



STATE TRACK
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STATE CHAMPS

JOSEPH GIRLS CAPTURE 1A TITLE ON FINAL EVENT AT EUGENE

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

The Joseph girls track team claimed four gold medals en route to a class 1A state title at Hayward Field in Eugene on Thursday and Friday.

The Eagles' 4x400 relay team — Johnelle Suto, Haley Miller, Isabelle Tinglestad, Annie Duncan — finished first, while Tinglestad claimed her second consecutive state title in the 3,000 meters and Haley Miller won a pair of individual titles in the 1,500 meters and 800 meters.

Joseph finished with 70 team points, one point ahead of second-place Griswold.

Joseph coach John Roberts said that it was the first state championship for the Joseph girls track to his knowledge, and he's been with the program for about 35 years. The Eagles coach didn't go to the meet necessarily expecting a win.

"I knew we had a good shot at it," Roberts said. "As it happened, it came down to having to win the last race (the 4x400 relay) and having South Wasco beat Griswold (in the same race)."

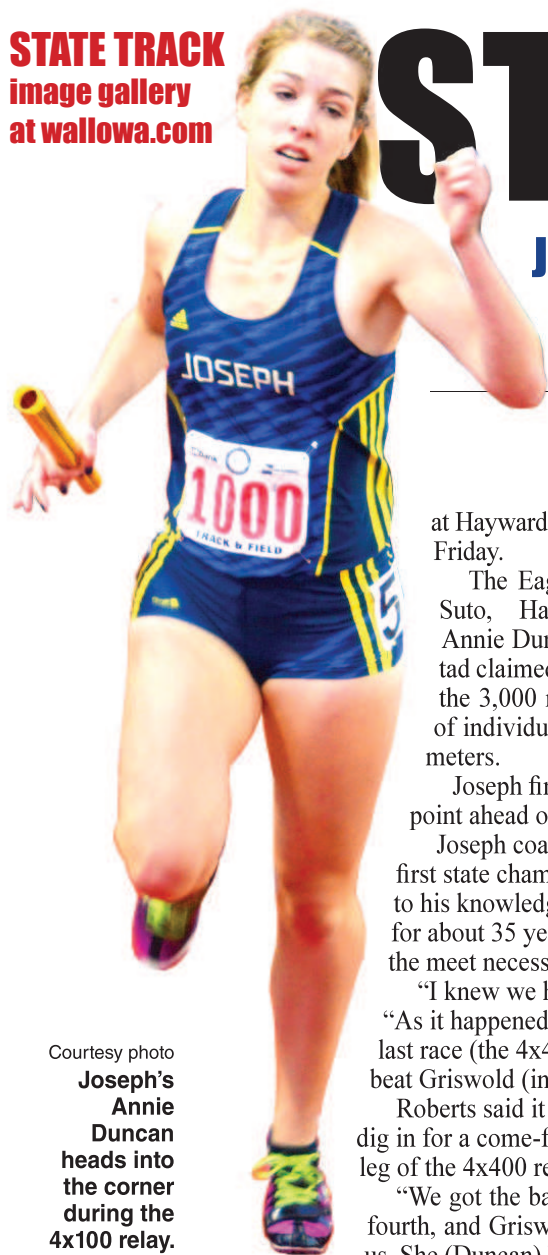
Roberts said it was a thrill to watch Annie Duncan dig in for a come-from-behind win during the anchor leg of the 4x400 relay.

"We got the baton on the last hand off, we were in fourth, and Griswold had a 25-30 meter head start on us. She (Duncan) had just got done with the 300-meter hurdles and had 15 minutes before she ran the anchor leg. I told her, 'Don't leave anything in the tank.' She didn't."

Duncan played the role of workhorse for the team, competing in seven running events.

Roberts said that no school records were broken, but Tinglestad shaved 15 seconds off her personal best time and Haley Miller was one

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Courtesy photo

Joseph's Annie Duncan heads into the corner during the 4x100 relay. The Eagles won the event, a victory that delivered the team title to Joseph.



Courtesy photo

Enterprise freshman Karli Bedard competes in the high jump.



Courtesy photo

Nathan Perren rises above the field to clear a hurdle. Perren finished second in the 300 hurdles.

SCOREBOARD

TUESDAY, MAY 17

Baseball
Nyssa 8, Wallowa Valley 5

Softball
Echo/Stanfield 12, Wallowa Valley 4

SPORTS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

Softball state tournament
Wallowa Valley at Rainier, 3:30 p.m.

TrackTown Youth League meet coming to La Grande

Wallowa County Chieftain

TrackTown Youth League is holding a meet in La Grande on Friday, June 3. The event is a free, all-comer track meet for kids 8-14. No prior track and field experience is required.

The TrackTown Youth League is a series of 14 free, all-comer track meets across Oregon, open to all boys and girls ages 8-14.

Events include the 100 meters, 400 meters, 1,500 meters, long jump and turbojav.

Top finishers will advance to a very special Championship Meet at Hayward Field at the University of Oregon held in conjunction with the U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials.

For more information, visit www.tracktownyouthleague.com.

