

Highlights:

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NIKE/JESUIT RELAYS — Pendleton's Sam Jennings threw a personal best, and broke his own school record in the javelin, with a toss of 213-5 at Jesuit High School in Beaverton.

The mark is the second-best in the nation this spring behind Walla Walla's Dash Sirmon, who threw 219-4 on April 28.

UNION RELAYS — Griswold freshman Ellery Flerchinger won the discus with a personal best throw of

82-6 1/2, and placed second in the shot put (25-0 1/2) on Saturday.

Flerchinger also placed fifth in the long jump (11-9 1/2), and ran a leg on the winning throwers relay (1:02.49), along with Sydney Moore and Elliana Boatright. It was a combined boys and girls relay, with Caiden Boatright leading off the race for the Grizzlies.

Moore finished fourth in the long jump (12-2) and fifth in the javelin (68-2).

The Griswold girls finished fourth in the team standings (41 points) with three girls. Union won the team title with 132 points.

Next step:

Continued from Page A10

weight room, and she is open to that," Hazeltime said. "She came and watched our girls do a weight room workout."

Bryant hopes to see Leber follow through with her summer plans.

"I'm hoping she can put a little meat on her bones," Bryant said. "If she put on 10 pounds, she could be a whole different player. She's as skilled a player as I have coached."

Though she was the team's leading scorer, Bryant said Leber's strength is on the defensive end of the floor.

"I think Emma's biggest thing is her defensive instincts," Bryant said. "She's a pretty special player when it comes to leaving her player and protecting the rim. She has a knack for being in the right place at the right time. She's also able to stretch the floor and step out and shoot the 3, or bring the ball up the floor."

Leber said the athletic genes in her family are pretty limited. Her mom Jennifer played high school basketball at Weston-McEwen, and her older sister (Brooke Smiley) played volleyball, basketball and softball at Mac-Hi.

Leber has played basket-

ball and volleyball at Mac-Hi, with the latter at the behest of Rhoades.

"I started playing volleyball in the eighth grade, but it's never been my favorite," Leber said. "Darby and I played basketball against each other in elementary school and we started playing with each other in middle school (Center Middle School). We became really good friends in the sixth grade. It's awesome that I get to play two more years with her. It's an awesome privilege to have."

Leber's height is a luxury a lot of teams don't have, and she uses it to her advantage.

"I've always been the tall girl, all the way through middle school and high school," Leber said. "The height is perfect, it makes the game so much easier. I like blocking shots, and being tall makes that easier."

An education degree is on the radar for Leber, and maybe more basketball after WWCC.

"I want to major in elementary education," she said. "I want to get my prerequisites done, then probably transfer to Eastern Oregon. Maybe I'll continue to play."

Floor general

Unlike her tall best friend, Rhoades is a 5-8 guard who has been the floor general

for the Pioneers the past few years.

"She is a really good motivator," Bryant said of his team captain. "She's always positive and has a strong work ethic. It will be good to see her with girls who are athletic and will push her. She is a worker and she will grind and do what she is asked to do."

Rhoades knows playing for Hazeltime won't be easy, but she's looking forward to the challenge.

"I think even if I don't play that much, I will grow as a player and as a person," she said. "It will make me push myself harder to be the best I can be."

Rhoades averaged 10.5 points, 6.3 rebounds, three assists and 2.5 steals per game, and was a second-team GOL selection.

The Pioneers finished 2-4 in GOL play, and 8-11 overall. They lost their 4A state play-in game to Hidden Valley 57-32.

The Pioneers have gotten their money's worth out of Rhoades, who has been a three-sport athlete. She also played volleyball and softball, where she plays third base and shortstop.

"I have been doing sports since I could walk," Rhoades said. "I have been part of AAU basketball teams in grade school and middle school, and a little in high

school during COVID. Travel softball got too expensive and I wanted to focus on basketball."

Basketball has been a family sport on her mom's side of the family for generations.

"My mom (Denette) went to Enterprise and played track, volleyball and basketball," Rhoades said. "Basketball is the family sport. My grandpa (Dennis Harvey) was a pretty good player. He played at his high school then went into the military. My Dad played football and wrestled at Mac-Hi, but he was a motocross guy. My uncle (Steven Rhoades) is on our wrestling wall at school."

In just a few weeks, Rhoades will graduate and move on to new adventures, with her best friend by her side.

"We have been playing together for so long," Rhoades said. "We are taking this next step to college basketball and it's nice to take your best friend with you."

Rhoades does admit it will be hard to give up all of her sports for just one, but she is coming to terms with it.

"It's going to be hard to say goodbye, but I will be stepping into something new," she said. "I'm excited for my next chapter of sports. You take your shoes off for the last time and you are done."

ON THE SLATE

Schedule subject to change

TUESDAY, MAY 3

Prep baseball
McLoughlin at La Grande (2), 2 p.m.
Weston-McEwen at Union, 4 p.m.
Stanfield/Echo at Umatilla, 4 p.m.
Irrigon at Riverside, 4 p.m.
Pendleton at Hood River Valley, 4:30 p.m.

Prep softball
McLoughlin at La Grande (2), 2 p.m.
Hermiston at Walla Walla, 3 p.m.
Irrigon at Riverside, 4 p.m.
Hood River Valley at Pendleton, 4:30 p.m.
Weston-McEwen at Umatilla, 5:30 p.m.

Boys soccer
Hermiston at Walla Walla, 4 p.m.

Prep tennis
Walla Walla at Hermiston, 4 p.m.

Irrigon at Stanfield, 4:30 p.m.

Prep golf
Hermiston at MCC pod, Sun Willows Golf Course, TBD

Track and field
Pilot Rock, Stanfield/Echo, Weston-McEwen at Mustang Senior Night, Heppner, 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

Track and field
Hermiston at MCC meet, Pasco, TBD

Prep tennis
Pendleton boys at Ridgeview, 3 p.m.
Ridgeview girls at Pendleton, 3 p.m.

Prep lacrosse
Hermiston at Kamiakin, 7 p.m.

College baseball
Blue Mountain at Columbia Basin (2), 1 p.m.

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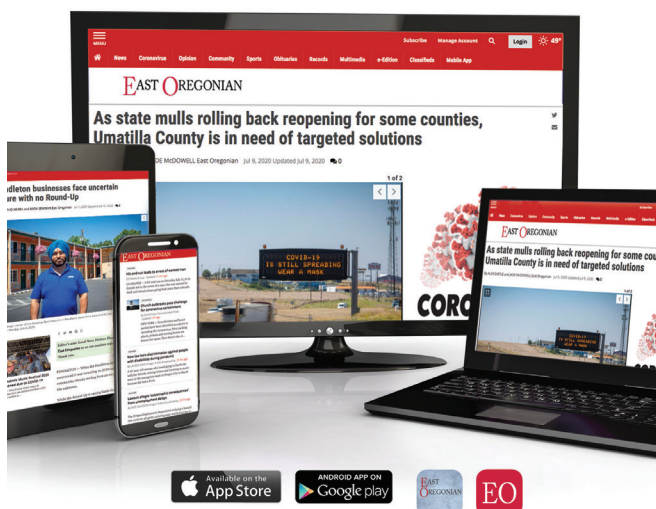
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