

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022

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Kathy Aney/East Oregonian, File

**Emily Lambert, of Pilot Rock, prepares to hurl the shot at the Pendleton Triad track meet on April 30, 2021. Lambert won the event with a throw of 35 feet, 10.5 inches. Lambert will continue her track career at Treasure Valley Community College, Ontario.**

## CHASING A DREAM

Pilot Rock's Lambert is after her aunt's shot put record

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian

**P**ILOT ROCK — Emily Lambert has had her eyes on her aunt's shot put record at Pilot Rock High School since she was in the sixth grade.

Now a senior, Lambert is more than determined to put her name on the leaderboard this spring.

"During my high school career, I have gone through three different coaches," Lambert said. "It's difficult. Each one has their different way of coaching. I have been going back and forth, but I'm going to listen to my coach."

Lambert is in good hands with former Rockets football coach Baleztena, who threw at Pilot Rock and Blue Mountain Community College.

"She is way faster this year," Baleztena said. "We are trying to get her timing down with her new speed. She's going so fast that we are trying to find release spots. It's early in the season. She is throwing last year's marks right now. It 's encouraging to see where she will be this year."

Lambert said she has dropped 30 pounds from last spring and has spent countless hours in the weight room preparing for her final high school season.

"I am way lighter on my feet than I was last year, and I am in the weight room all the time now," she said. "I think the passion and dedication will give me that extra foot too."

Lambert throws the shot put and discus, but her first love is the shot put. Her best mark is 36-2 1/2. Her aunt's record 37-2 1/2.

"She has been so support-

ive," Lambert said. "She said that record needs to be broken."

Her aunt is Rocky Lambert (now Stout), who set the shot put record her freshman year in 1979.

A 1982 graduate of Pilot Rock, Stout was the premiere female athlete in Eastern Oregon during her time, excelling in volleyball, basketball and track.

"I never surpassed that (record)," Stout said. "I thought, 'I peaked as a freshman?' I just thought they must be measuring throws wrong. I have been rooting for Emily for the past four years to get that record. She is working really hard at it. I told her she needs to have a little more discipline."

Stout was a four-event athlete in track. While she would always throw the shot and discus, she changed up the other two events meet to meet.

"They only let us do four at a meet and I wanted to do them all," Stout said. "Back then, we had to be disciplined ourselves. I'd stay 45 minutes after practice. I wanted to get the spin down. I wanted to work on my technique. We did that extra. I used to get up every morning and run to the grange hall (2 miles). That was my daily routine, with pushups and sit ups."

While Lambert is working to beat her aunt's record, so is Stout's granddaughter, Lela Campbell, who is a junior at Tumwater High School in Washington.

"She can't really break my record, but she wants to throw farther than me," Stout said. "She loves basketball as much as I do. She is more intimidated than I was. Once I laced up my shoes, it was my court."

Lambert also has her sights set on the 2A state track meet, which will be back at Hayward Field in Eugene this spring.

"I am excited to go to Hayward field," she said.

"My freshman year, we went to state at Western Oregon. Last year, we had district and state at Union. I was used to the facility, and I was comfortable there. Hayward will be so different. I have never been in a big stadium like that. I don't know what it's like to compete in that environment. I am determined to get there."

Lambert placed third at state in the shot put and discus last year, and fourth in the shot put her freshman year. The COVID-19 pandemic wiped out her sophomore year.

### Moving on

With her high school career winding down, Lambert is taking her talents to Treasure Valley Community College, Ontario.

"It will be really good to have her here," TVCC coach Blas Guerra said. "We have added another girl to throw the shot and discus. We will have three women and three men. It will be a good group. We haven't had a whole lot of kids who were interested in throwing."

Lambert, who would like to study nursing, hasn't made the trek to Ontario yet, but plans to go before she graduates.

"I had other offers, but not in a place where I wanted to go," she said. "I just wanted to go to a place where I haven't been. A fresh start. I'm excited to tour the campus and meet the coaches."

## Wildhorse to host LPGA qualifier in September

East Oregonian

**PENDLETON** — Wildhorse Resort & Casino will host an Epon Tour event Sept. 2-4 at Wildhorse Golf Course.

Epon Tour is the official qualifying tour of the LPGA.

The Wildhorse Ladies Classic will be the 17th stop on the Epon Tour's 2022 schedule, welcoming professional female golfers from all over the United States and more than 40 countries from around the world.

The Epon Tour, in its 42nd competitive season, annually awards the top ten players on the season-long "Race for the Card" money list with LPGA Tour membership for the following season.

The main event is preceded by two pro-am tournaments beginning Aug. 31. This is when amateur golfers get to team up with professionals from the Epon Tour to compete in a scramble.

The pro-am also will be at Wildhorse Golf Course.

