

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2022

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**Buck Faust, 25, of Prineville, is one of 14 competitors on the reality TV series 'Ultimate Cowboy Showdown,' which will start April 21, 2022.**

## Prineville cowboy competes in 'Ultimate Cowboy Showdown'

By **JOE SIESS**  
*The (Bend) Bulletin*

PRINEVILLE — A Prineville cowboy will put his skills to the test before a national audience, competing with other cowboys and cowgirls from around the country on a cable television series set to debut a new season next month.

Buck Faust, 25, was originally from Waco, Texas, but moved to Central Oregon with his wife in 2020. The couple got married last May and plans to raise a family in the area.

Faust is a competitor in the "Ultimate Cowboy Showdown," a television show produced by General Entertainment network INSP. The show, hosted by country music icon Trace Adkins, is in its third season, which will start April 21.

Faust approached the show with 100% of his authentic self, he said.

"Pretty much anybody who knows me, knows that me going on that show was a good thing for me. But it is dang sure going to be entertaining for the general public," Faust said. "Because I don't know if I maybe stayed in the hills too long, but I have a pretty big personality. I like to be very personable. I like to laugh, joke around, have a lot of fun."

Faust, along with 13 other contestants from around the country gathered at Powderhorn Ranch in the rugged hills of Wyoming to compete in a number of cowboy related challenges to test their skills. The winner, chosen by judges, will be awarded a herd of cattle worth \$50,000 and a chance to start a ranch, along with a belt buckle and bragging rights.

Faust has worked with horses and cattle all of his life. After graduating high school, he decided to travel the country as a cowboy. He spent time in Montana, Idaho, California, Nebraska and Oklahoma before meeting his wife, moving to Central Oregon, and planting his roots.

"Yes sir, I'm done, that tree has already sprouted," Faust said of making Central Oregon his home.

"I've lived in a lot of places," Faust said. "Cowboying all over the United States. And Central Oregon was immediately my home. The

people here are so hospitable, so nice, down to earth. This is most definitely my home, and where I'm going to raise my family."

Faust grew up around horses and cattle all his life, so naturally he would wind up on the "Ultimate Cowboy Showdown." He is also the first generation in his family to fully embrace the cowboy lifestyle and to make a living off training horses and running cattle full-time.

"You'll never catch me in shorts, you'll never catch me in a ball cap," Faust said. "I'm Buck Faust and I'm a cowboy and I'm awfully proud of it. I'm proud of what it represents."

Faust said there were several challenges thrown at him and his fellow contestants, challenges that separated those who really make a living off the land and those who don't.

"I literally grew up my whole life with cattle and horses and there is nothing you could throw at me that even if I don't know exactly how to get my way through it, I know a process to get my way through it," Faust said. "Nothing related to cattle and horses intimidates me." Faust said he got close to some of his fellow contestants. Despite the competitive nature of the show, Faust said the fact that everyone competing was a cowboy or cowgirl, made it possible for them to form a close bond.

"The thing about that show that I hope the general population gets to see is the brotherhood that was made," Faust said. "You stack 14 guys and girls who all have the same kind of values in the same room, it is hard not to form those strong bonds."

While the competition did get tough at times, the contestants demonstrated good sportsmanship overall, Faust said.

"All of us that were competing, we wanted to win, but we wasn't going to do something against all of our morals to just stay. Most of us, if we made a mistake, we owned up to it," Faust said.

To watch Faust represent Oregon on the Ultimate Cowboy Showdown next month, tune in on Dish Network, channel 259, or Directv, channel 364. The show can also be streamed using services such as Philo, Vidgo, and Frndly TV.

## CARNIVAL OF SPEED IS BACK ON TRACK

Meet has been canceled past 2 years because of pandemic

By **ANNIE FOWLER**  
*East Oregonian*

**M**ILTON-FREE-WATER — After a two-year hiatus, the Carnival of Speed zooms back.

The 85th edition of the meet is Friday, April 1, at Shockman Field, Milton-Freewater, and McLoughlin coach John Milleson said there should be plenty of athletes.

"We have 30 teams coming, and close to 400 entries," Milleson said. "That's a good number. We've had between 600 and 1,000 kids before."

The coronavirus pandemic shuttered the meet the past two years, and the Milleson has seen the number of athletes out for track at Mac-Hi dwindle.

"We have struggled to put together a team since COVID," Milleson said. "We had five meets last year. It was tough on us as coaches around the area."

