

SPORTS

Track season kicks off

By RONALD BOND
Wallowa County Chieftain

Juston Rogers and Henry Coughlan both won individual races and helped the 4x400-meter relay team to victory in the Joseph track and field team's first competition of 2021, the Baker three-way, Thursday, April 15.

Rogers won the 400 in 55.08 seconds, was second in the 200 in 24.07, and joined Coughlan, Ian Goodrich and Bayden Menton to take the mile relay in 3:49.80.

Coughlan, who with Goodrich and Menton was fresh off a state title in cross-country, won the 3,000 by more than a minute with a time of 9:24.32. Menton was second in the 800 in 2:10.30, and Goodrich took third in the 1,500 in 4:39.03.

Kale Ferguson showed well in his first high school meet, taking second in the discus at 111 feet, 8 inches, third in the shot put (33-feet-5-1/4) and third in the high jump (5-feet-0). He also was eighth in the 100 in 12.30.

Kane Johnson placed third in the 400 (1:05.64) and seventh in the javelin (88-feet-1), and Keelelan McBurney took fifth in the javelin (91-feet-5) and seventh in the discus (75-feet-6).

For the girls, just three athletes competed Thursday, and each had a top-eight finish. Lottie McDonald took second in the 400 (1:08.95), Iona McDonald was fourth in the 800 (2:45.47) and Ariana Samples was seventh in the discus (58-feet-3).

On Saturday, the Joseph boys posted five wins at the Union Invite, with Coughlan posting two wins and helping a relay team to victory.



Michael Caine/Contributed Photo
Henry Coughlan, shown at the cross-country state championship earlier in April, won races at two track meets for the Joseph boys track and field team last week.

Coughlan claimed the top spot in the 400 in 53.91 and in the 1,500 in 4:14.07, and he and Menton, Goodrich and Rogers won the 4x400 relay in 3:43.21.

Goodrich won the 800 for the Eagles in 2:14.94, and Ferguson took top honors in the discus with a distance of 110-feet-2. Ferguson also took fourth in the 100 in 12.30.

Other top eight placers included Rogers taking second in the high jump (5-feet-4), third in the 200 (24.84) and sixth in the 100 (12.47), McBurney was fifth in the

javelin (95-feet-1/2) and sixth in the shot put (30-feet-4), Johnson taking sixth in the 800 (2:27.56) and seventh in the discus (69-feet-8-3/4), and Menton placed seventh in the 400 (57.56).

On the girls side, Lottie McDonald was second in the 800 (2:52.32) and sixth in the shot put (20-feet-9), and Iona McDonald was fourth in the 400 (1:13.28).

Enterprise has six wins in its first meet of the season Saturday in Union, including four on the girls side from two athletes.

Distance-running stand-

out Kyla Hook placed first in both the 1,500 (5:33.11), and in the 3,000 (12:18.07), and Savannah Vaughn was first in the 200 (29.40) and the high jump (4-feet-8).

Vaughn's win in the high jump headed four high jumpers in the top five for the Outlaw girls. Althea Komiskey was second at 4-feet-4, Arian Latta third at 4-feet-0, and Hailey Jenkins fifth at 3-feet-10.

Sierra Holcomb was second in the javelin (87-feet-3), Komiskey was fourth in the 100 (15.13), Asiya Salim was fourth in the shot put (22-feet-6) and fifth in the javelin (63-feet-4), and Ailena McEntire took fifth in the 200 (31.87).

On the boys side, Zac Knapp won the 3,000 (9:56.60) and was second in the 1,500 (4:22.84), and Jericho Peters won the 200 (24.53). Peters also was third in the 100 (12.01) and along with Zander Walker, Ransom Peters and Lute Ramsden, was second in the 4x100 relay in 48.10. Ramsden also was second in the 200 (24.81) and 400 (54.82).

Gideon Gray took second in the high jump (5-feet-4) and fourth in the javelin (101-feet-2-1/2). Roan Flynn took fourth in the 800 (2:24.69) and the long jump (16-feet-3/4). Brenden Moore was fifth in the 3,000 (10:48.45), and sixth in the 1,500 (4:53.34). Ransom Peters added a fifth-place finish in the 200 (25.79) and was eighth in the 100 (12.58). And Tanner Kiesecker was eighth in both the shot put (28-feet-1) and the discus (29-feet-1/2).

Enterprise is back in action Thursday, April 22, at Prairie City, and Joseph returns to Union Saturday, April 24.



