

# Americans:

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They followed that up Saturday, Oct. 2, with a 5-3 road win over Spokane, ruining the Chiefs' home opener.

With the two wins, the Americans are just one win away from 1,100 wins in franchise history.

The Americans also have a new coach, Stu Barnes — one of the original Americans stars who went on to a long NHL playing career — will take over for Kelly Buchberger as head coach. Barnes, of course, also is a part owner of the team.

Former Tri-City team captain, Beau McCue, is the assistant coach.

Barnes has some talent on this squad, starting with the goaltending.

Talyn Boyko was drafted recently by the New York Rangers, and spent time in camp with them.

The Ams also have goalie Tomas Suchanek on the roster. He played for the Czech World Juniors 18's.

Among the forwards is Samuel Huo, Connor Bouchard and Parker Bell.

Top defensemen include Mitchell Brown and Marc Lajoie.



Alex Wittwer/EO Media Group

Eastern Oregon University's Sade Williams battles against Evergreen University defender Sierra Wolff during a volleyball match Friday, Oct. 1, 2021, at Eastern Oregon University, La Grande. The Mountaineers improved to 15-4 overall.

# Campus:

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Since then, Eggers has totaled 124 yards in the following four games and has not found the end zone.

Quarterback Kai Quinn in last week's loss to the College of Idaho completed 14 passes out of 37 attempts for 180 yards and one interception. Against Southern Oregon he looked much more poised in the pocket, but the Eastern offense still was inefficient. Quinn passed for 233 yards and threw for two interceptions as Eastern struggled to run the ball.

Eastern's defense is allowing a tie more than 21 points per game, but the team is only scoring roughly 16 points per contest. The defensive unit has kept the team within reach of victory over the last three games, but the offense has been unable to capitalize on turnovers and big stops.

Head coach Tim Camp emphasized that Eastern needs to get back in rhythm ahead of the matchup with Southern Oregon. After another inefficient output, next week's matchup with Rocky Mountain College will be a telling performance for the offense.

## Stand out performances from Williams, Shaffer extend winning streak

LA GRANDE — The Eastern Oregon University volleyball team kept its winning streak alive, behind strong performances from Sade Williams and Breanna Shaffer in a weekend sweep.

The Mountaineers defeated Evergreen State in a five-set thriller on Oct. 1, followed by a win over Northwest in four sets. Eastern won the match against Evergreen State 21-25, 25-9, 25-16, 20-25 and 15-6. The team came back on the following day to beat Northwest 25-17, 19-25, 25-17 and 25-13.

Eastern has won its last nine matches to improve to 15-4 on the year and 10-1 in conference play.

Sade Williams was crucial in the win over Evergreen State, scoring several key points in the fifth set tiebreaker. Down 2-0 in the final frame, Williams recorded an emphatic kill that got the crowd fired up, followed by an ace on the ensuing serve. This sparked a big run by the Mountaineers, followed by Williams recording three kills in Eastern's final five points. Off an assist from Hannah Ledgerwood, Williams earned a kill for the Mountaineers to take the final set 15-6 and win the match. She finished the match with 13 kills, three aces and one block.

In the second match of the weekend, Shaffer was all over the court for the Mountaineers as the team cruised by Northwest. Shaffer led the way with 15 kills, totaling 30 on the weekend, alongside three aces and nine digs.

Williams and Shaffer are two key components alongside a strong starting group for the Mountaineers. Eastern has dominated in conference play and continues to climb up the NAIA national rankings, with the team currently slated at No. 13.

## Men's soccer gains momentum behind production from Murillo

CALDWELL, Idaho — After an 0-4 start to the season, the Eastern Oregon University men's soccer team is finding its stride midway through the year. The Mountaineers have won three out of their last four contests, behind several strong showings by Carlos Murillo.

Murillo, a sophomore midfielder, has scored two goals in the last three contests as the Mountaineers have started to turn things around this season. He set the tone during a 3-1 win at the College of Idaho on Oct. 3, scoring a 17th-minute goal to put Eastern on the board first. Murillo received a through ball and converted on a one-on-one against the Yotes' goalkeeper.

Murillo has emerged as Eastern's top source of offense, leading the team in most categories. He has tallied 15 shots, five shots on goal, four points and two goals on the year.

The recent success has been much needed for the Mountaineers, when it looked like the team might be in for a rough season. Eastern has improved to 3-5-0 on the year and 3-2-0 in conference play.