The Pioneers have been building back their numbers, but one athlete who has stuck it out is senior Shaq Badillo, who throws the shot put and the discus.

"He has been putting in the time and work," Milleson said. "His goal is to get the school shot put record. We hope he gets it. That would be a great thing."

Badillo threw 43 feet, 3 inches last week at the Hawk Invite in College Place. His personal best is 45-5, set last year. The school record is 50-4 1/2, set in 2014 by Aaron Lefore.

"He could uncork one at any time," Milleson said. "He is a student of the sport. He watches videos and talks with his coaches about what he needs to do. He is easy to coach."

Mac-Hi also hopes to get a few points out of German exchange student Luis Wolf. He is scheduled to compete in the javelin, discus, high jump and 4x100 relay.

"We could put him in anything and he would do well," Milleson said. "We are taking advantage of what he can do. He's a decathlete back home. If he wants to do anything, I have room to put him in."

Pendleton is sending a majority of its track team to the Clay Lewis Invite on Saturday in Richland, Washington, but the distance runners will be at the Carnival of Speed.

The Bucks' top man is senior James Thatcher, who will run the 1,500 and 3,000.

### An oldie but a goodie

Not counting the Pendleton Round-Up, the Carnival of Speed is the longest running sporting event in the region. Other than missing a couple of years during WW II, being cancelled by the weather in 2010 and 2018, and by the pandemic in 2020-21, the meet has been held.

While the boys have competed for 85 years, the girls are just in



**Emily Hancock, of Stanfield, jumps 15 feet, 2 inches in the long jump on March 24, 2022, at the Bulldog Invite track and field meet at Kennison Field, Hermiston. Stanfield is one 30 schools signed up to compete Friday, April 1, at the Carnival of Speed in Milton-Freewater.**

### CARNIVAL OF SPEED RECORDS

#### Boys

**100:** Justin Sandlin, Riverside (2000, 10.71)  
**200:** Warren Sherlock, Walla Walla (1959, 21.7)  
**400:** John Leir, DeSales (1968, 50.2)  
**800:** Tim Douglass, Pendleton (1976, 1:56.20)  
**1500:** Gid Rysdam, Elgin (1980, 4:01.5)  
**3000:** Gid Rysdam, Elgin (1980, 8:50.30)  
**110H:** Kelly Simpson, Pendleton (1999, 14.72)  
**300H:** Brandt Bannister, Weston-McEwen (1977, 39.4)  
**4x100:** Walla Walla (1976, 43.6)  
**4x400:** Walla Walla (1999, 3:28.03)  
**Shot put:** Robert Atoe, The Dalles/Wahtonka (2008, 57-1)  
**Discus:** Mark Sturdevant, Pendleton (1980, 161-5)  
**Javelin:** Nick Lyon, DeSales (2007, 198-11 3/4)  
**High jump:** Tim Porter, Helix (1986, 6-8)  
**Long jump:** Tim Porter, Helix (1986, 23-4 1/2)  
**Triple jump:** Mel Pursifall, Imbler (1989, 41-5 1/2)  
**Pole vault:** Aaron Larson, Pendleton (2000, 13-9)

#### Girls

**100:** Sherry Watson, Hermiston (1987), Julie Newton, Helix (1990), Juliann Bealer, Pendleton (1997), 12.5  
**200:** Becky Zaro, Pasco (1990, 26.1)  
**400:** Terran Legard, Columbia-Burbank (57.82)  
**800:** Lucrecia Cervantes, DeSales (2004, 2:20.73)  
**1500:** Robin Slate, Colfax (1990, 4:52.10)  
**3000:** Mariel Ettinger, LaGrande (1999, 9:58.63)  
**100H:** Lucito Zapato, Walla Walla (1996, 14.9)  
**300H:** Lyndsey Johnson, Walla Walla (2000, 46.72)  
**4x100:** Walla Walla (1998-99, 51.20)  
**4x400:** Pendleton (2009, 4:09.69)  
**Shot put:** Gena Worth, DeSales (2003, 41-2 3/4)  
**Discus:** Muri Ruiz, Walla Walla (1999, 132-5)  
**Javelin:** Carly Mauch, Pasco (2005, 138-7)  
**High jump:** Natasha Montgomery, Waitsburg (2004, 5-7)  
**Long jump:** Sarajane Rosenberg, Pendleton (2003, 17-5)  
**Triple jump:** Amy Jones, Grant Union (2003, 35-8 1/2)  
**Pole vault:** Shanie Bushman, Walla Walla (2008, 11-6)

their 41st year of competition, according to meet records.

