

3A EASTERN OREGON LEAGUE

The Nyssa Bulldogs and Vale Vikings ran away with the top two spots in the EOL a season ago, and figure to do the same in 2017-18. Irrigon will try to improve on a solid debut season in the league as it returns three all-league players and has its sights set on stealing one of the EOL's two playoff berths.

PROJECTED FINISH

- Vale Vikings
- Nyssa Bulldogs
- Irrigon Knights
- Burns Hilanders
- Riverside Pirates
- Umatilla Vikings

(Rankings based on coach and media votes)

2016-17 FINAL STANDINGS

	League	Overall
Nyssa	7-3	20-9
Vale	8-2	18-6
Burns	6-4	14-10
Irrigon	5-5	12-10
Riverside	3-7	9-10
Umatilla	1-9	6-17

RETURNING ALL-LEAGUE

Irrigon — Jada Burns, sr.; Taylor Davis, sr.; Aliya Munoz, sr.
Burns — Oakley West, sr.
Nyssa — Sailor Hartley, sr.; Kierra Hernandez, sr.; Britney Arredondo, sr.
Vale — Dallie Johnson, sr.
Riverside — None
Umatilla — None

Irrigon Knights

Head coach: Mike Royer, 4th season
2016 season review: Irrigon ended last with a 12-10 overall record, and a 5-5 record in league play that pushed them to No. 17 in the state.

Returning starters: Jada Burns, PG, sr.; Taylor Davis, P, sr.; Ana Zacarias, W, jr.; Natalie Romero, W, jr.

Other returning players that earned varsity letters: Kylie wyant, P, sr.; Alyia Munoz, W, sr.; Olivia Luna, P, sr.; Brianna Rice, W, jr.

Other seniors: Evelyn Carrillo, P
Team expectations: "With eight returning varsity players, our expectations are fairly high this year. The EOL is a tough league top to bottom."

Royer feels the team needs to be ready to battle every week, and believes this team has the potential to be a playoff contender.



2017-18 SCHEDULE

Nov. 30	at Stanfield	W 61-25
Dec. 1	vs. Weston-McEwen#	W 54-52
Dec. 2	vs. Enterprise#	W 49-36
Dec. 5	vs. Weston-McEwen	6 p.m.
Dec. 8	vs. Imbler (at Heppner)	3 p.m.
Dec. 9	vs. McLoughlin (at Heppner)	1 p.m.
Dec. 12	vs. Heppner	6 p.m.
Dec. 15	at Union	6 p.m.
Dec. 16	vs. La Grande (at Hermiston)	7 p.m.
Dec. 18	vs. Liberty Christian (WA)	3 p.m.
Dec. 19	at McLoughlin	6 p.m.
Dec. 21	vs. Stanfield	6 p.m.
Dec. 28	vs. Waitsburg (WA)	6 p.m.
Dec. 29	vs. Pilot Rock	6 p.m.
Jan. 6	at Vale*	3 p.m.
Jan. 9	vs. Riverside*	6 p.m.
Jan. 12	at Umatilla*	6 p.m.
Jan. 19	vs. Burns*	6 p.m.
Jan. 20	vs. Nyssa*	3 p.m.
Jan. 23	at Riverside*	6 p.m.
Jan. 25	vs. Umatilla*	6 p.m.
Feb. 2	at Burns*	6 p.m.
Feb. 3	at Nyssa*	4 p.m.
Feb. 9	vs. Vale*	6 p.m.

*-league game #-at lone



Irrigon's Jada Burns shoots the ball during a 2016 game against Heppner. Burns, a first team all-EOL player last season, returns for her senior year aiming to lead the Knights to the playoffs.

EO File Photo

Riverside Pirates

Head coach: Clair Costello, 2nd season

2016-17 season: Like their male counterparts, Riverside finished second to last in its league. A late six-game skid brought the Pirates' record to 9-10 overall and 3-7 in EOL.

Returning starters: Skylar Wightman, W, sr.; Abby Hernandez, P, sr.; Alondra Caldera, W, jr.; Faith Rosen, P, jr.

