

WRESTLING: Mac-Hi, Riverside with three in semifinals

Continued from 1B

he said. “We were standing around. I think we let guys get into matches they shouldn’t be in. And we gathered our guys up after that first round and told ’em our expectations: You guys are better than this. You’re not wrestling to the level you can wrestle.”

From then on, the tournament has belonged to Hermiston.

Led by stalwart seniors Sam Colbray and Bob Coleman, the Bulldogs advanced seven to the semifinal round. Of the 16 Bulldogs who entered the tournament, 11 are still alive.

Colbray pinned Sam Crow of Central in 5:43, nearly achieving an acrobatic pin at the end of the second round but couldn’t secure it before the horn. Colbray then stuck Mackay Ivie of Sandy in about a minute to waltz into the semis.

Coleman’s win was considerably quicker, needing just a minute to pin Hillsboro’s Colten McGriff at 182 pounds. Then the senior moved into the semis with a 5-2 decision over Scott Martin of Eagle Point. Coleman said he can wrestle better, but is happy to have two wins.

“I’m definitely getting some tips from people who know what they’re doing,” he said. “Just fix the little things and work on ’em for tomorrow.”

“It’s nice to be here. It’s where I want to be, where i expect to be. But there’s more. Gotta get ready for tomorrow, because the matches get harder as you go.”

Colbray faces Summit No. 5 seed Jacob Thompson in the semifinals and Coleman will see Milwaukie No. 4 seed Chazz Amundson.

Also reaching the semifinals for the Bulldogs were Liam Tarvin (113 pounds), Andy Wagner (126), Valen Wyse (152), Brock McDonough (170) and John-Henry Line (195).

Tarvin opened the day beating Dallas’ Joseph Foster 6-1, then pinned Sandy’s Hunter Rickman in 1:16 in the quarterfinals. He’ll face Hood River’s Noah Wachsmuth in the semifinals after the Eagles freshman upset No. 3 seed Bayarmagnai Oktar of Corvallis 5-3.

Wagner took the No. 1 seed into the bracket and pinned both of his opponents. First he dispatched Churchill’s Dakota Lutje in 1:28, then he stuck Putnam’s Brice McDonald in 3:24. He’ll face Churchill No. 4-seed Cade Ezell in the semis.

Also a top seed, Wyse earned two pins on Friday



Riverside’s Silvestre Vazquez pins Dillion St. Onge, of Illinois Valley, during his opening match Friday at the 3A OSAA Wrestling State Championships at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland.



Pendleton’s Morgan Holcomb wrestles Terry McCord III, of Lebanon, during his opening match Friday at the 5A OSAA Wrestling State Championships.



Riverside’s Aristotle Rockwell wrestles Gunnar Thompson, of Cascade Christian, during his opening match at the 5A OSAA Wrestling State Championships at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland.

as well. He opened the afternoon against Lebanon freshman Joseph Blisseck and won early in the second round (2:38). He needed less time to move past Parkrose senior Mathias Peak, though, and ended it in 1:09. He’ll wrestle Wilsonville No. 4 seed Taran Floyd for a spot in the finals.

McDonough kept the pins coming from his third-seeded position at 170. His first was over South Albany’s Austin Wimer (3:16), and then he knocked out Bend senior Jacob Dupuis late in the third period (5:44) in the quarters. His semifinal match-up is with No. 7 seed Orasio Lopez, a senior from

Lebanon.

Sixth-seeded Line stayed on track for an all-Hermiston final at 195 with another pin to set up a meeting with No. 7 Brandon Dawson of Lebanon in the semis. Line opened with a 6-4 win over Sandy junior Braden Watson, then pinned South Albany’s Anthony Sutherlin in 5:29.

PENDLETON

Pendleton 145-pound third seed Morgan Holcomb secured a technical fall of Lebanon’s Terry McCord III, 16-1 in the third period, to give Pendleton its only win of the first round. Holcomb then outlasted Blane Hays of Sandy 14-10 in the quarter-

finals and is Pendleton’s last remaining wrestler.

He’ll face No. 2 seed Logan Meek of Crater in the semifinals. Meek pinned each of his first two opponents.

Pendleton freshman Alex Rendon bounced back from a 5-3 defeat in his first state match against returning state placer Noah Sickles of Dallas to earn a major decision, 14-3, over Elias Fields of St. Helens in the first round of consolation wrestling. It was the only other win on the day for the Bucks, though, and Rendon lost 7-3 to Brice McDonald of Putnam to end his tournament.

Pendleton is 25th in team points with 10.5.

MAC-HI

Three Mac-Hi Pioneers reached the semifinal round in the 4A division.

Seventh-seeded 132 pounder Riley Chester was the first with an 8-4 win over Marshfield’s William Jantzer after winning his first match by pinfall (:43) over Tillamook’s Christopher Silveira. His semifinals opponent is No. 3 seed Casey Roberts of North Marion.

