

# Track: All-EO Track and Field

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Her season best was 114-3, and she missed out on a trip to state by one place. She finished third at the District 8 meet.

Romero also throws the shot put, but she said she'll leave that for teammates Paige Palzinski and Kendall Dowdy.

"We have strong shot put throwers, but coach will have me throw it in the smaller meets to get points for the team," Romero said. "Javelin and discus are my main focus if I want to throw at the college level."

Yes, there is an if. Romero's first love has always been basketball, but her success in track may be pushing the needle to the other side.

"I have always grown up with basketball, and that is super important to me," Romero said. "But I have grown to love track. I will have to decide. If I choose basketball or track, I will be happy either way."

It also will decide what level of school Romero would like to attend. For track, she could go Div. I, but with basketball, it might be Div. II, NAIA or junior college.

"I have gotten a lot of letters and questionnaires for track," she said. "LSU, Princeton, WSU, Texas A&M and others."

Strot, who threw shot put, discus and javelin in college at Kentucky and UC Berkeley, will be able to guide Romero through the process.

"This has been a great year for her, not only in track," Strot said. "If she continues with the high level of work ethic, she will do great

things. She has bought in and trusts in what I and the other coaches ask. We are working on putting together an athlete profile and video, and getting it out to schools and see what happens."

But for now, her focus is on basketball. Romero plays for the Oregon Elite out of Lake Oswego, and the next two months are packed with practices and tournaments.

"Basketball consumes my summer," she said.

## Catch me if you can

Hands down, Heppner had the top distance crew in the Columbia Basin this spring, and Nichols was the leader of the pack.

He ran everything from the 400 to the 3,000 during the season, and with great success.

There were only two meets where he did not win the 3,000 — the Sandy Invitational and the Centennial Invitational. He won the state title by nearly 3 seconds, clocking an 8:59.29.

In the 800, he edged Wyatt Smith of Oakland by a couple of steps for the state title. He turned in a time of 2:01.09, which was off his school record time of 1:57.50.

"I was pretty confident going into the 800 after running a 1:57," Nichols said. "It was my last meet, I gave it everything I had. The 3,000 is more tactical and there is more time for stuff to happen. You can put a lot more tactical race together, whereas in the 800, it's who can get it out the longest — who has the heart and who can take the pain."

That's all fine and good, but it the 4x400 relay that Nichols seems to enjoy most.

"They save the best for

last," he said. "It's a crazy race. I like the pressure of the anchor leg. I can hold off most people. It's my senior year, my last race, I wanted them to give it (the baton) to me."

The Mustangs obliterated the school record in the mile relay at state, clocking a 3:30.94. The previous record was 3:34.10.

When Nichols broke the school record in the 800 on April 12, it was the longest-standing record at the school. Tim Driscoll's time, set in 1965, was 1:59.30.

Nichols could have made a clean sweep of the distance events, but he chose not to run the 1,500, leaving that event to teammate Trevor Antonucci, who placed third at state.

"That was one thing I never had to worry about," Russ Nichols said. "They all put team first."

Nichols is headed to Eastern Oregon University, where he will run cross country and track.

He's not sure what events he will run during the track season.

"I have no idea," he said. "I can run a decent 5K, but I can also run a decent 800. It will be a new experience for me, but I'm ready."

Nichols said he will miss running for his dad, but he will not miss running up Water Street by the school every day.

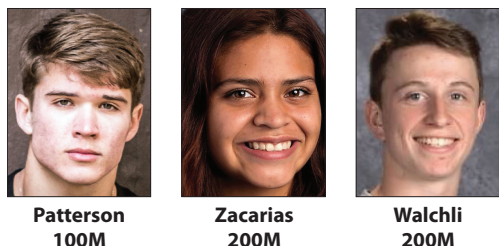
"You have to run up that hill whether you want to or not," he said.

Russ Nichols said he too will miss their time together, but that his other son Trevor will be a freshman this fall.

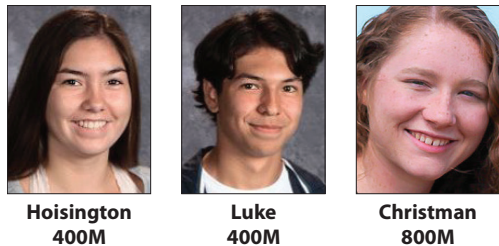
"Trevor is faster than Hunter was when he was in middle school," Russ Nichols said.



