

NIXYAAWII: Won Wednesday in quarterfinals, plays Powder Valley again in semifinals on Friday

Continued from 1B

and six steals, while Mary Stewart had 17 points, five assists and 7 steals. Inside, Melton finished with 14 points and eight rebounds and junior Ermia Butler had perhaps her best game of the year, recording a double-double with 12 points and 12 rebounds.

Nixyaawii's defense also forced 25 turnovers from Damascus Christian, which turned into 32 points for the winners.

It was the same road map that the Golden Eagles have used to breeze through their schedule this season — the combination of an athletic, swarming defense and a fast-paced offense that makes it hard for opponents to keep up.

They have scored the most points (1,968) in Class 1A this season, with their season-low total of 62 in a Feb. 9 win over Pine Eagle. Nixyaawii has won 16 games by at least 40 points and have won by fewer than 20 points only once — a 71-53 win over No. 3 Powder Valley in the district championship just 12 days ago.

What makes the Golden Eagles so dominant is, of course, some incredible talent, but also a familiarity and bond the players share — most notably the four-person senior class of Stewart, Schimmel, Melton and Looney.

The group has played basketball, and played it with great success, dating back to their days in middle school and in the AAU circuit. Now, they have powered the Golden Eagles to a 55-game win streak dating back to the third place game at the 2015 state tournament.

It's the third-longest in OSAA history for girls basketball, trailing only Class 4A Sutherlin's 60-game win streak from 2013-2015 and Joseph's



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

In this Dec. 22, 2017, file photo, Nixyaawii's Kaitlynn Melton wrestles for a loose ball in the Golden Eagles' 78-29 win against Umatilla in Mission.

77-game win streak from 1980-1983, according to OSAA historian Larry Moulton.

"It's actually been a lot of fun," Schimmel said of the season. "The senior class, we've grown up together playing basketball and AAU so coming into our last season together, maybe ever, it's something we're having fun with but at the same time we're like 'Oh snap, it's coming down to it!' But at the same time, we're out here to have fun playing basketball now because that's what we've done our entire lives so we just look forward to what's coming this week."

Every one of the senior starters has carved out a defined role that the team relies on in all situations.

Stewart and Schimmel get most of the headlines because of their do-it-all abilities. Both guards can score from anywhere on the floor — Stewart has accumulated more than 1,600 career points in three seasons — and also fill out the stat sheet each night with numerous rebounds, assists, steals and blocked shots every night. Melton is a grinder inside, a tenacious rebounder and the physical post defender the Golden Eagles need. And Looney is a stout defender on the wing and can knock

down the outside shot whenever needed.

But it doesn't stop with them.

Butler has taken tremendous strides this season with her offensive contributions and is a great rebounder, Tristalynn Melton can handle the ball and shoot it well, and even freshmen such as MacKenzie Kiona have contributed down the stretch.

"Our bench is much deeper this year," Schimmel said. "And the freshman last year, now sophomores have experience and have improved and know what's going to come at them, especially coming into the state tournament because they were there."

Along with its expectations, Nixyaawii brings a lot of confidence to the tournament this weekend, too. It's the third straight trip to Baker City for the Golden Eagles, so they know what it takes to win at state. Plus, the Golden Eagles have played several of the top teams in the state over the past two seasons and won easily each time.

Most notably, Powder Valley and Joseph have been top five and top 10 teams, respectively, in the state each of the past two years, and they happen to play in the

same Old Oregon League as the Golden Eagles. Nixyaawii's played 11 total games against the two teams in the past two seasons and won all 11 easily.

"Joseph and Powder are some of the best in the state and having them in our league is definitely a blessing," Schimmel said. "It's good to be able to play teams that are really experienced and that basically prepares us for what's coming at state."

Now, Nixyaawii will have to go through Powder Valley for the fourth time this season to reach the state championship game. The two teams will meet on Friday at 1:45 p.m. at Baker High School in a Class 1A semifinal game. The winner will play either No. 1 Country Christian or No. 4 Days Creek on Saturday for the championship.

Schimmel knows that it is important that the Golden Eagles take the tournament one game at a time, because anything can happen in the postseason. But she already knows what it would mean to the Nixyaawii girls to bring another state championship trophy back to Mission.

"I think it would bring a lot of pride, especially to our community," Schimmel said. "When I'm on the basketball court, I know I'm not just playing for my family, I'm not just playing for who I am, I'm not just playing for all these things about me. I'm playing for my community, I'm playing for my tribe, I'm playing for Native American people."

