

STATE

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“Every girl knew they had a job to do, who they had to go after,” Moody said. “Everyone did what they had to do to a T. They know they have to do the same thing at

state next weekend.”

The boys also fared well, placing third with 128 points behind Nyssa’s 58 and Union’s 41. There were 11 boys teams competing.

Tops among the boys were Jacob Everts (18:16.3) at 17th, Brycen Locke (18:16.3), 18th, and James

Madsen (18:40.6) at 25th. All three posted personal bests.

Despite the great times, no boys from Wallowa County qualified for the state meet.

“Our boys really stepped up,” Moody said. “I’m so proud of them. They knew they had to run their best, and

they did.”

Moody said he’s impressed and pleased to see his runners peaking at just the right time of the season.

“It really comes down to the kids and how hard they worked. They knew it would pay off in the long run, and they proved it on Friday.”

ROUNDUP

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The Outlaws led nearly every offensive category other than rushing yards and compiled 315 yards of offense to Imbler’s 307.

Defensively, Bales led with six solo tackles, including a sack and four assists. Senior Matt McTee had six solo tackles, while Walker racked up

five solo tackles and an assist.

“We were down five players from the start of the year due to injuries,” Rowley said. “A bunch of those kids stepped up and played awesome. I thought it was a really good game.”

The Outlaws compiled an 0-3 league record and were 1-6 overall.

Despite the record, Rowley said his team made strides forward this year.

“The kids made big im-

provements over last year, and I think a lot of people can see that. We scored more points in our first three games than in all of last year. ... To be honest, we just had a pretty good group of kids. I give them all the credit and always will.”

Eagles bow out

Joseph traveled to Adrian for a league playoff game Friday night and came up short in a 40-36 loss to the Antelopes.

“We had the ball twice with four minutes remaining, and we just couldn’t keep our drives going,” Joseph head coach Toby Koehn told The La Grand Observer.

Joseph trailed 34-28 at half-time and neither team managed a score in the fourth quarter.

Senior running back Cayden DeLury rushed for 349 yards and three touchdowns, and Logan Welch added 71 yards and two scores.

EAGLES

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Sykora recorded four kills and a team-high seven blocks. Senior Ally Cooney added five kills and seven digs. Tori Suto led the team in digs with eight.

“We’re hitting good right now,” Coach Hite said. “They’re very focused on what they want to do.”

With the win, the Eagles earned a Saturday road game at Crane, the No. 1 seed out of the High Desert League, in the second round of the state tournament. Going into the

match, the Mustangs had won their previous 11 matches and lost just two sets during that span.

The Mustangs maintained their momentum and eliminated the Eagles in three sets: 25-16, 25-19, 26-16. Individual stats for the match were not provided.

The Eagles finished with an overall record of 21-7 and went 11-3 in regular-season league play.

Powder Valley, the top seed out of the Old Oregon League, also lost Saturday. The Badgers were upset by Adrian in four sets: 25-27, 25-20, 25-22, 25-21.

TRIAL

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And supporters of other movements — #BlackLivesMatter and #NoDAPL to name two — wondered aloud about the meaning of justice.

But 41 days and eight months later, the leaders of the armed occupation in eastern Oregon were found not guilty by a jury of peers.

Still, questions remain: How did it happen? And what happens next?

The Charges

Ammon Bundy, Ryan Bundy and five others were charged with conspiracy to impede federal employees from doing their jobs by force, threat or intimidation.

“It’s a favorite charge of prosecutors,” said Portland defense attorney Kevin Sali before the trial began. “When people are involved in a conspiracy they can be liable ... for things their co-conspirators did.”

The Bundys, Fry, Banta and Cox also faced weapons charges. (Prosecutors dropped those against Cox.) Ryan Bundy and Kenneth Medenbach were also charged with theft of government property. Internet radio show host Pete Santilli also faced a conspiracy charge but it was later dropped.

The jury found the defendants not guilty on all but one charge. They failed to reach consensus on Ryan Bundy’s theft charge stemming from the removal of government surveillance cameras at the refuge.

In light of the verdict, questions swirled about whether the prosecution brought the proper charges.

Williams, the U.S. Attorney for Oregon, said prosecutors could have brought criminal trespass charges and tried the occupiers in state court. But misdemeanor trespassing didn’t seem to pass for muster — prosecutors wanted to bring felonies.

“If there had been some other federal statute that specifically addresses the conduct, we would have considered using it,” Williams said in an interview with OPB’s Amelia Templeton. “We have and still believe we brought the most applicable and appropriate charges under the evidence, which is our duty.”

The Prosecution

Some described the prosecution’s case as a “slam dunk.” In basketball, a slam dunk is a show of force.

