



Alex Wittwer/EO Media Group

**Power Valley's Casey Vaughan hypes up the team at halftime Saturday, Nov. 27, 2021, during the Oregon School Activities Association 1A State Championship inside the Baker High School locker room.**

## Powder Valley:

*Continued from Page A1*

Early in the second quarter, senior Case Olson broke loose for a 65-yard rushing touchdown that put the Badgers up 16-6 and ignited the Powder Valley sideline.

When Powder Valley gained momentum at this point in the game, Adrian stayed calm and kept to its game plan — this was the case throughout the entirety of the contest. Conley Martin concluded a productive drive with a two-yard touchdown run to cut the lead to 16-14. Despite driving deep into Adrian territory, Powder Valley ran out of time before the half and went into the locker rooms leading by two points.

In the second half, the teams settled in as touchdowns came much easier for the offensive weapons on both Adrian and Powder Valley. Senior Casey Vaughan opened the scoring in the second half with an eight-yard receiving touchdown to put the Badgers up 24-14. Once again, Adrian responded quickly and scored on a 23-yard touchdown pass from Conley Martin to Gavin Bayes to cut the lead back to 24-22 just four minutes into the third quarter.

Powder Valley quarterback Reece Dixon was efficient throughout the game, coming up with huge plays in the second half. He scored on a 23-yard run with 5:30 remaining in the third quarter to give the Badgers a 32-22 lead. Dixon finished the game with 107 yards rushing, 129 yards passing and three total touchdowns. Kaden Krieger, Dixons' top target, made several big plays throughout the contest and hauled in 72 receiving yards.

As the final seconds ticked off the clock in the third quarter, Adrian running back Jace Martin scored on a 13-yard rushing touchdown to cut Powder Valley's lead to 32-30. At the conclusion of two dominant seasons, both teams' championship hopes came down to the final 12 minutes.

Early in the fourth quarter, Powder was able to drive deep into Adrian territory but suffered a major blow — Dixon left the field due to injury. Just several plays later on fourth-and-goal from the Adrian nine-yard line, Dixon returned to the field and ran in a nine-yard touchdown. Dixon would play sparingly for the rest of the game.

"We stayed focused and never gave up," Cobb said of battling through adversity.

The Badgers could not convert the extra

point, which kept the Antelopes within one score at 38-30 with 9:14 left in the fourth quarter. This proved costly as Adrian gained momentum late in the matchup.

Jace Martin was back at it again for the Antelopes on the ensuing drive, closing out an Adrian drive with a two-yard touchdown run. Conley Martin converted the two-point conversion to knot the game at 38-38 with just under five minutes remaining.

"It was a tough game," Cobb said. "On both sides, the teams played real good football."

The tension was palpable on both sidelines as the sun began to set on an epic championship matchup.

Dixon came back into the game, but a big hit on third-and-21 led to a fumble that gave Adrian the ball at the Powder Valley six-yard line. Just one play later, Conley Martin ran in from six yards out to give the Antelopes their first lead of the game since the first quarter. Adrian led 46-38 with 2:37 remaining in the game.

Adrian came away with several key stops to force a fourth-and-11 at the Powder Valley 21-yard line with just 1:46 to go. With the season on the line, Dixon was unable to complete to Cole Martin as the Antelopes secured the victory.

"I wish we would have come out on top, but they were better than us today," Cobb said.

The title is the second consecutive official OSAA state championship for Adrian, who defeated St. Paul in 2019. The two schools were on a collision course all season in a strong year for 1A football on the eastern side of the state.

"It's outstanding," Cobb said of the large turnout for the game. "This is small-town football. To play in east Oregon on grass and to have a finish like that — you can't get any better than that."

For Powder Valley, the season finishes just one touchdown shy of glory. The Badgers concluded the year as state runners-up after going 11-2 on the year.

"It was a great season," Cobb said. "They had so much focus all season. Both teams played two seasons in one academic year. That's a lot of football to stay healthy for."

Powder Valley's large group of seniors helped the team get to the championship game for the first time since 2003, which marks just the fourth time that the school has competed in the final.

"It's been really fun," Cobb said. "We'll be back next year."

## Team:

*Continued from Page A1*

Nation was part of an offensive line that helped the Mustangs average 29.5 points a game. He also was a second-team defensive lineman.

