

HEPPNER

Flynn successful in title defense

Heppner/Ione sends two wrestlers to state

East Oregonian

HERMISTON — The Heppner/Ione wrestling team is sending two members to the state championships after Cord Flynn and Trevor Antonucci each qualified during Friday's 2A/1A Special District 4 championships at Armand Larive Middle School.

Flynn (33-1) brought back his second straight district title at 195 pounds by pinning Pine Eagle's Joseph Aguilar in 2 minutes, 46 seconds in the championship bout. It was his second pin of



Flynn

It will be the second state championships berth for Flynn, who reached the final match as a junior last season before finishing second to Culver's Jaiden Jones.

The wrestlers have met once this season with Flynn winning by pin (3:15) in the championship at the Jo-Hi Invite on Jan. 7.

It is the first state tournament qualification for Antonucci.

Heppner 145-pounder Carson Brosnan just missed out on a state berth with a third-place finish. He reached the first-place match before suffering defeats to district champion William Johnson of Crane and then Enrique Delgado of Adrian in the second-place match.

Other district champions were Shane Lund (113 pounds) and Cole Farwell (120) of Enterprise; Blake Butler (126) of Pine Eagle; Jayson Blackburn (132) of Union; Clay Johnson (138) and Drew Lusco (220) of Grant Union; William Johnson (145), Elijah Epling (152) and Samuel Williams (285) of Crane; Tanner Owen (160) and Donovan Tate (182) of Elgin; Rylie Warnock (170) of Joseph.

The state championships will be held at Portland's Veterans Memorial Coliseum starting at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 24.

Antonucci had suffered his first defeat of the afternoon in the district championship with a 10-2 loss to Joseph/Wallowa's Steven Beckman. He won his other two matches by pin over Union/Cove's Lincoln Deem in 1:11 and Elgin's Kenneth Terry in 1:30.

Heppner finished fourth in team points with 97. Grant Union won the team title with 228, Crane was second with 177 and Enterprise was third with 117.5.

2A/1A Special District 4 championships
Heppner placers
 1st place — Cord Flynn (195)
 2nd place — Trevor Antonucci (106)
 3rd place — Carson Brosnan (145)
 4th place — Jacob Wallace (160)
 5th place — Leo Waite (132); Charles Cason (145); Zach Bredfield (152)
 6th place — Ethan Holmgren (170)

PENDLETON

Bucks complete comeback

McGlothan hits game-winning shot with 5 seconds left

East Oregonian

Before the basketball season got started, first-year Pendleton girls coach Kevin Porter let his players know he welcomed and expected their input in the huddle.

"I told them, 'Player-led teams are always more successful than coach-led teams,'" he said. "Because they're seeing things differently out on the court than I'm seeing them, so I wanted them to speak up and not be afraid to say, 'Hey coach, we should run this play.'"

On Friday night with the Buckaroos trailing The Dalles by one point, Porter saw his desire play out when he called the team's final

timeout with nine seconds on the clock.

Senior Haley Greb and junior K a l a n McGlothan took the opportunity to suggest an inbound set they felt would get the Bucks the shot they needed, and Porter didn't hesitate to give them the go-ahead.

With five seconds left, McGlothan was able to get open off the inbound pass and knock down the game-winning shot and The Dalles wasn't able to get off a shot at the other end before the buzzer.

It was the first time the Bucks had led in the game since sinking the first basket to make it 2-0.

The Dalles went on a 25-13 run the rest of the first half, and Porter said he wasn't exactly surprised the

Girls Basketball

The Dalles	Pendleton
48	49

Bucks had struggled to get going.

"Before the game I looked in their eyes and I thought they could come out flat," he said. "That game against Hermiston on Tuesday is going to be for the (league) championship, and I think they might have been looking ahead possibly.

"I kind of challenged them at halftime." The Bucks responded, and trimmed the lead to nine points to start the fourth, which was when they really took off. Pendleton scored 21 points in the stanza paced by Maureen Davies, who had seven of her 13 points in the fourth. Davies also had nine rebounds.

Greb finished with a team-high of 14 points, and McGlothan had seven

points, eight rebounds and three steals.

"These kids are unreal. They respond every time," Porter said. "I couldn't say enough nice things about these girls. Nobody's looking for their share, it's all about the team."