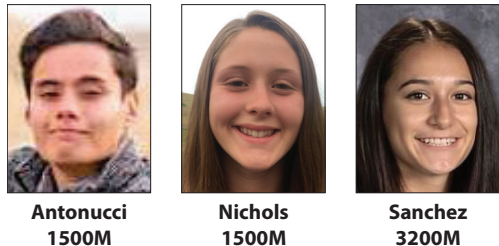
**Romero**  
Javelin/Discus  
**Nichols**  
800M/3000M  
**Young**  
100M/LJ



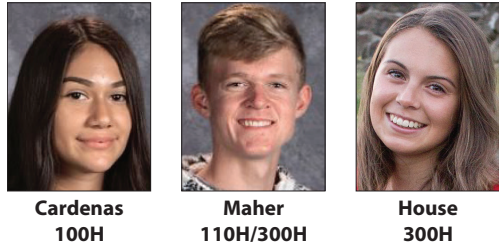
**Patterson**  
100M  
**Zacarias**  
200M  
**Walchli**  
200M



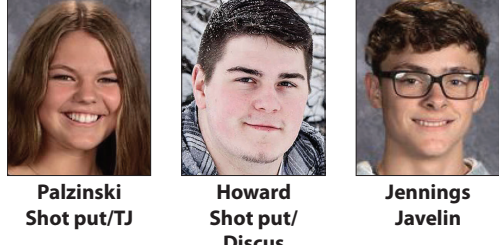
**Hoisington**  
400M  
**Luke**  
400M  
**Christman**  
800M



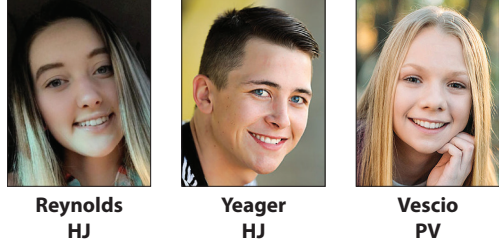
**Antonucci**  
1500M  
**Nichols**  
1500M  
**Sanchez**  
3200M



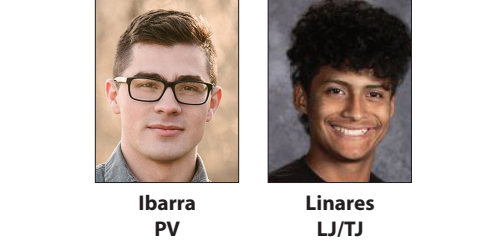
**Cardenas**  
100H  
**Maher**  
110H/300H  
**House**  
300H



**Palzinski**  
Shot put/TJ  
**Howard**  
Shot put/  
Discus  
**Jennings**  
Javelin



**Reynolds**  
HJ  
**Yeager**  
HJ  
**Vesco**  
PV



**Ibarra**  
PV  
**Linares**  
LJ/TJ

## EAST OREGONIAN TRACK AND FIELD TEAM

**Girls MVP:** Jazlyn Romero, jr., Hermiston  
**Boys MVP:** Hunter Nichols, sr., Heppner

### Girls first team

**100M** — Kaylee Young, so., Hermiston.  
**200M** — Ana Zacarias, sr., Irrigon. **400M** — Muriel Hoisington, fr., Pendleton.  
**800M** — Hannah Christman, sr., Griswold.  
**1500/1600M** — Madelyn Nichols, so., Heppner. **3000/3200** — Cydney Sanchez, fr., Hermiston. **100H** — Abigail Cardenas, so., Umatilla. **300H** — Elisabeth House, sr., Pendleton. **Shot put** — Paige Palzinski, so., Hermiston. **Discus** — Jazlyn Romero, jr., Hermiston. **Javelin** — Jazlyn Romero, jr., Hermiston. **HJ** — Rebecca Reynolds, jr., Stanfield/Echo. **PV** — Katie Vesco, sr., Weston-McEwen. **LJ** — Kaylee Young, so., Hermiston. **TJ** — Paige Palzinski, so., Hermiston.

### Girls second team

**100M** — Patty Burres, jr., Umatilla. **200M** — Kaylee Young, so., Hermiston. **400M** — Ellie Scheibner, jr., Weston-McEwen.  
**800M** — Madelyn Nichols, so., Heppner. **1500/1600M** — Kaylee Cope, jr., Griswold. **3000/3200** — Kaylee Cope, jr., Griswold. **100H** — Kendall Bonzani, so., Pendleton. **300H** — Bryce Thul, sr., Weston-McEwen. **Shot put** — Kendall Dowdy, so., Hermiston. **Discus** — Eseta Sepeni, fr., Hermiston. **Javelin** — Lexie Cox, sr., Stanfield/Echo. **HJ** — Sarah Knop, jr., Ione. **PV** — Regina Thede, jr., Pendleton. **LJ** — Ellie Scheibner, jr., Weston-McEwen. **TJ** — Tymsha Douglas, jr., Umatilla.

