

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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## ALL-AREA GIRLS BASKETBALL

# McGlothan's passion runs deep

Pendleton's Kalan McGlothan is the 2018 All-EO Player of the Year

By ERIC SINGER  
East Oregonian

When Kalan McGlothan moved to Pendleton in middle school, she was eager to dive in to the world of athletics.

Up to that point she had limited playing experience in organized sports while attending a small Christian school in the town of Christmas Valley in rural central Oregon, as the school didn't have much for a basketball program. McGlothan was tall for her age, which made her basketball coach's dream. But she was also "awkward and didn't know what I was doing," McGlothan described.

It was then when McGlothan latched on to a middle school basketball team coached by the name of Kevin Porter — now the head varsity girls basketball coach at Pendleton High — and started to discover her passion for the sport.

It was that passion that helped push McGlothan to a successful high school basketball career, becoming a three-time all-Columbia River Conference selection, an all-state honoree, the 2018 Columbia River Conference Player of the Year and now the 2018 *East Oregonian* All-Area Girls Basketball Player of the Year.

"For some reason, there's just that passion that I always want to be playing basketball," McGlothan said in a recent interview with the *East Oregonian*. "I want to chase after those loose balls, out-jump girls that are taller than me, I just love it and I was born with it."

Standing 5-feet and 9-inches tall and playing inside the paint as a post player, McGlothan is rarely, if ever, the tallest forward on the floor. Yet, that never stopped her from perhaps being the hardest working player on the floor at any given night. McGlothan often bullied her way through opponents' box-out attempts to grab rebound after rebound, she would dive on the hardwood floor for steals and loose balls, and fought through contact for well-deserved two-point baskets.

For the season, McGlo-  
See ALL-AREA/3B



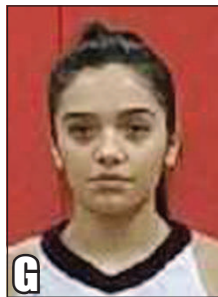
Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pendleton senior Kalan McGlothan has been named the All-EO girls basketball player of the year.

## ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM



Mary Stewart, sr.  
Nixyaawii



Milan Schimmel, sr.  
Nixyaawii



Jada Burns, sr.  
Irrigon



Jazlyn Romero, so.  
Hermiston



Jordan Thomas, jr.  
Hermiston

## Season Superlatives

### Top team: Nixyaawii Golden Eagles

Nixyaawii put together their second straight undefeated regular season and bumped its win streak up to 56 games dating back to March of 2016. However, the streak stopped at 56 as the Golden Eagles were upset by Country Christian in the Class 1A championship game 56-54. But with the fantastic four seniors of Mary Stewart, Milan Schimmel, Kaitlynn Melton and EllaMae Looney, the Golden Eagles still won 28 games on the season, won 16 times by at least 40 points, and scored 2,074 total points — the most in the entire OSAA for a girls basketball team.

### Top newcomer: Sydney Wilson, Heppner, fr.

Wilson was a dynamic player for the Mustangs this season, quickly becoming one of the top scorers, rebounders and defenders on the team and earning a first team all-conference selection. And doing so as a freshman was quite impressive.

Wilson was a key part of the Mustangs squad that upset Weston-McEwen to win the district championship and earned a trip to the state tournament, where she continued to show her potential against some of the top players and teams in the state.

### Top games: (Tie) Riverside-Nyssa; Weston-McEwen-Culver, Feb. 10

Two games with similar endings in both teams' regular season finales. For Riverside, the Pirates had a 15-8 overall record and welcomed the league No. 1 Nyssa to their home gym wanting to end the season on a high note — which they did. Battling all game long, Riverside shocked Nyssa 34-33 when Alondra Caldera banked in a 3-pointer at the buzzer to give the Pirates the victory.

For Weston-McEwen, the game with Culver on Feb. 10 was a tiebreaker to decide the regular season league champion and which team would receive the No. 1 seed at the district tournament. Tied 47-47 with only seconds left on the scoreboard, the TigerScots put up a shot as the clock ticked away and missed, but Jordyn Lambert got the rebound and putback at the buzzer. It gave the TigerScots the 49-47 win and the CBC championship.

### Coach of the Year: Robert Wilson, Heppner

Wilson's first year as Heppner coach, the Mustangs were 2-19 overall and 0-10 in the conference. This season the Mustangs were a 16-win team that won the district championship and secured its first playoff berth since the 2012-13 season, won a first-round playoff game and earned a trip to the state tournament. Job well done.

## HERMISTON

# In Bulldog versus Bulldog, Hermiston comes out on top

Almaguer throws her first career shutout as Hermiston tops Pasco

By ALEXIS MANSANAREZ  
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — This time last season, the Hermiston softball team had more losses than wins and would go on to win only two of its next five games after the opening week.

This season, the Bulldogs handily move to 3-0 after a 16-run shutout victory over Pasco (WA) on Friday.

"It's exciting," head coach Kate Greenough said. "They are working so hard and I think now everybody gets a chance to see that. They are doing all of the little things right right now so regardless of whether that game is close or not, they did what they needed to do when they needed to do it and that's exciting. It's showing growth and showing maturity."

Hermiston was just coming off a game that was

See HERMISTON/3B

## Prep Roundup

# Dawgs rebound to thump Pacers 13-3

Schwirse pitches five strong innings

East Oregonian

HERMISTON — In Wednesday's game, the Hermiston baseball team fell behind early and needed a comeback to win but instead fell just short.

"One thing I stressed was to not dig ourselves into a hole like we have the last couple of games," head coach Kevin Moore said.

On Friday afternoon's non-league game against Lakeridge, the Bulldogs made sure they wouldn't need to orchestrate a comeback to earn a victory, scoring 13 runs in the first two innings for an easy 13-3 victory.

Along with the runs, the Bulldogs (2-1) had the benefit of a terrific outing from starting pitcher Caden Schwirse. The senior right-hander gave up just six hits and three runs in five innings with two strikeout and one walk.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Hermiston's Wyatt Noland slides safely into home after colliding with both Lakeridge pitch Spencer Santana (3) and catcher Trent Allen in the Bulldogs' 13-3 win against the Pacers on Friday in Hermiston.

"Caden pitched to contact and positive things happened," Moore said.

Wyatt Noland led the Bulldogs' offense by going

2-for-4 with one run and one RBI. Joey Gutierrez also had a strong game going 1-for-3 with one run and two RBI, while Joel Mendez scored three runs.

	L	H	R	H	E	
LHS	100	11	—	3	6	8
HHS	850	0X	—	13	6	1

(L) S. Santana, C. Clayton (2), (H) C. Schwirse, W — Schwirse, L — Santana.  
See PREP ROUNDUP/4B