The event used to be an elite invite, drawing the top athletes from Oregon and Washington, including Hermiston, Pendleton, Walla Walla, La Grande and Pasco. Athletes had to have qualifying marks to enter. Over the years, it has become more inclusive.

Carnival of Speed records have been impeccably kept over the years, with the longest standing record being that in the boys 200 meters, set by Warren Sherlock of

Walla Walla High School in 1959.

Sherlock's race was in yards, but when converted to meters, his time stands at 21.7 seconds.

"It's been a while since any records have been broken," Milleson said. "With the number of teams and entries, some of those record could go at any time."

One record that has stood for a long time, and could stand the test of time for many more years, is the high jump record of 6-8, set by Tim Porter of Griswold in 1986. Porter also holds the long jump record at 23-4 1/2.

### ON THE SLATE

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 31

**Prep baseball**  
Irrigon at McLoughlin, 4 p.m.

**Prep softball**  
Irrigon at McLoughlin, 4 p.m.  
Pendleton JV at Umatilla, 4 p.m.

**Track and field**  
Hermiston at MCC meet, Hanford, 3:30 p.m.

**Prep golf**  
Heppner vs. Riverside, Marker 40 Golf Club, TBD  
Pendleton girls at Eagle Crest, Redmond, noon

**Prep tennis**  
La Grande at Pendleton, 3 p.m.  
Hermiston at Kennewick, 4 p.m.  
Stanfield/Echo at Weston-McEwen, 3:30 p.m.

Sherman at Lone/Heppner, 4 p.m.

**Prep lacrosse**  
Hermiston at Richland, 7:30 p.m.

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 1

**Prep baseball**  
Hermiston at Richland (2), 4 p.m.  
Wilsonville at Pendleton, 4:30 p.m.

**Prep softball**  
Pilot Rock at Enterprise (2), 1 p.m.  
Echo/Stanfield at Grant Union (2), 2 p.m.  
Weston-McEwen at Heppner/Lone (2), 2 p.m.  
Riverside at White Salmon (2), 3 p.m.  
Kamiakin at Hermiston (2), 4 p.m.

Pendleton at La Salle Prep, 4 p.m.

#### Boys soccer

Chiawana at Hermiston, 7 p.m.

**Prep golf**  
Heppner at McLoughlin Invite, Milton-Freewater Municipal Golf Course, noon  
Hermiston girls and boys, Pendleton boys at Big River Golf Course, TBD  
Echo at Dufur Invite, The Dalles, TBD

**Track and field**  
Griswold, Heppner, Lone, Irrigon, Pendleton, Pilot Rock, Riverside, Stanfield/Echo, Umatilla, Weston-McEwen at Carnival of Speed, McLoughlin, 10 a.m.

**Prep lacrosse**  
Hermiston at Hanford, 5 p.m.

## Eastern Oregon University's Liefke named NAIA Honorable Mention All-American

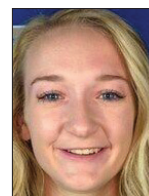
By **DAVIS CARBAUGH**  
*The Observer*

LA GRANDE — After a phenomenal season on the hardwood, Eastern Oregon University women's basketball player Sailor Liefke earned national recognition for her overall performance.

The junior guard from Sunnyside, Washington led the Mountaineers with 16.1 points per game this year. She averaged 3.4 assists and 4.3 rebounds en route to a first-team all Cascade Collegiate Conference selection. Liefke shot

42.5% from the field and 34% from beyond the arc this season.

Liefke is the first Mountaineer to earn a spot on the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics women's All-American teams since Jane Nelson did so in the 2019-20 season. Liefke's selection marked the 12th overall All-American selection under Eastern head coach Anji Weissenfluh.



Liefke

The junior was an anchor for Eastern, starting in all 30 games and totaling 24 double-digit scoring efforts.

The Mountaineers finished the season 22-11 overall and 18-4 in conference play. After losing to Southern Oregon in the Cascade Collegiate Conference tournament semifinals, Eastern earned an at-large bid to the NAIA National Championships. Eastern at No. 13 kept the March 11 contest tight but ultimately fell 73-67 to No. 4 Sterling College to mark the end of the season.