

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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A10

Powder Valley comes up short in 1A title game

Top-ranked Adrian escapes with 46-38 win

By DAVIS CARBAUGH
The Observer

BAKER CITY — In a game of inches, Powder Valley came up just shy of a state championship.

The Badgers exchanged blows with top-seeded Adrian in the Oregon School Activities Association 1A State Championship, but the Antelopes ultimately came out on top. Despite leading through the first three quarters, Powder Valley fell 46-38 on Saturday, Nov. 27, at Baker Bulldog Memorial Stadium.

“The boys played outstanding,” Powder Valley coach Josh Cobb said. “We just ran out of time.”

Coming into the title matchup, top-seeded Adrian had not trailed

to an opponent all season, and had outscored its opponents 618-54. The Antelopes beat Powder Valley 38-0 on Oct. 1, but the championship game proved to be a much more competitive matchup.

The action between the two teams was neck-and-neck for four quarters, with both fanbases packing the stands in Baker City.

The Antelopes started things at their normal pace, taking an early lead. Adrian quarterback Conley Martin, this year’s 1A Special District 2 East Player of the Year, ran in a 61-yard rushing touchdown on the very first play of the game to take a quick 6-0 lead. Conley Martin finished with 219 passing yards, 57 rushing yards and four total touchdowns.

Powder Valley did not back down, as junior Cole Martin ran the ensuing kickoff back for a 94-yard

touchdown. The Badgers converted a 2-point conversion to take an 8-6 lead, the first deficit of the season for Adrian. Powder Valley would hold the lead until midway through the fourth quarter.

Within just two minutes, both teams had found the end zone in what looked to be a fast-paced game. While the teams heated up in the second half, the first half was more of a defensive, ground-and-pound matchup.

Late in the first quarter, the Powder Valley defense came up with a huge stop on fourth-and-goal at the team’s own 8-yard line. Just when it looked like the Antelopes were going to retake the lead, the Badgers gained momentum and started to march down the field as the first quarter ended at 8-6.

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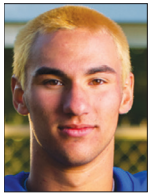


Alex Wittwer/EO Media Group

Case Olson (25) pushes his way through the center against Adrian at Baker High School on Saturday, Nov. 27, 2021, during the Oregon School Activities Association 1A State Championship. The Powder Valley Badgers lost to the Adrian Antelopes 46-38 in a heartbreaking finale that saw Adrian make a successful comeback in the fourth quarter.



Nation



Coe



Hisler



Mahoney



Brosnan



Cimmiyotti



White



Goodrich



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian, File

Hepner’s Brock Hisler pushes past Weston-McEwen’s Taylor McGill during the first quarter Nov. 13, 2021, in the quarterfinal round of the Oregon School Activities Association Class 2A state football tournament at Les Payne Field in Hepner. Hisler is one of 12 Hepner players selected to the Blue Mountain Conference’s all-conference team and one of six who is a first-team selection.

HEPPNER DOMINATES BMC ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

Mustangs have 12 players honored

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

HEPPNER — Blue Mountain Conference regular-season champion Hepner had six players selected to the all-conference first team — four of which earned first-team honors on both sides of the ball.

The Mustangs dominated the all-conference team with 12 players chosen by the conference coaches.

Led by linebacker/running back Brock Hisler, the Mustangs finished the season with an 11-1

record, losing in the 2A state semifinals to eventual state champion Coquille.

Hisler, a 6-foot, 185-pound senior, was a first-team selection on both sides of the ball, as was senior Jace Coe (defensive back/receiver), senior Kason Cimmiyotti (defensive back/receiver) and senior Conor Brosnan (linebacker/offensive line).

Senior Blane Mahoney was a first-team defensive lineman, while senior center Toby Nation was a first-team offensive lineman.

Through 12 games, Hisler ran for 1,153 yards on 158 carries, and scored 12 touchdowns. On defense, he had a team-high 97 tackles and three fumble recoveries.

Coe had 39 tackles on the season, while as a receiver, he had a team-high 26 catches for 447 yards and six touchdowns.

Cimmiyotti had 46 tackles and four interceptions to his credit, while on offense he caught 10 passes for 197 yards and three touchdowns.

Brosnan was second on the team with 82 tackles. He also had three sacks and a fumble recovery.

Mahoney had a team-high six quarterback sacks and 58 tackles.

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Braithwaite



Peal



Phillips



Reich



Arellano



Elizares



Burnette



Irvine

SPORTS SHORT

EOU volleyball team headed to NAIA Championships

East Oregonian

LA GRANDE — The Eastern Oregon University volleyball team is headed to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics National Championship final site for the eighth year in a row.

The Mountaineers punched their ticket to Sioux City, Iowa, with a 3-0 sweep (25-15, 25-13, 25-20) over the visiting Columbia International University Rams on Nov. 20.

With the win, Eastern Oregon is

now 26-7 on the year and finished the 2021 season with an impressive 10-2 record at Quinn Coliseum. The win also improves the Mountaineers all-time record in the NAIA opening round to 3-0.

EOU will begin NAIA Tournament pool play Tuesday, Nov. 30, against Northwestern (Iowa). The Mountaineers will continue pool play Wednesday against College of Saint Mary (Nebraska).

The NAIA Tournament features 24 teams broken down into eight pools. The top team from each pool

will advance to the main bracket.

Against Columbia International University, Sade Williams led EOU with 10 kills and eight digs, while Breanna Shaffer had nine kills, Jet Taylor eight kills and three blocks, and Cambree Scott and Preslee Jensen each had seven kills and four blocks.

Hannah Ledgerwood handed out 21 assists, and Hailey Arritola had 16 digs and two service aces.

Cintia Lorena led the Rams with 14 kills, while Ingrid Ferrari had five blocks.



Alex Wittwer/EO Media Group

Eastern Oregon University volleyball players celebrate in a huddle Saturday, Nov. 20, 2021, after their victory against Columbia International at Quinn Coliseum. The Mountaineers’ win set them up for their eighth consecutive trip to compete in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics National Championship tournament.