Then second-seed Alyxander Shaw punched his semifinal ticket in the 170 class with a 5-4 decision over North Marion’s Damian

Chavez. He’d also won by pin in the first round, beating Henley’s Justin Self in 4:40. Shaw will wrestle No. 3 seed Christian Mata of Tillamook for a spot in the finals.

Gregory Rosendo (285) completed the Pioneers’ semifinals field with a 6-2 overtime win over Elmira’s Dylan Porter. He too had won by pin (2:58) in the first round over Crook County’s Christian Christian Biggs. He will go against No. 3 seed Ian Johnson of Hidden Valley in the semis.

Still wrestling in the consolation bracket after Day 1 are Cole Skramstad (152), Joshua Torres (195) and Spencer Wells (220).

Mac-Hi is in sixth place in the team standings with 48 points. Crook County leads with 135, Marshfield is second with 80.5 and Henley is third with 80.

ECHO/STANFIELD

The fledging Echo/Stanchfield program qualified two participants — 182-pounder Jason Fitzpatrick and 113-pounder Kyle Ranger. Fitzpatrick faced Glide’s Aubrey Syverson in the first round and was pinned in 1:53. Ranger received a first round bye, and quickly lost by fall to top-seeded David Kerr of La Pine.

Ranger scored his team’s only points with a forfeit win in the consolation bracket.

Echo/Stanchfield is in 25th in the 3A division with three points.

Echo coach Monte Toombs said he is proud of his guys in the young program, but didn’t want to single out Ranger and Fitzpatrick. Fitzpatrick, though, suffered a rather serious knee injury in February and sat out a couple weeks, then qualified for state while injured. Ranger, who’s only in his second year of wrestling, has “flipped a switch,” Toombs said, and “doesn’t look like a second-year guy.” “Just watching them this week made me smile,” he said. “We’re ready for it.”

RIVERSIDE

Three Pirates reached today’s semifinals in the 3A division.

Aristotle Rockwell, the top-seeded 126-pounder from Riverside, took a bye in the first round, then pinned Cascade Christian’s Gunner Thompson in the second round (5:40) in the quarterfinals.

His semifinals draw is No. 4 Justin Davison of Harrisburg, who also won his quarterfinals match by pin (5:19).

Silvestre Vazquez, Riverside’s No. 4 113-pounder, also won his quarterfinal match, beating Dillion St. Onge of

Illinois Valley by fall (2:33). He had also taken a bye in the first round and will go against No. 1 seed David Kerr of La Pine in the semifinals. Kerr had pinned his two opponents in a combined 1:40.

The Pirates’ third semifinalist is 220-pounder Ricardo Mendoza, who won by major decision, 14-4 over Taft’s Michael Parker in his second match. The unseeded Mendoza opened the day with a first-round (1:00) pin of Creswell No. 4 seed Blake Nelson. He’ll take on No. 1 seed Justin Parazoo of Scio in the semis.

Andrew Barker (113), Ivan Escobedo (152) and Anthony Kernal (220) all lost quarterfinal matches. Barker, Kernal and Tyeler Hancock (138) are still alive in the consolation bracket.

Riverside is in ninth place in team scoring with 43.5 points. Nyssa is out in front with 92, followed by Glide with 60 and Willamina with 59.5.

HEPPNER

The first day flew by for Heppner in 2A/1A action, where the Mustangs needed just more than three minutes to advance two wrestlers to the semifinals.

Ryan Smith, the second-seeded 113-pounder, and top-seeded 195-pounder Cord Flynn each received byes in the first round, then pinned their quarterfinal opponents.

Two-time state champion Smith snatched his win over Knappa’s Luke Goozee in 42 seconds, then Flynn stuck Culver’s Cole Little early in the second round (2:33).

Smith will meet No. 3 seed Caleb Day, a freshman from Central Linn, in the semis while Flynn takes on No. 4 seed Chase Cook, a junior from Nestucca.

Heppner is in a four-way tie for 11th with eight points. Culver is in the lead with 31, Lowell is second with 26 and Central Linn is third with 14.5.

IRRIGON

Irrigon has one semifinalist in the 2A/1A division after Kasey Kroske quickly pinned Monroe’s Wesley Reid in the quarterfinals.

Kroske, the fourth-seeded 285 pound wrestler, needed just 57 seconds to advance past the Monroe senior and will face the No. 1 overall seed Myrtle Point senior Isaac Godfrey in the semis. Godfrey won his first match in 59 seconds over Gilchrist senior Brendon Johnson.

Irrigon’s only other entrant, Jose Covarrubia went 0-2 at 285.

Irrigon is tied for 20th in team points with four.

GOLDEN EAGLES: Melton, Fuentes big in posts

Continued from 1B

finish the quarter with 14 points as Nixyaawii led 22-6 after one frame.