"It's something we take a lot of pride in and we know that it would mean a lot to us."

Contact Eric at esinger@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0839. Follow him on Twitter @ByEricSinger.



Pendleton's Shaw Jerome drives past Putnam's Dustin Britt in the Bucks' 60-39 win against the Kingsmen on Wednesday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

BUCKAROOS: Play at No. 3 Thurston on Saturday

Continued from 1B

minutes before halftime, while Putnam senior Dustin Britt and junior Ruben Onishchenko were knocking down baskets. After back-to-back turnovers and a huge block by Pendleton junior Willie Camp, the Bucks took a timeout before the Kingsmen inbounded from the baseline.

Once back on the court, Onishchenko was dished the ball and hit a jumper followed by a Britt 3-pointer — the team's first and only attempt from behind the arc in the first half — and a putback to put Putnam within eight points of the lead at the break.

The first half was riddled with turnovers and missed shots. The teams combined for 26 total turnovers and Pendleton had only made 33 percent of its attempts from both the field and behind the arc. Putnam, which accounted for 15 of the first-half turnovers, was shooting 43 percent from the field and made its lone three-point attempt.

So, the message at the

break was simple. Hold on to the lead for the next two quarters and move on to state.

"You're 16 minutes away from being one game away," Tedder recalled saying to the team, "and that was our ultimate goal was to be one game away from our state tournament. Now, we're there and now we need to check that one last thing off our list."

The Bucks came out to hold the Kingsmen to only five third-quarter points to push their lead to 40-24 heading into the final quarter where Pendleton cemented its win to move into Round 1 of the Class 5A state playoffs. No. 14 Pendleton will travel to Thurston on Saturday to face the No. 3 Thurston Colts (18-6).

RPHS	10	9	5	15	—	39
PHS	17	10	13	20	—	60
REX PUTNAM — 8. Miller 10, S. Halladin 8, D. Britt 7, R. Onishchenko 6, D. Groleau 4, K. Ruffo 2, J. Devoe 2.						
PENDLETON — T. Newsom 25, D. Sams 15, W. Camp 8, D. Jackson 5, K. Nroncheau 3, S. Jerome 2, R. Russell 2.						
3-pointers — RPHS 3, PHS 7. Free throws — RPHS 4-5, PHS 7-9.						

Contact Alexis at amansanarez@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4542. Follow her on Twitter @almansanarez.

EASTERN OREGON

marketplace

Place classified ads online at www.eastoregonmarketplace.com or call 1-800-962-2819 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. After hours, leave a voicemail and we'll confirm your ad the next business day. Email us at classifieds@eastoregonian.com or fax: 541-278-2680

Deadline is 3 p.m. the day before publication

East Oregonian

104 Special Notices

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD ON THE FIRST DAY OF PUBLICATION.

While we are happy to make any necessary corrections, we can not be responsible for errors appearing for multiple days. Thank you!

CLASSIFIED LINE AD DEADLINES

East Oregonian
3pm the day prior to publication

Hermiston Herald
10am Tuesday

1-800-962-2819

classifieds@eastoregonian.com

107 Public Notices

SALE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

GILLIAM COUNTY is accepting sealed bids for the following surplus equipment:

1992 CAT 140G Motor Grader
Serial # 72V15059
Hours 13,377
Minimum bid will be \$50,000

Equipment will be sold as is with no warranty implied, expressed or given. Bids will be based on current condition, including mechanical and safety items. Equipment may be inspected by appointment only at the Gilliam County Road Maintenance Shop. To make an appointment to inspect the equipment, call (541)384-5717 or (541)980-5716. Sealed Bids will be accepted by mail at Gilliam County Court, P.O. Box 427, Condon, OR 97823 or in person at the County Court office, Room 108, 221 S. Oregon St., Gilliam County Courthouse until 5:00 p.m. March 20, 2018. Bids will be opened at the regular meeting of the Gilliam County Court at 10:15 a.m. Wednesday, March 21, 2018. Gilliam County reserves the right to reject any and all bids received.

110 Announcements

184 Personals

Contact Dayle or Grace at classifieds@eastoregonian.com 1-800-962-2819 to place your classified ad!

UPCOMING GARAGE OR ESTATE SALE?

Call 1-800-962-2819 to advertise it in our classified section and get your sale out there!