Mike Arnold, Ammon Bundy’s previous attorney, told OPB’s Anna Griffin he thinks the prosecution brought felony charges to make a powerful statement with “serious prison time.”

“Their goal is to prevent any sort of activity like this in the future from the actual defendants themselves and other like-minded folks,” Arnold said.

Prosecutors brought mounds of evidence to the

table — sometimes literally, like when they brought a large display of firearms and ammunition into the courtroom.

And rarely did defendants dispute the facts of the case. They admitted to illegally taking over a federal facility, even to bringing their arms.

“It didn’t bother me to be arrested because I’m where I want to be right now,” Medenbach said on the stand. “Like the Bundys, I’ve been called by a higher power ... we all know this is what God called us to do.”

But prosecutors missed the dunk. And just like in basketball, a missed dunk in the courtroom can be humiliating.

Juror No. 4 — who earlier sparked a fellow juror’s dismissal by questioning his impartiality — wrote the Oregonian/OregonLive saying the prosecution came off as arrogant in its case.

“The air of triumphalism that the prosecution brought was not lost on any of us,” the juror wrote.

The prosecution moved through its case quickly. Prosecutors rested after 13 days. They cross-examined Ammon Bundy for just 15 minutes. Their closing argument lasted less than two hours.

Williams admitted the hurry with which prosecutors prepared their case may have hurt it. He called the legal timeline “extraordinary.”

The prosecution focused heavily on the occupiers’ intent behind the refuge takeover. But the jury ultimately determined the prosecution failed to prove impeding federal employees was the occupiers’ goal — even if the occupation actually did impede employees.

The Defense

Matt Schindler, Medenbach’s hybrid counsel, delivered a thunderous closing argument on Oct. 19.

The charge all seven occupiers faced was conspiracy to impede federal employees from doing their jobs by threat, force or intimidation.

“I just sat through five weeks of a trial about threatening federal employees without hearing a single threat,” Schindler said in his closing argument.

The defense tried to make its case bigger than the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Fish and Wildlife employees in Harney County.

Five defendants ended up taking the stand, speaking at length about the U.S. Constitution, land management, divinity, and the 2014 standoff in Bunkerville, Nevada. Ryan Bundy questioned his wife on the stand. David Fry giggled when prosecutors asked him about using government computers. Medenbach reveled in the glory of public testimony after decades of protesting the federal government.

In their closing arguments, defense attorneys attempted to instill into the jurors a sense of political responsibility.

“We’re counting on you to stop government overreach,” Marcus Mumford, Ammon

Bundy’s attorney, told the jury. “Our trust is in you.”

The Verdict

Defense attorneys expressed shock at the verdict; even they did not expect such a result. It came despite scrutiny from U.S. District Court Judge Anna Brown and prosecutors for lack of organization.

Defendants and their supporters erupted into tearful celebration outside the federal courthouse in downtown Portland (and streamed it live online, just like much of the occupation).

“We came to Oregon — to Harney County — seeking justice,” defendant Neil Wampler said after his acquittal, “and today we found it.”

But despite defendants’ and supporters’ cries of victory, Juror No. 4 wrote in his letter to the Oregonian that the verdict was not an endorsement of the occupiers’ political beliefs.

“It should be known that all 12 jurors felt that this verdict was a statement regarding the various failures of the prosecution to prove ‘conspiracy’ in the count itself — and not any form of affirmation of the defense’s various beliefs, actions or aspirations,” the juror wrote.

The Celebration

The mood was jubilant among occupiers and their supporters, who grilled, milled and posed for cameras in downtown Portland on the Friday following the verdict.

Many people have said they fear the verdict will embolden defendants and their supporters. Cox and Fry both said they would participate in protests like the Oregon Standoff again.

“If I have a compelling urge to come out here to join a protest, if I think it’s a legitimate reason to come, I’ll absolutely protest,” Fry told OPB.

The reaction was different just a few blocks away.

Don’t Shoot PDX, a Portland activist group supportive of the Black Lives Matter movement, was holding what was supposed to be a rally, unrelated to the trial, at Portland State University.

“I don’t know how I can keep telling people to protest,” lead organizer Teresa Raiford told the crowd. Raiford seemed exhausted.

The occupiers’ acquittal came the same day more than 100 protesters in North Dakota were forcibly removed from the construction site of the Dakota Access Pipeline and arrested. It came weeks after Don’t Shoot PDX protesters were pushed out of City Hall and pepper-sprayed by Portland police.

Raiford expressed anger at having to discuss the Malheur trial verdict. She and countless others on social media highlighted what many see as a double-standard in how law enforcement and the justice system punish people of color. With the exception of David Fry, defendants in the occupation case were all white. All jury members were also

white.

“Forty-one days at a compound on federal land,” Raiford said, pointing to weapons at the refuge, occupiers’ refusal to leave, and threats made by occupiers against the FBI.

