

UMATILLA

Cardenas hopes to lead Vikings to state

Small school district meets held today in Pendleton and Baker

East Oregonian

Umatilla senior Fabian Cardenas knows there isn't a small school runner in the state that can hang with him when he's running his best. His top time this season is 25 seconds ahead of the next best runner in Class 3A/2A/1A and his 15:31.9 at the Nike Portland XC in September is the 16th fastest in the state among all classifications.

That doesn't mean Cardenas' district meet will be lacking drama, however. The defending state champion has made it clear that this season is all about team accomplishments, and his No. 1 goal is to race at state alongside his teammates.

For that to happen, the Vikings will need to finish as one of the top two teams at today's District 5 Championships at Pendleton's Community Park.

It's certainly possible, and senior Armando Mendoza, freshman Zayne Troeger and junior Bradley Bensen all rank in the district's top 20 of the season's fastest times — only Union has more with eight in the top 21.

"I think we're coming along pretty good," Cardenas said at last week's Kyle Burnside Wildhorse Invite in Mission. "They're all under 20 minutes, 19 minutes almost, and that's our goal, to get everyone running 18 minutes."

Perennial power Union comes in favored to win the title by a large margin, leaving the Vikings battling other contenders like Nyssa, Stanfield, Vale and Weston-McEwen for the last remaining spot.

Also advancing to the state meet will be the top five individual placers.

Weston-McEwen's Hayden Scott and Stanfield's Carlos Flores, both juniors, are in great position to claim one of those berths and rank second and fifth, respectively, on the district times list.

The boys' meet will begin at 1:45 p.m. following the conclusion of the girls' race, which begins at 1 p.m.

Union is a heavy favorite there as well, and Enterprise's Dawn Mist Movich-Fields owns the district's fastest time with a 19:35.8 run at the Wildhorse Invite.

Umatilla junior Aleesha Watson is the highest-ranked local and enters with the 11th best time at 21:25.4.

CLASS 4A

The Greater Oregon district meet will be held today in Baker City, with Mac-Hi's Elise Griffith representing the best bet for a local state qualifier.

The Pioneers senior is ranked fourth in the district with a season-best time of 21:52.1.

Unfortunately it would take a major development for any of her teammates to join her as only the top two teams and top five individuals will advance.

La Grande and Ontario have proven their depth is unrivaled in the GOL this season, and Mac-Hi's next-highest ranking individual is sophomore Brianna Hernandez in 13th.

None of Mac-Hi's boys are within the GOL's top 15 times this season, with junior Kaleb Marsh leading them in 17th (20:12.4).

Based on the rankings, it'll be Ontario and La Grande duking it out for the title in the boys' race as well.

Prep Roundup

Mac-Hi strikes fast, shuts out Baker

East Oregonian

BAKER CITY — The Mac-Hi girls soccer team went on the road on Thursday and got back into the win column 1-0 over the Baker Bulldogs.

The Pioneers (7-2-3, 2-2-1 GOL) got on the board quickly in the first half, as junior Kaitlyn Slusarenko found the back of the net just 10 minutes into the game for the 1-0 lead.

Mac-Hi also had a goal from junior Harmonie Correa in the second half, but it was wiped out as the officials called an offsides penalty on the Pioneers. Aside from the score, the Pioneers dominated the pace of the game, out-shooting

Baker 30-5 in the game.

"We were the way better team," said Pioneers coach Martin Martinez. "But like a lot of times we just couldn't capitalize or finish on some opportunities around the net."

Mac-Hi will next play Ontario on Saturday at 12 p.m. to finish off the regular season.

PORTLAND CHRISTIAN 1, RIVERSIDE 0 — At Portland, the Riverside Pirates fell to Portland Christian in a close 1-0 game.

It is the first loss this season in Eastern Oregon League play for Riverside (4-5-3, 4-1-3 EOL).

No details were reported.

Riverside next plays at home against Portland Adventist on Tuesday at 4:15 p.m.

Boys Soccer

IRRIGON 5, CITY CHRISTIAN 1 — At Irrigon, the Knights (2-5-2, 2-3-2 SD4) didn't hang their heads when City Christian scored first in the 17th minute on Thursday.

Kevin Villareal scored unassisted in the 22nd minute to knot things up, then Kenny Blurton put them up for good with an unassisted goal in the 38th minute to give the game a 2-1 score at halftime.

Both players scored again in the second half with Villareal assisting Blurton's goal in the 66th minute, then scoring on his own in the 68th.

Oscar Armenta capped the scoring with a goal in the

75th minute.