Bomber's Tournament was a blast

You never want to second-guess the outcome of a local event at Alpine Meadows.

With only 15 players in the first annual Bomber's Tournament, played on a wet Saturday two weeks ago, anyone's guess would have been that it bombed big time. That wasn't the case, as players vouched for the good time had by all. The guys liked the best-ball format with skins (a money game within a game), but it was noted they especially thought the horse race was a hoot.

tee time

Rochelle Danielson

A horse race on the golf course? Could there have been a bookie in the clubhouse?

The tournament navigator — could have been a bombardier — cleverly maneuvered two flights into his crosshairs: The Captains (handicap 0-15), with winners Dean Duquette, 75 gross and Greg Oveson, 68 net; the Lieutenants

(handicap 16 and up), with winners Harlan Menton, 95 gross, and Jerry Hook, 69 net. Winners of the Horse Race (Sole Survivor, or last man standing): first place, Dick Anderson/Harlan Menton; second place, Marvin Gibbs/Fred Cornett.

Dean Duquette won KP on both short holes, No. 1 (3 feet, 9.5 inches) and No. 4 (12 feet, 9.5 inches). Net and gross skins also were paid out.

In other news:

• Marvin Gibbs, coach of the Wallowa/Joseph High School golf team, hosted an award and barbecue gathering for team members and their

parents at the clubhouse. Kai Oliver and Tori Suto were recognized as Outstanding Players of the Year. Steven Beckman was recognized as Most Improved. Gibbs praised his team and thanked AMGC for use of the facilities. The course is offering half-price membership to parents of team golfers.

• Although the inclement weather kept golfers inside the clubhouse for the Spring Fling (one lonesome-looking golfer walked the course holding his umbrella), the evening was a low-key get-together with a variety of finger foods, oodles

of laughter and friendly golf banter.

• Positive news comes from Dan Cornett, board president: An Oregon Community Foundation grant has been received supporting a junior golf instruction program this summer. Heather Bruce has agreed to begin the program in June. Call clubhouse for more information.

• One more bit of exciting news concerning the nasty, magnetizing sand trap on No. 6. There's talk it is to be debunked.

Rochelle Danielson is an Alpine Meadows member who resides in Enterprise.

PREP ROUNDUP

Wallowa Valley Cubs slide into state softball bracket

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

The Wallowa Valley Cubs thought their season might be coming to an end after a 12-4 loss at Stanfield/Echo on May 17 — one week after they swept the same team at home.

Despite the loss, the team learned Saturday that it had received an at-large bid for the 3A state softball tournament. The 14-seeded Cubs play at No. 3 Rainier at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday in the tournament's first round.

Cubs coach Cliff Conrad expected a better result from the regular-season finale.

"They came out and hit the ball better than we did," Conrad said. "They were a little more up and ready to play than we were."

Conrad said the home-field advantage likely played a role.

"They took full advantage of it. They're a good team. We caught them when they were down, and now they're back up."

Natalie Williams pitched 3 2/3 innings, followed by Madison Plew in relief.

Though the season's not quite over, the challenges are getting steeper.

"We're just working with the girls practicing and get-

ting them ready to play," Conrad said. "If we can go down there and hit the ball and play with them, we'll do all right."

Baseball: Eagles wrap up season

Five errors and seven walks from the Wallowa Valley Eagles led to a season-ending 8-5 loss to Nysaa with a spot in the 3A state playoffs on the line.

Assistant coach Geoff Hayward said the Eagles started off well with a 4-1 lead through four innings behind the pitching of Justin Exon. The Enterprise senior was relieved by Wallowa

senior Josh Rummell after 4 1/3 innings and 97 pitches. Rummell struck out two and walked none while giving up two hits during his relief stint. Nyssa had four hits during the contest.

Bright spots for the Eagles included the white-hot bat of Riley Hayward, who went 2 for 4 and lashed a bases-loaded double that cleared the bases. The Enterprise sophomore notched five RBIs and knocked in all of his team's runs. Wallowa freshman Gus Ramsden went 2 for 4, while Rummell went 1 for 2 in the Eagles' five-hit effort.

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Marr Pond to host free fishing for kids June 4

Wallowa County Chieftain

Mark your calendars — June 4 is the Marr Pond free fishing day for kids.

Fisheries staff will be on hand all day, measuring fish and helping kids. No license is required.

The pond is filled with fish including some big lunkers, and out-of-state folks are welcome.

Last year Cougar Stockham, 6, of Gooding, Idaho, came with his extended family and two sets of grandparents and won the grand prize with the biggest fish for his age division (7 and under) and the biggest fish overall — a whopping 19.25-inch trout. His secret? He wasn't divulging. His mom said it was "patience, lots of patience," but one of the grandpas confided to the newspaper that it also was the marshmallows atop the worm bait.



Kathleen Eilyn/Chieftain

Samantha Sanchez, 8, of Enterprise took first in her age division (8-10) with a 16.75-inch fish in 2015.

The event runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and features a variety of contests from biggest fish (per age group) to casting contests (also per age group).

Pole and tackle will be provided for those who need them, or bring your own.

Little kids or those who don't like to fish can have fun in the game area and win prizes for fish painting.

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