

Cross-country competes at high altitude

By Stephen Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

The combined EHS cross-country team regularly finds new heights to explore and the past week was no exception. The high school team traveled to Pendleton Oct. 19 for the Kyle Burnside Wildhorse Invite, and the middle school squad competed Oct. 20 at the Middle School East Side Championships, also in Pendleton.

The high school girls placed third in the 10-team competition, scoring 72 points, behind The Dalles, Hood River Valley and Hermiston, all much larger schools.

Kyla Hook placed third, tying her personal best, while Ellyse Tingelstad was sixth with a season record.

"All the girls ran great," Coach Dan Moody said. "Ashley Wilson and Ella Coughlan stepped up big-time. They had to beat Union's four and five girls, and they did so decisively."

Wilson and Coughlan placed 24th and 27th respectively with

personal records.

The boys placed 10th in a field of 15 teams. Moody highlighted the performances of James Madsen and Cole Gomes, both of whom ran personal record times in the 35th and 42nd slots respectively.

"I think all 14 of the high school kids posted the best times of their careers or season. Hopefully, we're peaking at the right time," Moody said. "This shows that hard work is being rewarded. It's not because of me, but because of the kids."

The high school squad will travel to Pendleton's Community Park for the Special District 5 championships Oct. 27.

The junior high squads cleaned up at the east side championships. Competing against 119 runners, the boys took first in a field of 10 teams, capturing three of the top four spots with Bayden Menton, Zac Knapp and Henry Coughlan's first, second and fourth place finishes, respectively. Every member of the team posted personal records.

The girls placed third, led by Greta Carlsen's 10th-place finish and Payton Tippet's 14th-place contribution. Both were also personal records.

"That was my highlight of my two days," Moody said. "All 14 of them that ran posted personal bests. This is an exceptional bunch of runners."

The entire boys team and some of the girls will travel with Moody to Monmouth to compete in the state middle school meet on Sunday.

"They deserve to go and compete because they've done so well," Moody said.

Members of the Enterprise boys cross country team start the Middle School East Side Championship race on Friday in Pendleton. The boys won the meet and will travel to Western Oregon University to compete in the state championships on Sunday. Runners, from left, include Ian Goodrich, Zac Knapp, Roan Flynn, Weston Wolfe, Henry Coughlan and Bayden Menton.



Tom Nordtvedt/Courtesy photo

Outlaws gridders gunned down in John Day, 52-6

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

The Outlaws traveled to Prospector territory in John Day on Oct. 20 but left reeling after a 52-6 defeat at the hands of fourth-ranked Grant Union.

"It was rough sledding," coach Rusty Eschler said. "The highlight is that we came

through it unscathed -- we don't have any injuries. They were a very big and physical football team."

The coach said he thought the players felt a little intimidated at their opponent's size and played tentatively.

"As coaches we need to do a better job of preparing them

for a hostile environment like that," Eschler said. He further clarified hostile environment as the size of the Prospectors and not the team or the community itself, which he said treated the Outlaws like royalty. He added that after playing in Grant Union, the team is accustomed to playing football

against a top-level squad.

Justus Even had the lone touchdown for the game, scoring from eight yards out. Senior Cole Farwell led the team with 64 yards on the turf while Garrett Thorne had 28 yards rushing. The Outlaws had 119 yards total offense.

"We didn't use our quick-

ness on the defensive line like we usually do," Eschler said. "We can usually get in the gaps and into the backfield. We were slow coming off the ball, so those big kids got hold of us."

Eschler said the Outlaws are looking forward to meeting Imbler this Friday on their own turf.

"If we win, we're in." Eschler said in regards to the winner of that game's chances at a state berth. "We just need to concentrate."

The loss left the Outlaws 1-1 in league play and 2-3 overall. The team is currently in the eighth spot in OSAA 2A rankings.



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