Hopper 0.
IRRIGON — K. Gilman 2, A. Ayala 2, K. McLaughlin 9, T. Davis 4, Jada Burns 14, D. Roybal 2, B. Aguilera 5, C. Case 1, L. Mills 0.
3-point field goals — SHS 2, IHS 1. **Free throws —** SHS 8-19, IHS 12-24. **Fouls —** SHS 19, IHS 19. **Fouled out —** none.

HEPPNER 42, CULVER 36 —— At Heppner, the Mustangs (9-12, 4-6 CBC) closed league play with a victory over the Bulldogs (11-12, 3-7 CBC) to grab a share of third place with Stanfield.

Maddie Lindsay and Kelly Wilson once again led the charge for Heppner. Lindsay scored a game-high 14 points and grabbed 12 rebounds, while Wilson had 13 and four assists.

The third quarter was where Heppner gained its separation. They outscored Culver 10-to-4 to take a 9-point edge into the final period.

HEPPNER 42, CULVER 36

CUL	12	9	4	11	—	36
HEP	12	12	10	8	—	42

CULVER — Freeman 2, Lewis 7, Olivera 0, Beeler 7, Hoke 5, Johnson 3, Duff 2, Slaght 10.
HEPPPNER — K. Wilson 13, K. Lindsay 0, M. Gibbs 2, R. Kollman 1, P. Grieb 2, M. Lindsay 14, J. Kemkpen 4, M. Correa 6.
3-point field goals — CUL 1, HEP 1. **Free throws —** CUL 7-20, HEP 5-19. **Fouls —** CUL 20, HEP 15. **Fouled out —** Lewis (CUL).

IONE 39, MITCHELL/SPRAY 31 — At Ione, the Cardinals (6-15, 6-8 BSL) extended their season at least one more game with a Big Sky League win on Saturday in the regular season finale.

Kaitlin Garrett had 13 points, and Lauren Garrett added nine points, nine rebounds as Ione secured the No. 5 seed for the district tournament.

Rachel Holland added a team-high 14 rebounds, and Jessie Flynn had 12 boards.

Ione will play at Arlington on Wednesday to determine which team advances to the district bracket in Hermiston the following weekend.

IONE 39, MITCHELL/SPRAY 31

M/S (7-16)	7	12	4	8	—	31
IHS (6-15)	7	10	10	12	—	39

MITCHELL/SPRAY — Cheyanne Collins 10, M. Daltoso 9, K. Meyers 8, M. Holt 2, S. Rogers 1, D. Ordway 1.
IONE — Kaitlin Garrett 13, L. Garrett 9, I. Sandford 6, R. Holland 4, J. Flynn 4, M. Flynn 2, M. Orem 1.
3-point field goals — M/S 4, IHS 1. **Free throws** — M/S 11-27, IHS 14-26. **Fouls** — M/S 21, IHS 21. **Fouled out** — Meyers (M/S).

Prep wrestling

Pioneers win district title, send 14 to state

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

It was a day of firsts for Mac-Hi wrestlers at the Greater Oregon League district championships on Saturday.

With 300.5 points, the Pioneers secured the first team district championship in any of their high school careers (the last coming in 2009). Six wrestlers won their first individual district titles, and a dozen earned the right to wrestle their first state matches in two weekends.

Eleven Pioneers advanced to the championship round, and the two most thrilling matches of the round each featured Mac-Hi wrestlers.

At 170 pounds, Vince Roff earned a sudden victory in the first overtime round against Baker senior Peter Baker. With both wrestlers employing defensive tactics, the match went into the third period with Roff scoring the only point on an escape.

It wasn't for a lack of trying, but each time either wrestler moved for a takedown, the other was ready with a counter.

Baker knotted the score with an escape early in the third period, and the delicate dance continued for about another minute before Baker let the diminishing clock overcome his defensive instincts.

With :23 seconds left he lunged for Roff's knees, but never reached his mark as Roff blocked the shot and went for a takedown of his own. The action strayed from the ring before Roff could gain control, however, and Baker was hurt by the same scenario when he appeared to have won the match with :02 left in regulation.

It was again with two seconds left that Roff earned the sudden victory when he caught Baker on a shot and used his own momentum to plant him firmly on his back — this time well within the ring boundary.

The afternoon's other nail-biter didn't turn out in Mac-Hi's favor, though, as Ontario senior Johnny Carpenter held off Mac-Hi junior Cole Skramstad 7-6 in the 145 championship.

With two second left in the second period, Carpenter caught Skramstad out of position and turned a reversal for a 6-4 lead. He extended his edge to 7-4 with :49 left in the third period with an escape, where the score stayed until Skramstad earned a takedown with :02 left. There wasn't enough time to do anything else by then, and Carpenter's corner erupted in elation.