“The difference is we would have been murdered,” Raiford said.

Jarvis Kennedy, of the Burns, Oregon, Paiute tribe told OPB’s Amanda Peacher he was angry with the verdict. Kennedy and the Paiute tribe have been vocal opponents of the Malheur occupation from the start. However, Kennedy added he was now more motivated to fight for Native lands and rights.

Don’t Shoot PDX eventually marched past the occupation supporters’ barbecue Friday, where they staged a die-in near the courthouse steps and burned an American flag.

After a brief shouting match, Bundy supporters went back to the grill and Don’t Shoot PDX continued to City Hall.

The Implication

Ammon and Ryan Bundy are still in federal custody, despite an animated effort by Marcus Mumford to win his client’s release upon receiving the verdict.

After arguing with Judge Brown for Ammon Bundy to be let go, Mumford was tackled by U.S. Marshals, allegedly tased, briefly detained and later released.

The Bundy brothers still face charges for the 2014 standoff in Bunkerville led by their father, Cliven Bundy.

Seven Oregon occupiers still await trial in February, though the status of those proceedings could be in limbo.

Shawna Cox called Thursday’s outcome “just one win” in a larger movement to change how the federal government manages land in the American West.

U.S. Attorney Billy Williams seemed to hope more people would shun the Bundys’ form of protest.

“There are a good number of folks in rural America who are of the mind that you don’t take arms and take over a federal facility to prove your point,” Williams said.

The Oregon verdict will certainly color the conversation around the impending trial in Nevada. The result there — where the penalties for alleged crimes are slightly more harsh than Oregon — has the potential to make even bigger waves in the so-called patriot movement.

But occupiers and their supporters cooking out in downtown Portland took heart in the Oregon verdict and envisioned a long fight ahead of them on behalf of rural Americans.

Under downtown shade-trees, defendant Jeff Banta approached supporter David Zion Brugger, who decorated his hat and shirt with “NOT GUILTY” buttons, and shook his hand.

In a hushed voice, Banta said, “See you down the road.”

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

Erl H. McLaughlin has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of MARY ANN McLAUGHLIN, Deceased, Probate Case No. 16PB07034, Wallowa County Circuit Court, State of Oregon. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative or the Attorney for the Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate must present them to the Personal Representative at:

Alyssa D. Slater, P.C.
Alyssa D. Slater, Attorney for Personal Representative
107 Depot Street – P.O. Box 729
La Grande, Oregon 97850
(541) 663-8300
(541) 663-8298 Fax

within four months after the first publication date of this notice or they may be barred.

Dated and first published October 26, 2016.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF WALLOWA In the Matter of the Estate of RODNEY T. ENCE, Deceased. Case No.: 16PB07045 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Chase Taylor Ence has been appointed personal representative of the above entitled estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative at 301 West Garfield, Enterprise, OR 97828 or to the personal representative’s attorney, Rebecca J. Knapp, at PO Box 236, Enterprise, OR 97828, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred.

All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative, or the lawyer for the personal representative.

Dated and first published on November 2, 2016.

Rebecca J. Knapp, OSB #012754
Attorney for Personal Representative

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Troy School Board will meet for their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at 4:00 pm at the Troy School House. A copy of the agenda may be seen at the Wallowa Education Service District administrative office at 107 SW First Street #105 in Enterprise.

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the Wallowa County Planning Commission on Tuesday, November 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the Thornton Conference room of the Wallowa County Courthouse. The agenda for this meeting will include, but is not limited to, the following items:

Rails & Trails AMD#16-01 –To allow the placement of a non-motorized trail in the Wallowa Union Railroad right-of-way (Joseph to Enterprise section), update the County’s Transportation System Plan and adopt the Joseph Branch Rail-with-trail concept plan and other related documents. The provisions which govern this review are Goal 12 of the Wallowa County Comprehensive Land Use Plan and any other applicable goal, regulation or ordinance of Wallowa County or the State of Oregon.

Minutes: For the Planning Commission meeting of October 25, 2016.

The December Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for December 27, 2016.

This matter will be reviewed for conformance to the WCCLUP and the WCLDO and any other applicable goal, regulation or ordinance of Wallowa County or the State of Oregon. All applications and draft staff reports may be reviewed in the Planning Department Monday – Friday from 8:30am – 5:00pm. Written comments must be received by the Wallowa County Planning Department -101 S. River St. Room B-1, Enterprise, OR 97828 - by 5 p.m. on Monday, November 28, 2016. Oral comments may be given at the time of the hearing which is open to the public. Those interested in attending are encouraged to do so.

Ramona Phillips, Chairman
Wallowa County Planning Commission



GARAGE SALE

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