Aside from Stewart, the Golden Eagles featured some solid production inside as forwards Kaitlynn Melton and Sunshine Fuentes combined for 18 points and numerous rebounds. Maddern said having some consistent production from the post will be key for the team moving forward.

“If we can get one or two of our posts in double figures or close to it we generally do better,” he said. “Tonight it helped that we were able to move the ball around better and have those two play well.”

The Golden Eagles coasted through the second

quarter and took a 36-14 lead into halftime with the momentum on their side. At the break Maddern told his team that even with the point disparity they needed to keep up the intensity in the second half.

“We talked to them about playing four full quarters of defense, because you have to do that from here on out or you’re not going to advance very far,” he said. “I told them we’d slow it down a bit on offense but defensively we had to continue pushing forward.”

And that they did. The Golden Eagles came out of the locker room with some extra bounce and kept the Warriors from finding any real offensive rhythm as they forced 18 of the Warriors 25 turnovers in the second half

alone to pound away for the win.

As a team, Nixyaawii shot 25-64 (39 percent) overall from the field and knocked down 8-19 from 3-point range. The team also knocked in 14-22 attempts from the free throw line.

Siletz Valley shot just 13-42 (31 percent) from the field, including just 5-23 (22 percent) in the first half. Kaetlin Bayya led the Warriors with nine points, while Joanna Lindstrom, Lexi Metcalf, and Julia Trachsel all finished with eight points.

The Golden Eagles now advance to the quarterfinals of the 1A bracket where they will next take on the No. 5 seed Adrian Antelopes, who defeated the No. 12 seed Perrydale 56-23 in its

second-round match-up.

Maddern said that preparation for that game will start today.

“We’ll start breaking down tape (Saturday) and then practice on Sunday night,” he said. “Our league was tough this year and some of those battles really prepared us well for this point moving forward.”

Nixyaawii’s quarterfinal match-up with Adrian will take place on Wednesday at Baker High School with tip-off scheduled for 3:15 p.m.

SVA (19-8)	6	8	6	14	—	34
NCS (24-2)	22	14	11	25	—	72
SILETZ VALLEY — K. Bayya 9, J. Lindstrom 8, L. Metcalf 8, J. Trachsel 8, Team 3, F. Howell, M. Watson.						
NIXYAAWII — M. Stewart 28, K. Melton 9, S. Fuentes 9, E. Looney 7, A. Farrow 6, S. Fitzpatrick 5, D. Maddern 4, T. Oatman 2, A. Tanasket 2.						
3-pointers — SVA 4, NCS 8. Free throws — SVA 4-9, NCS 14-22. Fouls — SVA 9, NCS 11.						

UMATILLA: Vikings next prepare for No. 1 seed

Continued from 1B

coach Scott Bow said that the offense did not have its best performance, but the defense stepped in to save the win, holding the Cavaliers 14 points below their season average.

“We executed our defense well, and our gameplan worked out exactly the way we wanted,” he said. “Offensively we missed some easy shots from people who don’t normally miss them, or else

we could have blown this one open.”

Junior post Brenda Campos led the Vikings in scoring with 18 points, while senior guard Sidney Webb scored 16 points and was a difference maker for the team.

“She attacked the hoop really well tonight,” Bow said. “She went against their top player and came out way ahead.”

With the win, the Vikings advance to the quarterfinals

to take on the No. 1 seed Dayton Pirates on Thursday, March 3 at North Bend High School. The Pirates are the defending 3A state champions and are coming off of a 71-36 victory over the No. 16 seed Colton on Friday night.

The Pirates are winners of 16 of their last 17 games, including seven in a row. However, with all of that in mind, Bow says he likes the match-up and what his team can bring to the table.

“(Dayton) is very similar

to our team, and I think we match-up a lot better with them,” he said. “But we’re only going to have one day of practice.”

Tip-off between the Vikings and Pirates is set for 1:30 p.m.

BCS (19-7)	8	7	15	13	—	43
UHS (21-5)	15	9	10	25	—	47
BLANCHET CATHOLIC — A. Coronado 13, K. Campbell 8, E. Estabrook 7, S. Poole 5, E. Collier 5, B. Hittner 3, J. Counts 2.						
UMATILLA — B. Campos 18, S. Webb 16, C. Dohman 5, G. Contreras 2, M. Paz 2, T. Coffey 2.						
3-pointers — BCS 4, UHS 0. Free throws — BCS 9-17, UHS 11-19. Fouls — BCS 17, UHS 20. Fouled out — E. Estabrook (BCS), A. Coronado (BCS).						



Nixyaawii’s Sunshine Fuentes draws contact from Siletz Valley’s Makenzee Watson in the Golden Eagles’ 72-34 win against the Warriors in Friday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

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