The Mustangs had 12 players chosen to the all-conference team.

Weston-McEwen, which lost to Heppner 40-0 in the 2A state quarterfinals, had five players earn first-team honors, led by Levie Phillips (running back/linebacker) and Theo White (receiver/defensive line), who were selected on offense and defense.

Quarterback Blane Peal, offensive lineman Finn Irvine and receiver Cameron Reich also were selected to the first team.

Phillips ran for 740 yards on 130 carries for 11 touchdowns.

Peal completed 62 of 116 passes for 1,223 yards and 13 touchdowns. White was one of his favorite receivers, catching 15 passes for 390 yards and four touchdowns. Reich caught 16 passes for 385 yards and five touchdowns.

Stanfield (4-4), which just missed out on the playoffs, had five players named to the first team, with senior lineman Carter Burnette earning top honors on both sides of the ball. He had 58 tackles and eight sacks on the season.

Senior defensive back Ryan Elizares finished the season with 65 tackles and two interceptions, while freshman linebacker Jesus Arellano had a team-high 74 tackles.

Junior defensive lineman Bodie Braithwaite had 70 tackles and five sacks to his credit.

Junior Gator Goodrich earned first-team honors as a place kicker.

## BLUE MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE

### DEFENSE FIRST TEAM

Defensive backs — Ryan Elizares sr., Stanfield; Jace Coe, sr., Heppner; Kason Cimmiyotti, sr., Heppner; Justin Hodge, sr., Grant Union. Linebackers — Jesus Arellano, fr., Stanfield; Brock Hisler, sr., Heppner; Conor Brosnan, sr., Heppner; Levie Phillips, sr., Weston-McEwen. Defensive linemen — Carter Burnette, sr., Stanfield; Bodie Braithwaite, jr., Stanfield; Blane Mahoney, sr., Heppner; Theo White, sr., Weston-McEwen.

### Second Team

Defensive backs — Parker Neault, sr., Grant Union; Taylor McGill, sr., Weston-McEwen; Derrick Smith, sr., Heppner; Ramiro Alvarez, sr., Umatilla. Linebackers — Kaden Salamanca, jr., Umatilla; Caden George, so., Heppner; Talon VanCleave, so., Grant Union; Braden Atkins, jr., Irrigon. Defensive linemen — Toby Nation, sr., Heppner; Rylan Cox, jr., Grant Union; Brian Day, sr., Weston-McEwen; Peyton McLouth, sr., Weston-McEwen.

### Honorable Mention

Defensive backs — Gator Goodrich, jr., Stanfield; Kaden Combe, sr., Stanfield; Izayah, sr., Umatilla; Tanler Fuller, sr., Grant Union; Quinn Graham, sr., Weston-McEwen. Linebackers — Isaiah Lemmon, jr., Stanfield; Justus Zamudio, so., Umatilla; Sheldon Lenz, so., Grant Union; Tyrese Boyd, jr., Riverside; Boone Blankenship, sr., Weston-McEwen; Chase Fahrenbacher, sr., Weston-McEwen; Mason Harrison, fr., Irrigon. Defensive linemen — Tucker Ashbeck, jr., Heppner; Daniel Calles, fr., Stanfield; Alex Finley, so., Grant Union; Axel Gonzalez, fr., Riverside; Aiden Wolf, sr., Weston-McEwen.

### OFFENSE FIRST TEAM

Receivers — Jace Coe, sr., Heppner; Kason Cimmiyotti, sr., Heppner; Theo White, sr., Weston-McEwen; Cameron Reich, jr., Weston-McEwen. Quarterback — Blane Peal, sr., Weston-McEwen. Offensive line — Carter Burnette, sr., Stanfield; Rylan Cox, sr., Grant Union; Conor Brosnan, sr., Heppner; Toby Nation, sr., Heppner; Finn Irvine, jr., Weston-McEwen. Running backs — Brock Hisler, sr., Heppner; Justin Hodge, sr., Grant Union; Levie Phillips, sr., Weston-McEwen. Punters — Justin Hodge, sr., Grant Union; Blane Peal, sr., Weston-McEwen. Kicker — Gator Goodrich, jr., Stanfield.