Pendleton has made a trend of big second-half comebacks at Warberg Court this season, and pulled off a 16-point turnaround in the fourth quarter to beat Hermiston the last time they hosted the Bulldogs.

After taking their meeting in Hermiston, the Dawgs are back for the rubber match on Tuesday with a 7:30 p.m. tip-off.

TDHS	12	13	12	11	—	48
PHS	4	9	15	21	—	49

THE DALLES — J. Thomasian 16, B. McCall 11, K. Hoylman 7, S. Watson 6, K. Jesch 6, I. Taylor 2, L. Robinson.
 PENDLETON — H. Greb 14, M. Davies 13, M. Davies 13, E. Nirsch 8, K. McGlothan 7, T. Fell 5, J. Lemberger 2, K. Bradt, L. Richards, H. Porter.
 3-pointers — TDHS 4; PHS 3. Free throws — TDHS 10-17; PHS 12-19. Fouls — TDHS 19; PHS 17.

HERMISTON

Bulldogs blow out Eagles on the road

Hermiston win fourth straight game

East Oregonian

HOOD RIVER — The Hermiston girls basketball team kept its hot streak going with a 67-29 blowout victory over Hood River Valley on Friday night, the Bulldogs' fourth consecutive victory.

"We came out early and the girls got a good jump right out of the gates," Hermiston coach Juan Rodriguez said. "Our

offense was humming tonight and our defense was playing great."

H e r m - iston led 16-2 after the first quarter and then held a 36-10 advantage at halftime.

Maddy Juul led all scorers with 20 points for the Bulldogs, as she found her way to the basket with ease especially in the second half.

"It was a typical Maddy where she got real

Girls Basketball

Hermiston	Hood River
67	29

aggressive," Rodriguez said. "She knew we couldn't have a sluggish start in the third quarter and she found ways to score with her back to the basket and the ability to drive to the basket. I was pretty happy with the way she played."

Following behind Juul was Jordan Thomas with 14 points, Rileigh Andreason with nine and Madison Wilson with seven. In total,

nine players earned their way into the scorebook.

Hermiston hits the road again on Tuesday when they will travel to Pendleton for the rubber match with the Buckaroos. The Bucks took the first game in Pendleton 53-48 and Hermiston won the second match at The Dawg House 62-31.

HHS	16	20	17	14	—	67
HRV	2	8	11	8	—	29

HERMISTON — M. Juul 20, J. Thomas 14, R. Andreason 9, M. Wilson 7, J. Romero 6, H. Meyers 4, S. Stefani 3, S. Gilbert 2, K. Padilla 2.
 HOOD RIVER — E. Curtis 8, H. Baker 7, L. Orr 7, A. Kinoshita 3, L. Weekly 2, A. Goodman 2.
 3-pointers — HHS 6, HRV 2. Free throws — HHS 11-19, HRV 6-20. Fouls — HHS 18, HRV 15.

Prep Roundup

Nixyaawii girls roll past Culver in OOL district semifinals

East Oregonian

BAKER CITY — The Nixyaawii girls basketball team smothered Cove 57-17 on Friday at Baker High School to punch their ticket to the Old Oregon League district championship.

The Golden Eagles outscored the Leopards 16-4 in the first quarter and cruised with another sound defensive effort on Friday.

"We didn't press them at all the entire game, just our zone was really tough for them to break," said Nixyaawii coach Jeremy Maddern. "They got up some shots, they just shot a low percentage and we did a really good job of rebounding and getting down the court."

Mary Stewart scored 17 points to lead the undefeated Golden Eagles (22-0) and Milan Schimmel added 16. Nixyaawii was up 40-6 at halftime and was able to rest its starters in the second half.

They'll play Powder Valley for the championship today after the Badgers outlasted Joseph 61-53 in a double-overtime thriller.

"This worked out perfect for us," said Maddern.

The teams will meet at Baker High School at 6:30 p.m.

CHS	4	2	4	7	—	17
NCS	16	24	13	4	—	4

COVE — H. Duby 4, M. Ledbetter 4, A. Garinger 4, N. Neal 3, K. Witten 1, S. Short 1, L. Johnson, H. Davis, E. Hines-Dunlap.
 NIXYAAWII — M. Stewart 17, M. Schimmel 16, K. Melton 8, S. Fitzpatrick 8, E.