Other returning players that earned varsity letters: Brendy Avalos, G, jr.; Bianca Avalos, G, soph.; Megan Hegar, P, soph.; Cesy Garcia, W, soph.; Estrella Daltoso, W, jr.
Other players to watch: Brenda Flores, P, spoh.; Emily Robles, P, jr.
Costello's expectations: The Pirates have the same core as last year with the exception of Lacey Mashos. So Costello is hoping to get in the top three of the EOL this year. This team should compete with every team this year, he added.

Keys for success: On offense, Riverside has to spread the floor and let the girls play. On the defensive side, they must focus on zone.

2017-18 SCHEDULE

Nov. 29	at White Salmon (WA)	W 49-16
Dec. 1	vs. College Place (WA)	W 44-29
Dec. 2	vs. Helix	W 36-34
Dec. 2	vs. Pilot Rock%	2 p.m.
12/8	Umatilla tourn.	TBD
12/9	Umatilla tourn.	TBD
12/12	at Weston-McEwen	6 p.m.
12/15	Stanfield	6 p.m.
12/16	Stanfield tourn.	TBD
12/19	vs. White Salmon (WA)	4 p.m.
12/21	vs. Mac-Hi	4 p.m.
12/28	at Stevenson (WA)	3:30 p.m.
1/2	vs. Pilot Rock	6 p.m.
1/5	at Nyssa*	5 p.m.
1/9	at Irrigon*	6 p.m.
1/15	vs. Stanfield	6 p.m.
1/19	vs. Vale*	6 p.m.
1/20	vs. Burns*	3 p.m.
1/23	vs. Irrigon*	6 p.m.
1/26	at Umatilla*	6 p.m.
2/2	at Vale*	5 p.m.
2/3	at Burns*	5 p.m.
2/8	vs. Umatilla*	6 p.m.
2/10	vs. Nyssa*	4 p.m.

*-league game
 %-at Umatilla HS



Umatilla Vikings

Head coach: Rylee Christianson, 1st season

Assistant coach: Kassie Williams, 1st season

Returning starters: Lauryn Journot, G, jr.; Katelyn Lorence, G, sr.; Nancy Ortiz, G, sr.

Other returners: Charlene Alvarez, F, jr.; Page Picker, F, jr.; Yamilex Ortiz, G, jr.; Natalie Soto-Leon, F, so.; Gladys Gonzalez, F, so.; Ayana Reyes, F, sr.; Alexandra Ford, F, jr.

Newcomer: Devina Monreal, G, fr.

2016-17 season review : 6-17 overall, 1-9 Eastern Oregon League (6th)

Season Outlook: The Vikings must replace do-it-all and first team all-league guard Aleesha Watson and continue to develop a competitive program under first-year head coach Rylee Christianson.



2017-18 SCHEDULE

Dec. 1	vs. Riverdale#	L 38-29	Jan. 13	at Burns*	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Vernonia	L 37-20	Jan. 19	vs. Nyssa*	6 p.m.
Dec. 7	vs. Union	5:30 p.m.	Jan. 20	vs. Vale*	4:30 p.m.
Dec. 8	Columbia River Clash	TBD	Jan. 25	at Irrigon*	6 p.m.
Dec. 9	Columbia River Clash	TBD	Jan. 26	vs. Riverside*	6 p.m.
Dec. 15	vs. Gervais%	3 p.m.	Feb. 2	at Nyssa*	6 p.m.
Dec. 16	at Amity Classic	TBD	Feb. 3	at Vale*	3 p.m.
Dec. 18	at Heppner	4 p.m.	Feb. 8	at Riverside*	6 p.m.
Dec. 19	vs. Pilot Rock	6 p.m.	Feb. 10	vs. Burns*	5 p.m.
Dec. 22	vs. Nixyaawii	6 p.m.			
Jan. 4	vs. Stanfield	6 p.m.			
Jan. 12	vs. Irrigon*	6 p.m.			

*-League Game
 #-Played at Vernonia
 @-Columbia River Clash at Umatilla HS
 %-Played at Amity

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