

ALL-EO: Richards leaves as Pendleton’s all-time wins leader as a pitcher with 59

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ple of practices it felt like, but we knew it was getting us better and that it would help in softball, which I think it did.”

The end result was a smashing success for Richards and the Buckaroos. Richards was Pendleton’s workhorse in the circle again, pitching all but 8 1/3 innings of the Buckaroos’ season, 171 1/3 frames to be exact, and set a new school record for wins in a season (26) and strikeouts in a season (232) and finished with a very good 1.42 earned-run average. She also helped herself out with her bat, hitting for a .461 average (47-for-102) with 14 doubles and 37 RBI as Pendleton’s No. 2 hitter in the lineup.

With Richards’ production, a supremely talented offense and rock-solid defense, the Buckaroos went 28-2 overall and got back to the 5A state championship game where Richards dominated with 12 strikeouts in a complete-game shutout of Rex Putnam to finally earn the elusive state

championship.

And that production and leadership has earned Richards the 2018 All-EO Softball Player of the Year for the second consecutive season.

“Everyone always tells me, ‘What a great way to end the year,’ and I just think for us seniors its what a great way to end all four years,” Richards said. “Obviously we’re working towards it every year, but just to wrap it up with a state championship our last year, you couldn’t ask for anything better.”

Pendleton head coach Tim Cary said that while he doesn’t like to compare his past and present players, Richards certainly stands out as one of the best he’s coached in his 14-year tenure.

“Just the competitive nature with Lauren is very, very tough to match,” he said. “She refuses to lose is basically what it comes down to ... it’s been a great experience for me as a coach to see what can happen with a person that works so hard. It’s that extra time that really

2018 ALL-EO SOFTBALL HONORS

SECOND TEAM

Pitcher: Skylar Wightman, Riverside, sr.; McKenna Stallings, Mac-Hi, soph.; Dakota Durfey, Heppner/lone, jr.

Catcher: Rhyanne Oates, Pilot Rock, sr.; Maggie Flynn, Heppner/lone, sr.

Infield: Jordyn Lambert, Weston-McEwen, jr.; Rylee Gentner, Pendleton, sr.; Ashley Cameron, Hermiston, soph.; Michelle Weems, Echo/Stanford, jr.; Rachael Lyon, Mac-Hi, sr.

Outfield: Brielle Howland, Pilot Rock, soph.; Faith Kelly, Mac-Hi, jr.; Carissa Cooley, Pendleton, soph.

Utility: Alex Putman, Echo/Stanford, soph.

HONORABLE MENTION

Pitcher: Julissa Almaguer, Hermiston, sr.; Kendra Hart, Echo/Stanford, soph.; Mya Chapman, Irrigon, sr.

Catcher: Sevin Birdwell, Mac-Hi, jr.; Amie Coffman, Weston-McEwen, sr.; Sydney Wilson, Heppner/lone, fr.

Infield: Graci Bullock, Mac-Hi, jr.; Ashlyn Marly, Mac-Hi, jr.; Courtney Cain, Mac-Hi, jr.; Morgan Correa, Heppner/lone, sr.; Monique Montoya, Echo/Stanford, sr.; Bailey Botefuhr, Irrigon, jr.; Jada Burns, Irrigon, sr.

Outfield: Marissa Sutherland, Pilot Rock, sr.; Megan Hegar, Riverside; Lauryn Journot, Umatilla, sr.; Marti Huff, Echo/Stanford, sr.

Utility: Sami Spriet, Pendleton, soph.; Lily Rockwell, Riverside.

pays off and we’ll use her story as a great example for the younger players.”

Though her eligibility at Pendleton has been exhausted, Richards will

Season Superlatives

Top Team: Pendleton Buckaroos (28-2)

A lot was expected of the Pendleton Buckaroos this season, and boy, did they follow through.

After a 9-0 loss at the hands of Hillsboro in the second game of the season, Pendleton responded with a 22-game win streak that

lasted from March 20 to May 8.

The regular season earned the Buckaroos the No. 1 seed in the state tournament, where they ran the table and shut out Putnam to capture the state championship for the third time in school history.

Top Newcomer: P Ayana Aguilar, Pilot Rock, soph.

Ayana Aguilar had big shoes to fill the season in the

pitching circle after all-state pitcher Tehya Ostrom graduated in 2017, but the sophomore did an admirable job.

Aguilar spent 86 innings in the circle for a 14-3 record in the regular season, later helping Pilot Rock reach the 2A/1A championship game for the fourth straight season. After it was all said and done, she had a 2.90 ERA and struck out a whopping 108 batters while also hitting .320 with 17 RBI.

Top Game:

Pendleton at Hermiston, May 11

Pendleton came to Rocky Heights Elementary in Hermiston on May 11 riding a 22-game win streak and one win away from a perfect 12-0 record in the Columbia River Conference. On the other side, Hermiston entered the field looking to snap a 24-game losing streak to the Buckaroos that dated back to 2012.

Pendleton led 3-0 after three innings and 4-3 after

five innings, but in the seventh the Bulldogs dug deep and put together a memorable comeback. With two outs and runners on second and third, Hermiston’s Bailee Noland singled up the middle to score both runs, giving Hermiston a 5-4 win to snap both of Pendleton’s win streaks.

Coach of the Year: Darin Fitzpatrick, Pilot Rock

Pilot Rock came into

2018 off of three consecutive state championship game appearances, but the expectations were lowered as six new starters had to replace the likes of Ostrom, Bekah Roe and Stacy Fitzpatrick to name a few.

However, Fitzpatrick and his coaching staff pulled all the right strings with this group of Rockets as they barnstormed through their season to earn a fourth straight state championship game appearance and a state runner-up medal.

OSU: Broke game open in second inning when 11 Beavers batted, five runs scored

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ing Florida State in a win-or-go-home game, and this will be the sixth time in 11 games they’ll be playing to fight off elimination.

Oregon State won the

first of two straight national titles in 2006 after losing its first game in Omaha. The only other team since then to make it to the finals after a loss in its opener was the 2010 South Carolina championship team.

The Beavers’ offensive tear continued against a Mississippi State that came into the game having allowed just two runs in 18 innings.

Oregon State is batting .377 and averaging 10.8 runs in Omaha after collect-

ing 15 hits and scoring in double digits for the third time in four games.

The Beavers sent 11 batters to the plate while breaking it open in the second inning. Mississippi State starter Jacob Billingsley

(5-4) left after he walked the bases loaded. Keegan James walked the first batter he faced to force in a run. Adley Rutschman, batting .500 (7 for 14) with a CWS-leading nine RBIs in Omaha, followed with a two-run sin-

gle as the Beavers built a 6-1 lead. Oregon State put the game out of reach when it batted around in a four-run seventh go up 11-2.

Nick Madrigal and Trevor Larnach had three hits apiece for the Beavers.

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Sale location: BMCC, 2411 NW Carden Ave. Pendleton, Oregon.

Cash and credit/debit cards (minimum \$20 purchase) only. Loading and transport of the items are the responsibility of the buyer. Items must be removed the day of sale. All sale equipment is “as-is” and without warranty. BMCC reserves the right to reject any and all offers.

Contact Dwayne Williams, 541-278-5904, dwilliams@bluecc.edu or Brenda Daggett, 541-278-5903, bdaggett@bluecc.edu. Details: go to www.bluecc.edu

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354 Auction Sales

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