



Shanna Rae Tillery makes her move toward the basket during Saturday's game against Nixyaawii at WHS. Paul Wahl/Chieftain

Eagles cagers split weekend away

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

The Eagles boys and girls teams traveled to Nixyaawii and to Cove for their respective Jan. 19-20 league games. Both teams lost to top-ranked Nixyaawii but walked away from Cove with impressive victories.

The Eagle boys came very close to knocking seventh-ranked Golden Eagles off their perch at Friday's contest, losing by a score of 46-40, the lowest number of points the Golden Eagles have scored all season.

"The boys played hard but couldn't hit all their shots," said coach Olan Fulfer.

The boys were down 15-6 at the end of the first quarter but evened up the score in the second, going into the half down 23-20. The third quarter saw the game tied at 33 each, but the Eagles only scored seven in the final quarter to Nixyaawii's 13.

"It would have been nice to beat Nixy on their home court, we've never done that," Fulfer said. "Still, we're showing grit, and I'm just really proud of the way our kids played."

Tyler Homan led the scoring with 15.

"He hit some key shots and played some really stellar defense while being a good leader for us," Fulfer said.

Post Caevan Murray followed with 11 points and he played the best defense his coach has seen him play this year. Freshman Chase Mur-

ray followed with six points and Trey Wandschneider had five and made an outstanding defensive contribution, according to Fulfer.

Cove received a 53-40 drubbing at the hands of the Eagles even though Joseph was down by five at halftime. Fulfer said the team learned not to overlook any opponent during the contest.

"We went into halftime smiling and looked for ways to improve, and that's huge," Fulfer said.

The Eagles came out on fire for the second half, scoring 20 points to Cove's seven and took a 42-34 lead going into final quarter. The Eagles practiced their stall offense in the fourth quarter and came away with a 13-point win.

"We're moving forward as a team, and that's huge," Fulfer said. "We're concentrating on what we can keep doing in order to win when it matters."

Caevan Murray led the scoring with a huge 24 points and a ton of rebounds while brother Chase Murray knocked in 15. Homan and Wandschneider each donated four points toward the victory.

Girls results

The high-flying Eagles ladies came crashing to earth after a 63-33 loss to the second-ranked Golden Eagles last Friday. The Nixyaawii machine proved to be a little too well maintained for the Eagles to shut down.

Coach Lance Homan said that their opponents passed

and shot the ball extremely well, and noted that team members have played together for a long time. Homan added that the Eagles didn't shoot well and turned the ball over too many times. He added that the girls played hard and he was proud of the way they worked.

Alexis Sykora led the scoring with 12 points while Haley Miller added nine. Sabrina Albee contributed seven points toward the Eagles' total.

The following day saw the Eagles pounding the hide off the Cove Leopards with an impressive 50-21 victory, although the team struggled in the first half, missing a number of close shots. However, the team rebounded after some halftime rest.

"I was proud of how our girls responded and finished the last two quarters. Our defense was as good as it has been all year," Homan said. He added that Albee's second-half shooting inspired her teammates to respond in kind and noted the team played with cohesiveness the rest of the game.

The amazing Albee, a freshman, scored 27 points to lead the Eagles attack. Sykora lent 15 points in her efforts and Miller contributed six points toward the win.

The Eagles girls and boys are ranked fifth and 20th in the state, respectively. The girls have a 6-2 league record while the boys are 5-3. Both teams occupy the third slot in the Old Oregon League.

Lady Cougs fall to Powder Valley, Nixyaawii

By Paul Wahl
Wallowa County Chieftain

Wallowa's Lady Cougar Varsity Basketball team lost two games this past week.

Powder Valley came to town Friday night and walked away with a 51-20 victory.

Nixyaawii Community School of Pendleton dropped in Saturday and defeated the girls, 81-29.

Wallowa stuck closer to Powder Valley this outing than the last matchup earlier in the season, coach Annette

Moeller said. Shanna Rae Tillery led the effort with six points, Jamie Johnston and Rylee Goller added four each and Ella Moeller, Ashlyn Young and Grace Pendarvis each had two.

Nixyaawii, a perennial powerhouse, dominated every aspect of Saturday's game. Wallowa did manage to hold one of the squad's leading scorers Mary Stewart to 11 points. Milan Schimmel poured in 24 points.

Tillery led the Cougars with 12 points, Austin Post,

Josie Scott and Riley Ferré had four each and Pendarvis and Goller added two each.

This week's matchups are against Joseph, Griswold and Pine Eagle. Wallowa lost to Joseph in a previous league matchup, dropped its earlier game against Griswold and defeated Pine Eagle.

BOYS TEAM

Wallowa Boys Varsity Basketball team lost to Powder Valley, 61-54, Friday and was defeated by Nixyaawii Saturday, 34-59. Both were home games.

SPORTS CALENDAR

JOSEPH BOYS BASKETBALL

Friday, Jan. 26 — Joseph vs. Powder Valley at home, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Joseph vs. Echo at home, 5 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Friday, Jan. 26 — Joseph vs. Powder Valley at home, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Joseph vs. Echo at home, 4 p.m.

WRESTLING

Saturday, Jan. 27 — Joseph participates at Pine Eagle Invitational in Halfway, no time available



WALLOWA BOYS BASKETBALL

Friday, Jan. 26 — Wallowa vs. Griswold away, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 27 — Wallowa vs Pine Eagle at home, 5 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Friday, Jan. 26 — Wallowa vs. Griswold away, 3 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 27 — Wallowa vs Pine Eagle at home, 3 p.m.



ENTERPRISE BOYS BASKETBALL

Friday, Jan. 26 — Enterprise vs. Grant Union away, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Friday, Jan. 26 — Enterprise vs. Grant Union away, 6 p.m.

WRESTLING

Saturday, Jan. 27 — Enterprise participates at Pine Eagle Invitational in Halfway, no time available



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