360 Garage Sales

HUGE SALE - 2 ESTATES

Old Christian Scientist Church
Corner of Main & SW Byers
Pendleton, OR
March 2, 3, 4 ~ 9am-3pm
Sunday 1/2 price on most items
Visa & MasterCard-
Bid Box Friday & Saturday

Armoires, desks, dressers, beds, dining sets, chairs, mirrors, child's ice cream set, sofas, buffet, oak tables & office chairs, toys, 100's of books, fishing, Christmas, Post Office pieces, primitive cabinet, lamps, art work, kitchen & household, small appliances, trunks, stained glass, old skis, crock, baskets, China cabinet, wicker, vintage strollers, yard decor, brass & copper, jewelry, coffee & lamp tables, old tins, China, glassware, old perfumes, records, mason jars, wood barrels, linens, collectibles, cameras, mink coat. VHS movies, games, retro, golf clubs, and lots more!

See Vintage Court Antiques online for pictures.
541-377-0510

CLASSIFIEDS GET RESULTS!

487 Bargain Bin

502 Real Estate

NOW is the TIME to explore all the possibilities for your new home. Call 541 377 6855 today for Reliable Representation.

Turn Here Realty & Travel
541-377-6855

Eastern Oregon Events

See local events at: easternoregonevents.com

DROP by for a coffee and honest professional guidance to find the house on your wishlist. You can choose from available properties all over the county to suit your budget and style.

Turn Here Realty & Travel
305 SW Court
541-377-6855

BUY IT!
SELL IT!
FIND IT!

East Oregonian Classified
1-800-962-2819

502 Real Estate

Attention Sellers, Winter can be a great time to sell as you avoid the Spring Time surplus of competition. Call Matt Vogler for a free Market Analysis.

John J. Howard & Assoc.
(541) 377-9470

\$295,000 Beautiful North Hill View. 3 Bed 2 Full Bath. 2 half Baths. Huge living room. Beautiful Oak Kitchen. Two lots. Two double car garages and much more. MLS# 17054486 Rocky Mikesell

Blue Jeans Realty
"Our office is wherever you are"
541-379-8690

651 Help Wanted

ATTENTION NURSES & CMAs

If you are a critical thinker who likes autonomy and seeks a rewarding career in nursing, please JOIN US for a ONE-DAY recruiting event for RNs and CMAs at EOCI and TRCI!

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2018
8 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

at Blue Mountain Community College
Science & Tech Building
2411 NW Garden Ave, Pendleton, OR 97801

OFFERINGS PROVIDED ALL DAY

- Welcome and sign-in with briefing on one-day process
- Assistance with NEOGOV online application

SCHEDULED EVENTS ON-SITE

- Presentations every hour on the hour
- EOCI facility tours (11a.m. & 2p.m.)
- TRCI facility tours will be scheduled
- Interviews

QUALIFICATIONS

- Must pass criminal history background check
- Must be licensed by the Oregon Board of Nursing upon 1st day of work
- Must hold your Oregon Certified Medication Aide certificate

ATTENTION!

- Bring resume on thumb drive
- Bring references on thumb drive, they will be checked that day
- Bring valid photo ID: driver's license, military ID, or passport
- Bring pertinent information to complete a detailed application (resume, DD214/VA disability rating letter)

BENEFITS

- Paid vacation/sick leave
- BSN receives 4.75% differential
- MSN receives a 9.5% differential
- We pay up to 95% of your health benefits, maybe even more!

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

QUESTIONS? Anne Carlson • anne.s.carlson@doc.state.or.us • 541-922-6004
Current position openings: www.odocjobs.com

502 Real Estate

GET A JUMP START on Spring to find your new home-Multiple listing allows your agent to find the property to suit you. Call Kerry.

TURN HERE REALTY & TRAVEL

305 SW Court Ave
541-377-6855

504 Homes for Sale

\$142,000- 1160 +/- sq.ft. 3 bedroom 1 bath on one level. Newer siding, roof and many other updates. Call 541-379-7802.

Garton & Associates
(541) 276-0931

651 Help Wanted

504 Homes for Sale

\$499,999- Beautiful home with amazing views. 4+/- acres. Priced below assessed values. Call Shane at 541-379-7802

Garton & Associates
(541) 276-0931

Call the "Weekend & After Hours Realtor" to view homes at a convenient time for you. Available on Short Notice, Special Financing Program Information! Call Matt Vogler, 541.377.9470

John J. Howard & Assoc.
(541) 377-9470

Check today's classified ads for excellent buys on the items you need!

651 Help Wanted