With Murrillo leading the way offensively, the Mountaineers will look to keep the momentum going as conference play continues. Eastern has two upcoming road games next weekend, before four straight home games in front of the team's fans at Community Stadium.

# Mackey:

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Playing behind Lambert and Liscom, Mackey has learned what it takes to play at a higher level, and his efforts have shown that.

"It's an unbelievable positive," Davis said. "He was a question mark at the early part of the year. Right now, he could start on 75 percent of the 5A teams in the state. He's behind a couple of pretty talented tailbacks.

They also play on defense and to be able to give them rest is an absolute plus."

Mackey is happy to get whatever playing time is given.

"I'm playing a lot more than I thought I would," he said. "As good of athletes as they are, I knew I wouldn't get much time. I'm not the biggest fan of defense, but it's good to start slowly into that because I will be doing that next year."

Mackey is part of a talented junior class that includes Lambert, Jackson Davis, Jack Lieuallen, Easton Corey,

Dylan Abrahamson, Luke Bensching and Clayton Cooley, to name a few.

"He adds to the next class that has talent and we are watching how it develops," Davis said. "We knew we had Payton and Jackson, and Brock adds depth at tailback and corner. I'm not looking past this year, but the future looks bright with this group."

Mackey is soaking up as much as he can from his time on the field, and working with Lambert and Liscom.

"Next year, we will be losing a few good linemen, but a few kids will step up and do good things on

the line," Mackey said. "A lot of the skilled players will be getting more playing time. A lot of people don't get much playing time against some of these better teams because of the talent we have. Next season will be fun."

Until then, Davis would like to see Mackey add a little weight to his frame.

"He still has a lot of growth potential," Davis said. "He could carry about another 20 pounds. He's one of the guys I need to continue to grow in the weight room."

# ON THE SLATE

Tuesday, Oct. 5

- Prep volleyball**  
Pendleton at La Grande, 6:30 p.m.  
Hanford at Hermiston, 7 p.m.  
Nixyaawii at Pilot Rock, 6 p.m.  
McLoughlin at Umatilla, 5:30 p.m.  
Irrigon at Riverside, 5 p.m.  
Ione/Arlington at Echo, 5 p.m.
- Prep girls soccer**  
Hermiston at Hanford, 7 p.m.  
Pendleton at Hood River Valley, 4:30 p.m.  
Baker at McLoughlin, 5 p.m.  
Stanfield/Echo at Irrigon, 4 p.m.  
Umatilla at Riverside, 4 p.m.
- Prep boys soccer**  
Hood River Valley at Pendleton, 4:30 p.m.  
Ukiah/Long Creek at Irrigon, 6 p.m.  
Umatilla at Riverside, 6 p.m.
- Prep slowpitch softball**  
Moses Lake at Hermiston (2), 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 6

- Prep volleyball**  
Nixyaawii at Griswold, 5 p.m.
- Prep boys soccer**  
McLoughlin at Baker, 5 p.m.
- College volleyball**  
Wenatchee Valley at Blue Mountain, 6 p.m.
- College men's soccer**  
North Idaho at Blue Mountain, 4:15 p.m.
- College women's soccer**  
North Idaho at Blue Mountain, 2 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 7
- Prep football**  
Pendleton at McDaniel, 7 p.m.  
Riverside at Heppner, 7 p.m.  
Dufur at Pilot Rock, 7 p.m.
- Prep volleyball**  
Heppner at Grant Union, 5 p.m.  
Redmond at Pendleton, 6:30 p.m.  
Weston-McEwen at Pilot Rock, 6 p.m.  
Stanfield at Union, 5 p.m.  
Nixyaawii at Riverside, 6 p.m.  
Umatilla at Irrigon, 5 p.m.  
Cove at Griswold, 5 p.m.  
Bickleton at Ione/Arlington, 5 p.m.
- Prep girls soccer**  
Kennewick at Hermiston, 7 p.m.  
Ridgeview at Pendleton, 4:30 p.m.  
Riverside at Stanfield/Echo, 4 p.m.  
Irrigon at Umatilla, 3 p.m.
- Prep boys soccer**  
Pendleton at Ridgeview, 4:30 p.m.  
Irrigon at Umatilla, 5 p.m.  
Prep slowpitch softball  
Hermiston at Walla Walla (2), 4 p.m.
- Prep cross-country**  
Pendleton, Griswold, Nixyaawii, Pilot Rock, Riverside, Stanfield/Echo, Umatilla at Mustang Invite, Heppner, 4 p.m.

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