Butler 4, K. Mountainchief 2, S. Fuentes, S. Patrick, T. Broncheau, E. Looney, T. Melton.
 3-pointers — CHS 1; NCS 4. Free throws — CHS 3-14; NCS 7-11. Fouls — CHS 9; NCS 13.

WESTON-MCEWEN 48, CULVER 37 — At Pendleton, the Bobcats surged ahead at the end of the third quarter but only scored one point in the fourth as the TigerScots pulled out the first victory for interim head coach Jeff Griggs in the semifinals at the Columbia Basin Conference district tournament.

Sarah Finifrock led a balanced Weston-McEwen (16-7) score sheet with 12 points while Chelsea Quae-mpts added 10 and Bailey Hillmick chipped in eight.

Griggs said it was a physical battle with neither team backing down with a berth in the state tournament on the line.

Culver (13-8) was down 26-19 at the break, but found its groove in the third quarter with Irma Retano and Mia Gamboa combining for 18 points in the frame. Gamboa fouled out at the end of the third, though, and Retano picked up her fifth foul midway through the fourth. Retano finished with 19 points and Gamboa had 11.

Weston-McEwen closed out the win hitting nine free throws in the fourth quarter, and was 20 of 35 at the line in the game.

The TigerScots will face

CHS	5	14	22	1	—	37
WM	13	13	7	15	—	48

CULVER — I. Retano 19, M. Gamboa 11, J. Johnson 6, M. Beeler 4, E. Bautista 1, J. VanAlstyne, K. Webb, M. Haessler, L. Alvarado.
 WESTON-MCEWEN — S. Finifrock 12, C. Quae-mpts 10, B. Hillmick 8, S. Von Borstel 6, A. Finifrock 5, K. Vescio 3, A. Schroeder 2, A. Coffman 2, M. Muilenberg, R. Penney.
 3-pointers — CHS 2; WM 0. Free throws — CHS 7-13; WM 20-35. Fouls — CHS 25; WM 13. Fouled out — I. Retano, M. Gamboa, J. Johnson, L. Alvarado (CHS).

Pilot Rock today in the championship at 1 p.m.

JOSEPH 56, HELIX 31 — At Baker City, the Eagles came out strong and took control early in their Old Oregon League match-up with Helix on Thursday night.

Joseph was up 30-11 at halftime, and didn't start to slow down until the fourth quarter.

Arianna Krol scored seven points and pulled down seven rebounds to lead Helix (9-13). Sadie Wilson had eight rebounds and Charmayne Bennet had four steals, but Joseph's defense was too much for the Grizzlies as they committed 35 turnovers.

The loss brought the season to a close for the Grizzlies, which graduate two seniors. Bethany Newton and Macey Tullis combined for seven points and four rebounds in their final games.

BOYS BASKETBALL

WESTON-MCEWEN 43, HEPPNER 41 — At

Pendleton, the Weston-McEwen TigerScots clinched a spot in the 2A state tournament with a win over Heppner on Friday night in the CBC district semifinals at the Pendleton Convention Center.

"It's been a goal all year and it's the first time this group has made it in their four years," Weston-McEwen coach Brian Pickard said. "They all worked exceptionally hard and deserve it."

Weston-McEwen (14-9) started the game determined and it showed, opening up a 14-4 lead on Heppner. But slowly but surely, Heppner chipped away and late in the fourth quarter were within one point, however ultimately they came up short.

Garrett Hungerford led Weston-McEwen with 12 points and Ethan Reger had 11. James West did not score, but Pickard pointed him out as a standout as he made perhaps the biggest play of the game. As Heppner (12-7) was inbounding the ball to go for a chance at a final shot to tie or win, West jumped in front of a long pass and tipped the ball to a teammate Shaw Broncheau to seal the victory for the TigerScots.

Logan Grieb led Heppner with 13 points and Kevin Smith had 11.

Weston-McEwen will face No. 1 Stanfield in the CBC district title today

at 3 p.m. at the Pendleton Convention Center. Heppner still has a slim chance at making the state playoffs as an at-large seed.

WM	14	9	5	15	—	43
HHS	4	10	9	18	—	41

WESTON-MCEWEN — G. Hungerford 12, E. Reger 11, B. Speed 9, B. Dearing 7, S. Broncheau 4, J. West, B. Rudolph, J. Speed.
 HEPPNER — L. Grieb 13, K. Smith 11, N. Dias Martins 7, C. Hedman 4, J. Lindsay 4, K. Curran 2.
 3-pointers — WM 7; HHS 3. Free throws — WM 8-15, HHS 12-24. Fouls — WM 20, HHS 17.