### Second Team

Receivers — Kaden Jacobs, sr., Umatilla; Ramiro Alvarez, sr., Umatilla; Tanler Fuller, sr., Grant Union. Quarterbacks — Landon Mitchell, so., Heppner; Maverick Miller, sr., Grant Union. Offensive line — Tucker Ashbeck, jr., Heppner; Alex Finley, so., Grant Union; Jake Lentz, jr., Heppner; Alex Ceja, so., Weston-McEwen; Peyton McLouth, sr., Weston-McEwen. Running backs — Ryan Elizares, sr., Stanfield; Hobs Hurty, jr., Stanfield; Caden George, so., Heppner. Punter — Saige Ely, so., Irrigon. Kickers — Conor Brosnan, sr., Heppner; Theo White, sr., Weston-McEwen.

### Honorable mention

Receivers — Lucas Szasz, jr., Riverside; Izayah Rodarte, sr., Umatilla; Emilio Jaimez, jr., Umatilla; Brock Locey, fr., Irrigon; Parker Neault, sr., Grant Union. Quarterbacks — Kaden Combe, sr., Stanfield; Kaden Salamanca, jr., Umatilla. Offensive line — Daniel Calles, fr., Stanfield; Nate Graham, sr., Riverside; Alan Murguia, jr., Irrigon; Kegan Steagall, sr., Heppner; Caleb Springer, so., Weston-McEwen. Running backs — Sheldon Lenz, so., Grant Union; Nathan Ellis, sr., Riverside; Josiah Moreno, so., Irrigon; Isaiah Lemmon, jr., Stanfield.

## ON THE SLATE

### Tuesday, Nov. 30

**Prep girls basketball**

Hermiston at Davis, 5:45 p.m.

**Prep boys basketball**

Hermiston at Davis, 7:30 p.m.

**Prep girls bowling**

Hanford at Hermiston, 3 p.m.

**College volleyball**

Eastern Oregon vs. North-western (Iowa) at NAIA National Tournament, 5 p.m.

### Wednesday, Dec. 1

**Prep girls basketball**

Milwaukie at Pendleton, 5:30 p.m.

Stanfield at Irrigon, 6 p.m.

Riverside at Weston-McEwen, 6 p.m.

**Prep boys basketball**

Stanfield at Irrigon, 7:30 p.m.

Riverside at Weston-McEwen, 7:30 p.m.

Condon at Heppner, 7:30 p.m.

**College volleyball**

Eastern Oregon vs. College of Saint Mary (Neb.) at NAIA National Tournament, 1 p.m.

### Thursday, Dec. 2

**Prep girls bowling**

Hermiston at Chiawana, 3:30 p.m.

**Prep girls wrestling**

Hermiston at Richland, 6 p.m.

**Prep boys wrestling**

Hermiston at Richland, 7 p.m.

**Prep girls basketball**

Umatilla at La Grande, 5:30 p.m.

Griswold at Pilot Rock, 6 p.m.

**Prep boys basketball**

Umatilla at La Grande, 7 p.m.

Griswold at Pilot Rock, 7:30 p.m.

**College volleyball**

Eastern Oregon at NAIA National Tournament, TBD



November 29 - December 10, 2021 #GSGivesBack! We're giving back to our community and we'd love your help.

## #GSGivesBack

-  Partridge in a Pear Tree
-  Turtle Doves
-  French Hens
-  Calling Birds
-  Golden Rings
-  Geese a Laying
-  Swans a Swimming
-  Maids a Milking
-  Ladies Dancing
-  Lords a Leaping
-  Pipers Piping
-  Drummers Drumming

Bring your donations to the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce located at 630 S Hwy 395 in Hermiston. You can bring any of the requested items on any of the above days. Thank you for giving back to our local charities including the Hermiston Warming Station, Agape House, Domestic Violence Services, Eastern Oregon Humane Society, Friends of Hermiston/Umatilla/Stanfield Libraries, local food pantries, and more!

For more information call 541.667.3509 or visit [www.gshealth.org/gs-gives-back](http://www.gshealth.org/gs-gives-back)



## CONTACT US TODAY ABOUT OUR WINTER SPECIALS!



**1740 Washington  
Baker City, OR 97814**

**1-800-399-3912**

[www.bakercitygmsales.com](http://www.bakercitygmsales.com)