Of Mac-Hi's 14 state qualifiers, only Skramstad and 160-pound champion Jeffery Jones will be making return trips to Portland's Memorial Coliseum Feb. 27-28.

Two weight classes entered the day with only three wrestlers, thus assuring each a trip to state. That didn't make the berth any less significant for Mac-Hi wrestlers Jacob Podolski and Spencer Wells.

A senior in his first season wrestling, Podolski pinned the freshman Wells in 1:03 for the 220-pound title, but it was the younger grappler that received the most congratulations afterward.

PILOT ROCK: Rematch in Saturday's championship game possible

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

TigerScots' Keegan Shepard (30) drives to the basket past Bailey Weinke (21) and Bekah Roe (1), of Pilot Rock during Saturday's game in Athena.

Continued from 1B

Scots would form all night.

Pilot Rock bounced back to outscore them 16-to-7 for the half's remainder to take a 26-25 edge into the break. They would blow open the contest in the third period's opening minutes.

"I think we got a little unfocused and didn't do the small things that get you where you need to be at the end of the game," Doremus said.

"There's no panic in any of the girls," Wilson said. "We know how to play from behind. Lucky for us, Weston-McEwen cooled off. They're a handful."

It was Dave that gave the TigerScots the most trouble. As one of two upperclassmen players, Dave asserted herself early and often in the second half. Her nine points in the third helped build the lead and three free throws in the fourth helped seal it.

"We wanted to come out strong and get some points and get the lead and see how it went from there," she said of the second half.

As the top two seeds in the district tournament, a rematch in Saturday's championship game is a distinct possibility. But one obstacle still stands in between such a scenario.

"You've got to win Friday for both of us," Doremus said. "Friday is a lose or out. You've got to be ready. You've got to take care of business."

The opposition for those opening round games at Pendleton Convention Center is yet to be determined, as Tuesday's play-in game will decide who takes on PRHS.

PILOT ROCK 61, WESTON-MCEWEN 49

PRHS (13-9)	10	16	20	15	—	61
WMHS (15-7)	15	10	16	8	—	49

PILOT ROCK — B. Roe 9, T. Ostrom 9, R. Willingham 0, J. Wilson 6, K. Deist 11, Madison Dave 18, B. Weinke 8.
WESTON-MCEWEN — **Ammarae Broncheau 10, K. Shepard 9, T. Entze 7, M. Aby 6, S. Quempts 6, A. Schroeder 5, M. Carlin 4, K. Peterson 2, S. Finifrock 0, C. Quaempts 0.**
3-point field goals — PRHS 3, WMHS 5. **Free throws —** PRHS 14-20, WMHS 6-17. **Fouls —** PRHS 13, WMHS 16. **Fouled out —** M. Carlin (WMHS).

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Justin Willingham (32), of Pilot Rock, goes up for a shot as TigerScot Linton McAllister (25) puts a hand in his face during Saturday's game in Athena.

WRESTLING: Four Pendleton boys qualified for state

Continued from 1B

Colbray has a good chance to win a fourth-straight state title, and he has faith the other 14 also will be in the running if they put in the effort.

Bulldog wrestlers who qualified for state included Jesse Rodelo (220 pounds), Sam Colbray (195), John-Henry Line (182), Mitchell Lincoln (182), Bob Coleman (170), Brock McDonough (160), Devin Bonser (152), Robert Crane, Will Sharkey (145), Robert Crane (138), Joey Gutierrez (138), AJ Tuia (132) CJ Hendon (126), Andy Wagner (120), Liam Tarvin (113) and Robert Rodriguez (106).

Line, Tarvin, Wagner, Coleman, McDonough, Colbray and Rodelo each won championship match's to claim district titles in their respective weight classifications. Tarvin, a junior, won with a first round (0:38) pin of Redmond's Austin Doescher for his first district title.

Wagner, a junior, earned a 9-0 decision over Hood River's Jason Shaner to capture the 120 pound title. Wagner wrestled aggressively from start to finish and he had a couple of first round takedowns to get the lead on the scoreboard.

"I had a good tournament and now I want to win the championship, so that's my goal now," said Wagner, who has qualified for state three straight years and has a record of 27-9 this year. "There's going to be lots of tough wrestlers there, but you have to set your goals high and then try to accomplish them."

Hendon, Tuia, Gutierrez and Bonser won consolation round semifinal matches, followed by third place match wins to advance to the state tourney.

"To work so hard all season and advance to state is the best feeling ever and it's just an amazing accomplishment," said Gutierrez, a freshman, who was 5-1 at districts. "It's nice that my hard work has all paid off now. It's usually tough for freshman to qualify for state, but you just have to work hard. My goal was to reach state and now my next goal is to place there."