JOSEPH 57, NIXYA-AAWII 38 — At Baker City, the Golden Eagles' recent woes extended into the district bracket Friday with a loss to Joseph in the semifinals. It was Nixyaawii's third straight defeat after winning 12 straight, and the second time in three games it'd been bested by the Eagles.

Game details were not available at press time. Nixyaawii (15-7) will have to find a way to stop its skid if it wants to extend its season in today's third-place game. Only the district's top three teams will earn a state playoff berth.

Joseph will take on the winner of Friday's late game against Powder Valley and Echo in the championship.

JOSEPH 57, HELIX 42 — At Baker City, the Grizzlies' season came to a close after a late-ending game Thursday night at the Old Oregon League district

tournament.

Helix (6-16) was down 25-24 at halftime and giving Joseph (19-5) all it could handle, but couldn't get its shots to fall down the stretch in the second half as the Eagles pulled away.

HHS	16	8	11	7	—	42
JHS	12	13	16	16	—	57

HELIX — J. Williams 11, J. Shaw 10, G. Newton 9, J. Sprenger 5, G. Christman 3, C. Marks 2, D. Carlson 2, T. Fehrenbacher.
 JOSEPH — C. DeLury 15, J. Christman 14, A. Borgerding 12, T. Horman 9, C. Murray 4, K. Kilgore 2.
 3-pointers — HHS 2; JHS 2. Free throws — HHS 4-4. Fouls — HHS 14; JHS 6.

Golf

Saunders stays in lead after rain wipes out afternoon play of Genesis Open

By DOUG FERGUSON
 Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Wind, rain and the snap of a large tree limb were enough to stop play Friday in the second round of the Genesis Open.

Sam Saunders remained atop the leaderboard without ever hitting a shot Friday at Riviera.

Jhonattan Vegas joined him at 7-under par and was all too happy to wait until Saturday morning — maybe — to complete his second round. The wind made it diffi-

cult to pick the right club. The rain made it difficult to gauge the speed on the greens.

But it was the crack of a eucalyptus tree that made PGA Tour officials sound the horn to get players — and spectators — off the course.

"We could have played a little bit more, but why? It's going to get nothing but worse," said Mark Russell, the PGA Tour's vice president of competition. "We wanted to get them out of there when the trees started snapping."

No one was hurt, although Russell said he heard some spectators had to scramble to

safety when the eucalyptus limb fell some 30 yards behind the third green.

It was tough on a few players, too, at least between the ears.

Hideki Matsuyama, who had a mathematical chance to reach No. 1 in the world this week with a victory, returned Friday morning to complete the first round and made three straight birdies for a 68. He likely will have to finish with three straight birdies Saturday just to make the cut. Matsuyama was 6 over through 15 holes on his second round, and 3 over for

the tournament.

Defending champion Bubba Watson hasn't had much go his way this week, even when they do. He couldn't decide on a club at No. 5 and came up well short of the green, only to chip in for a birdie. Standing on the tee at the par-3 sixth, with a bunker in the middle of the green and the pin left and to the back, Watson jokingly lamented, "The one time I don't want to hit first."

He still had two holes to play and was 8 over, virtually assured of missing the cut. Cameron Percy of Australia

was among 24 players who finished his second round. He shot a 71 and was at 5-under 137. Zac Blair and Martin Laird each shot 68 and were finished at 4-under 138.

Graeme McDowell birdied three of his last eight holes for a 70 and was at 3 under, along with Daniel Summerhays (73) and Keegan Bradley (70).

Very much in the mix was Jordan Spieth, playing in the same group as Watson. He was the last to hit on No. 6 and had no idea what was going on when he hit his shot. "Oh, don't go that way,"

Spieth said as the wind failed to bring it back to the right toward the green.

"No way. No way," he said when his shot appeared to go well beyond the bunker to the left of the putting surface.

And then he heard a smattering of cheers.

The shot landed on a hill beyond the green, rode the slope back down to about 10 feet and he wound up with a birdie. He was at 5 under with two holes to play, and depending what the weather has in store, that might not be a bad place to be.