"Wildhorse Resort & Casino and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation are excited to showcase and welcome some of the most talented young professional golfers from around the world to our Tribal and local communities," CEO

Gary George said in a news release.

When asked why Wildhorse joined the Epon Tour, George explained, "This event aligns with the tribes' efforts to provide meaningful opportunities for tribal youth and to grow the game of golf in our region."

The Epon Tour is hosted by other tribal venues throughout the season, including Circling Raven Golf Club in Idaho and Morongo Golf Club in California.

### Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute fundraiser

The eighth annual Mammoth Cup Golf Tournament, presented by Wildhorse Resort & Casino, will be May 13 at Wildhorse Golf Course.

The scramble format tourney is the premiere fundraiser for Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute and an excellent opportunity to play one of the region's top golf courses.

Foursomes (and singles) can register for the Mammoth Cup through May 6. The entry fee is \$95 per person or \$380 per foursome (tax-deductible, member discounts apply) and includes green fees, complimentary range balls, tee prize, and sack lunch. The shotgun start is at 1 p.m.

There are several prizes to be won, beverage carts

throughout the day, a raffle for merchandise, golf items and rounds and lots of side bets, including a \$10,000 hole-in-one, wrong hand putting contest, longest drive and more.

The Mammoth Cup is Tamástslíkt's major fundraising event and is named in recognition of the two mammoth teeth excavated when the Wildhorse Golf Course was being built. Designed by legendary golf architect, John Steidel, Wildhorse Golf Course features 18 holes of spectacular golf, featuring beautiful lakes, long fairways and deep bunkers.

### Guardian Care Center fundraiser

Golfers can help children in Umatilla County by teeing off in the Guardian Care Center Charity Golf Tournament on April 30 at Wildhorse Golf Course.

Entry fee for the four-person scramble is \$85 per person or \$340 per team.

Lunch is at 11 a.m., and there are prizes to be won throughout the day.

The tournament also is looking for event sponsors. For more information, call 541-276-6774, or online at [www.guardiancarecenter.org](http://www.guardiancarecenter.org).

Proceeds from the event cover the cost of each child abuse assessment in Umatilla County.

### Schedule subject to change

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 24

**Prep baseball**  
Riverside at White Salmon, 4 p.m.

**Track and field**  
Heppner, Pilot Rock, Irrigon, Riverside, Stanfield/Echo, Umatilla at Bulldog Invite, Hermiston, TBD

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 25

**Prep baseball**  
Chiawana at Hermiston (2), 4 p.m.

**Prep softball**  
Pilot Rock vs. Burns, Union Spring Bash, noon  
Umatilla vs. Seaside, Seaside Spring Break Tournament, noon  
Umatilla vs. Valley Catholic, Seaside Spring Break Tournament, 4 p.m.  
Hermiston at Hanford (2), 4 p.m.  
Pilot Rock vs. Bonanza, Union Spring Bash, 4:30 p.m.

**College baseball**  
Southwestern Oregon at Blue Mountain (2), noon

**College softball**  
Blue Mountain at Yakima Valley (2), 2 p.m.

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 26

**Prep softball**  
Umatilla vs. Stayton, Seaside Spring Break Tournament, 10 a.m.  
Pilot Rock vs. Warrenton, Union Spring Bash, 11 a.m.

### ON THE SLATE

**Boys soccer**  
Southridge at Hermiston, 1 p.m.

**Track and field**  
McLoughlin at Hawks Invite, College Place, 10 a.m.

**College baseball**  
Southwestern Oregon at Blue Mountain (2), 11 a.m.

**College softball**  
Blue Mountain at Wenatchee Valley (2), noon

#### MONDAY, MARCH 28

**Prep golf**  
Hermiston boys at Pendleton, 11 a.m.  
Pendleton girls at Wildhorse, 11 a.m.

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 29

**Prep baseball**  
Madras at Umatilla, 3 p.m.

Heppner at Pilot Rock, 4 p.m.

Irrigon at Stanfield/Echo, 4 p.m.

Pasco at Hermiston, 4 p.m.

McLoughlin at Riverside, 4:30 p.m.

Weston-McEwen at College Place, 4:30 p.m.

**Prep softball**  
Pendleton at College Place, 4 p.m.

McLoughlin at Weston-McEwen, 4 p.m.

Riverside at Echo/Stanfield, 4 p.m.

Heppner/lone at Irrigon, 4:30 p.m.

Hermiston at Southridge, 5 p.m.

**Boys soccer**  
Hermiston at Kamiakin, 7 p.m.

**Prep tennis**  
Pendleton at La Grande, 3 p.m.

lone/Heppner at Weston-McEwen, 3:30 p.m.

McLoughlin at Stanfield/Echo, 4:30 p.m.

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