"We pretty much dominated both halves with opportunities," said Irrigon coach Paul Keefer. "The goal (City Christian) scored was a defensive mistake."

"All our kids played really well. They finally believed in themselves and were able to finish a game strong."

Irrigon closes out the season on Saturday when it hosts Umatilla at 1 p.m.

MAC-HI 9, BAKER 0 — At Baker City, the Mac-Hi Pioneers thumped the Baker Bulldogs 9-0.

No details were reported.

Mac-Hi (5-5-1, 2-3 GOL) next plays at home against Ontario on Saturday at 2 p.m.

SEAHAWKS: Seattle outscoring San Fran 56-13 in last three

Continued from 1B after Richard Sherman chomped turkey on the field last Thanksgiving night following a 19-3 victory.

Wilson completed 10 of his first 12 passes and finished with 235 yards passing and Lynch ran for 122 yards after vomiting on the sideline in the first half, something Carroll said was caused by him getting winded during a busy opening drive. Seattle won for the first time in four road games this season, avoiding another fourth-quarter collapse.

Carroll and his players were thrilled how they came together after a tough loss at home Sunday against Carolina.

"After the tough loss, we said, 'We choose to believe,'" Wilson said about

the message he and defensive end Michael Bennett gave to the team. "The idea was to believe in one another. ... We lost four tough games but we thought we could have won each one of those."

This game lacked its usual intrigue with both teams trying to save their seasons and Carroll missing former nemesis and now-Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh.

Wilson made the key plays and Colin Kaepernick struggled once again facing Seattle as the 49ers (2-5) lost four days after snapping a four-game losing streak by beating Baltimore.

Steven Hauschka sent dirt flying when he kicked a 49-yard field goal in the second quarter four days after Ravens kicker Justin Tucker slipped on the turf and shanked one off the right

upright and slipped to the ground on the field that will host the Super Bowl in early February.

Wilson was sacked five times to push his NFL-leading total to 31 and threw a pair of interceptions, but still made plenty of big plays for another lopsided result against the Niners.

Fans left early again in an eerily similar scene to Thanksgiving night, when 49ers CEO Jed York apologized on Twitter in the waning moments by saying: "This performance wasn't acceptable. I apologize for that."

This time, it was former 49ers wideout Kassim Goodgood weighing in on Twitter with: "Something ain't right in SF."

Kaepernick's errant passes sailed into both sidelines, one ball even hitting

a 49ers staff member in the head early in the game and requiring him to be checked.

Phil Dawson kicked a 35-yard field goal late in the third, and the 49ers have been held to single digits in their past three losses to Seattle with just one touchdown — outscored 56-13.

Kaepernick dropped to 1-6 in seven starts against the Seahawks with three touchdown passes to nine interceptions and 24 sacks, six more Thursday.

Michael Bennett had 3 1/2 of those sacks for Seattle, which expects to build off this game.

He has a new motto, too: chopping wood.

"When you're chopping wood, just keep chopping until the tree falls, man, you can't get ahead of yourself," Bennett said.

SCOREBOARD

Local Slate

PREP FOOTBALL
Today's Games
 Echo at Pine Eagle, 2 p.m.
 Hood River at Hermiston, 7 p.m.
 The Dalles at Pendleton, 7 p.m.
 Baker at Mac-Hi 7 p.m.
 Umatilla at Riverside, 7 p.m.
 Weston-McEwen at Culver, 7 p.m.
 Stanfield at Pilot Rock, 7 p.m.
 Irrigon at Heppner, 7 p.m.
 Dufur at Lone, 7 p.m.

Football

Thursday's Game
 Seattle 20, San Francisco 3

Baseball

2015 MLB Postseason
LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
 (Best-of-7; xif necessary)
American League
 All games televised by FS1
Kansas City 3, Toronto 2

Today, Oct. 23: Toronto (Price 18-5) at Kansas City (Ventura 13-8), 5:07 p.m.
 x-Saturday, Oct. 24: Toronto at Kansas City, 5:07 p.m.

Hockey

NHL
Thursday's Games
 New Jersey 5, Ottawa 4, SO
 N.Y. Rangers 4, Arizona 1
 Dallas 4, Pittsburgh 1
 Nashville 5, Anaheim 1

Minnesota 3, Columbus 2
 Chicago 3, Florida 2
 Washington 3, Vancouver 2
 Los Angeles 4, San Jose 1

Basketball

NBA Preseason
Thursday's Games
 Indiana 95, Charlotte 86
 Boston 99, New York 85
 Utah 98, Denver 78
 Golden State 136, L.A. Lakers 97
 L.A. Clippers 115, Portland 109

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