Hendon had a dominating performance his two matches with an 11-0 major decision win over Hood River's Dylan Peterson, followed by a 13-0 major decision over Mountain View's Haden Kingrey.

"I'm pretty happy about going to state again this year," said Hendon. "Last year, I was a little nervous and I didn't do to well and I lost both matches. I'm hoping to place this year and maybe finish in the top four. I think I struggled a little last year mainly because I was a freshman and I'm more familiar with the state tournament now, so I'll probably feel a little more comfortable there."

Robert Rodriguez and Sharkey both advanced to state after consolation semifinal victories and they both took fourth following close loses in the third place matches. The top four district finishers earn state qualifying spots.

Pendleton's quartet of Marcus Taylor, Ryan Skeen, Morgan Holcomb and Tristan Holcomb each qualified for state after impressive efforts. Skeen and Tristan Holcomb earned second place after tough battles in championship matches. Taylor took fourth place following a consolation semifinal win, followed by a loss in the third place match to Bend's Jordan Gentner.

Morgan Holcomb battled Hermiston's Robert Crane in the 138 pound championship match. Holcomb wrestled very aggressively to get a second round pin of Crane to win his first district title.

"I've been close to winning districts in the past and I took second last year, but this is so much more thrilling to win a championship," said Morgan Holcomb, who is third in the Class 5A Rockwell Rankings with a record of 32-5. "I hope I do better at state this year than I did a year ago when I was third. I'm hoping to get either second or maybe even first place and win the state title, so I've had a very good year."

The Buckaroos, guided by longtime coach Fred Phillips, took seventh place in the tournament with 108 points.

"It's nice that we'll have four guys going to state along with our alternate Terrel Platt," said Phillips. "I thought the best we could do would have five guys reach state and if we got lucky, then maybe six. We got our four top wrestlers in the state tournament and those four kids have been very successful all year and they deserve to go. Now we'll see what happens at the state tournament. We have a chance to have three or four of our kids earn state placer spots and that's what we'll be focusing on doing."

Team scoring: Hermiston 347.5, Redmond 299, Bend 222.5, Hood River 200.5, Mt. View 157.5, Pendleton 108.

BOYS: Umatilla completes season sweep of Vale

Continued from 1B

CONDON/WHEELER 54, ARLINGTON 52 — At Arlington, Cade MacInnes poured in 25 points and added 14 rebounds as the Knights held of the Honkers in Big Sky League play on Saturday.

Condon/Wheeler (5-18, 2-12 BSL) took a five-point lead into the final quarter. No other Knight reached double digits scoring.

Full game details were not reported.

NIXYAAWII 58, JOSEPH 24 — At Mission, like the previous 11 Old Oregon League contests, the Golden Eagles (17-6, 12-0 OOL) got out fast and flew to a blowout victory Saturday over Joseph (11-9, 7-5 OOL).

The win caps a perfect league slate for Nixyaawii. The Golden Eagles were hardly tested in league play, winning five of 12 by 40 or more points and by a total average of 37 per game. A 43-28 victory over Joseph in the first meeting was the closest contest.

They jumped on the Eagles to take an 18-4 first quarter lead before snagging a 35-6 halftime edge en route to the big win.

Elijah Bevis led the way with 18 points. Ira Ashley and Fredy Campos were also double digit scorers with 10 apiece.

Nixyaawii receives a first round by in this week's OOL district tournament held at Baker. They'll play first on Friday versus the winner of the 4th and 5th place teams.

NIXYAAWII 58, JOSEPH 24

JOS	4	2	9	9	—	24
NIX	18	17	16	7	—	58

JOSEPH — Stone 2, Smith 2, VanWinkle 4, Crispin 0, N. Neohdalrd 8, K. Nedolhlrd 4, Borgnine 4, Stein 0.
NIXYAAWII — T. Farrow 4, I. Ashley 10, H. Melton 3, A. Corona 9, H. McKay 2, W. Oatman 0, L. Lewis 0, F, Campos 10, Elijah Bevis 18, C. Case 2.
3-point field goals — JOS 1, NIX 4. **Free throws —** JOS 1-3, NIX 4-5. **Fouls —** JOS 9, NIX 8. **Technical fouls —** A. Corona (NIX).

UMATILLA 49, VALE 41 — At Umatilla, the Vikings (13-11, 7-2 EOL) completed the season sweep of Vale (8-14, 3-6 EOL) on Saturday.

The Vikings will have to beat Vale a fourth time this Tuesday to guarantee a spot in the Class 3A state tournament.

Danny Ayala had 16 points to lead Umatilla to the win. Tip is set for 6:30 p.m.