### Boys first team

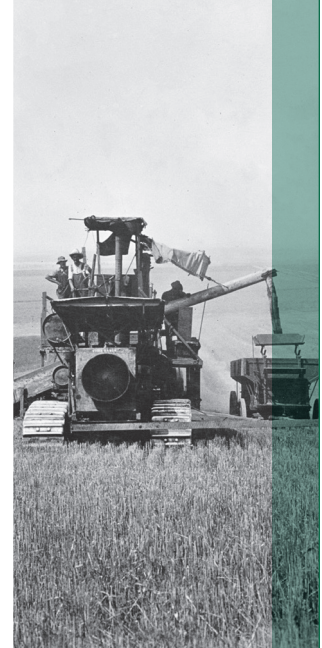
**100M** — Aiden Patterson, sr., Pendleton. **200M** — Garrett Walchli, jr., Hermiston. **400M** — Aaron Luke, jr., Pendleton. **800M** — Hunter Nichols, sr., Heppner. **1500/1600M** — Trevor Antonucci, sr., Heppner. **3000/3200** — Hunter Nichols, sr., Heppner. **110H** — Lane Maher, jr., Pendleton. **300H** — Lane Maher, jr., Pendleton. **Shot put** — Derek Howard, sr., Heppner. **Discus** — Derek Howard, sr., Heppner. **Javelin** — Sam Jennings, fr., Pendleton. **HJ** — Shawn Yeager, sr., Pendleton. **PV** — Anthony Ibarra, sr., Umatilla. **LJ** — Edwin Linares, jr., Pendleton. **TJ** — Edwin Linares, jr., Pendleton.

### Boys second team

**100M** — Garrett Walchli, jr., Hermiston. **200M** — Cam Sandford, sr., Pendleton. **400M** — Freddy Mendoza, sr., Hermiston. **800M** — Freddy Mendoza, sr., Hermiston. **1500/1600M** — Sisay Hurty, so, Stanfield/Echo. **3000/3200** — Zayne Troeger, sr., Umatilla. **110H** — Mathias Patrick, jr., Pendleton. **300H** — Samer Harp, sr., Pilot Rock. **Shot put** — Sab Carlson, sr., Griswold. **Discus** — Sam Carlsson, sr., Griswold. **Javelin** — Christian Haskell, sr., Pilot Rock. **HJ** — Julian Gutierrez, sr., Umatilla. **PV** — Seth Buck, sr., Hermiston. **LJ** — Anthony Ibarra, sr., Umatilla. **TJ** — Donovan Wilson, so., Hermiston.

We're all part of Umatilla County history.

# SHARE YOUR PHOTOS



The East Oregonian is proud to announce its partnership with Athena Public Library, City of Echo, Milton-Freewater Area Historical Society, Pendleton Round-up, Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute, Umatilla County Historical Society and our readers on a new pictorial history book, "Umatilla County Memories: The Early Years."

## YOU'RE INVITED

We are excited to invite you, our readers, to participate in this unique project. Please bring your photos to one of our scanning sessions listed here — and be sure to check our submission guidelines. Photos will be scanned on-site and given right back to you. In order to keep things speedy, please fill out our simple photo submission form prior to the session. Forms can be downloaded at [Umatilla.PictorialBook.com](http://Umatilla.PictorialBook.com). Please plan to fill out one form for each photo you'd like to submit.

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[Umatilla.PictorialBook.com](http://Umatilla.PictorialBook.com)



## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- General interest photos, such as: commerce, industry, transportation, rural life, public service, etc.
- Photos taken between the 1800s and 1939.
- Photos only — preferably original (no newspaper clippings or photocopies).
- Photos taken in Umatilla County.
- Limit 10 photos per family. No appointment necessary.
- If you're a private collector, call 360-723-5800 to set up an appointment.



## SCANNING SESSIONS

**Saturday, June 22** 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Tribal images only  
Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute  
47106 Wildhorse Boulevard, Pendleton

**Sunday, June 23** 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Echo Bank Building and Historical Museum  
230 W. Main Street, Echo

**Monday, June 24** 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Athena Public Library  
418 E. Main Street, Athena

**Wednesday, June 26** 10 a.m. - noon

Umatilla County Historical Society  
Heritage Station Museum  
108 SW Frazer, Pendleton

**Thursday, June 27** 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Milton-Freewater Area Historical Society and Frazier Farmstead Museum  
1403 Chestnut Street, Milton-Freewater