Wallowa County Chieftain, File
Wallowa Valley's David Salim, shown in a 2019 file photo, had eight hits in two games for the Eagles as they opened the season Friday, April 16, 2021, with two wins at Stanfield/Echo.

Eagles dominate in season opening doubleheader

Chieftain staff

Dominance was the name of the game in the season opener for the Wallowa Valley baseball team.

The Eagles scored often — very often — in sweeping Stanfield/Echo in a doubleheader Friday, April 16, by scores of 22-0 and 13-0.

The opener was dominated not only by the offense, which pounded out 19 hits, but also by the pitching of Trace Evans. The senior struck out the first nine batters he faced, and fanned a total of 10 batters in four innings. He walked nobody and allowed no hits — only an error kept him from four perfect frames. Trace Collier tossed an inning of relief, allowing a hit and striking out two.

The big day offensively was from David Salim, who went a perfect 5-for-5 with a double and three runs. Jackson Grover and Lane Rouse also had three hits each, and Rouse and Maclane Melville scored three times. Evans also went 2-for-5 and scored three times.

Wallowa Valley scored seven runs in the first inning and started subbing early, but still added on with five runs in the second, third and fourth innings.

In the second game, the runs came later for the Eagles, who had a 3-0 lead after three innings, then plated six runs in the fourth and scored four more times in the fifth. Salim carried over his hot bat from the opener with three more hits and two more runs. Chase Homan and Flynn Nave had two hits and scored twice, and Grover also scored twice.

Nave was sharp in four innings of work, allowing just one hit, walking two and striking out 11. Collier closed out the game again in the fifth, allowing a hit and recording a strikeout.

The Eagles (2-0 overall) visited the La Grande JV Tuesday, April 20, and visit Heppner/Ione Friday, April 23.

Wallowa Valley takes two of three in opening week

Liz Rowley homered, drove in three runs and scored three times, Claire Farwell and Sophie Moeller also scored three times each, and the Wal-

lowa Valley softball team opened Season 3 by outlasting Weston-McEwen Tuesday, April 13, in a slugfest, 16-10.

Rowley also had a double as Wallowa Valley pounded out 17 hits, including seven extra-base knocks. Moeller and Brianna Rouse both had two doubles on the day, with Moeller driving in a pair of runs. Farwell had four hits and also had two RBIs, and Macy Marr drove in two runs.

Saturday, Wallowa Valley split a home doubleheader against McLoughlin, winning the opener 14-7, and dropping Game 2 by a score of 12-8.

Rowley homered for the second game in a row, doing deep in the opening-game victory. She also doubled, drove in five runs and scored twice. Moeller scored four times, Farwell had three runs and Kirkland scored twice. Farwell, Cooper Nave, Moeller and Rowley each had two hits. Aimee Meyers struck out seven batters and allowed just one run on two hits in five innings.

In the nightcap, Kirkland powered the offense with three hits, including two doubles, and had a run and an RBI, and Meyers and Nave both scored twice.

Wallowa Valley (2-1 overall) visits Grant Union for a doubleheader Saturday, April 24.

Wallowa/Joseph golfers return to the course

Frank Westerman shot a 98 to lead the effort by a young Wallowa/Joseph boys golf team in its first tournament of 2021 Friday, April 16, in Echo.

Six of the eight golfers Friday — and seven of the nine total — are new to the team, head coach Marvin Gibbs said.

"It was more a learning experience for everybody," Gibbs said.

The rest of the scores included Owen Malloy with a round of 116, Mason Moore at 118, Willie Gibbs with a score of 120, Hayden Hite with a 121, Owen Gorham at 130, Jace Fisher at 140 and Jesse Larison with 150.

Wallowa/Joseph does not have a girls team this season.

The team is back on the course Friday, April 23, at Buffalo Peak Golf Course in Union.

Linfield bound



Joseph's Juston Rogers, a senior track and field athlete, signs his letter of intent to run for Linfield College in McMinnville on Thursday, April 8, 2021. Rogers, whose best time in his signature 800-meter event is 2:02, will run both the 800 and 400 for NCAA Division III Linfield beginning in the fall. The Oregon record for 1A division boys is 1:57.83 and national record for high school boys 800m is 1:46.45. Rogers applied to the University of Oregon and Portland State, but decided on Linfield because the school has a small but welcoming campus that will feel a little more like home. "It put me on the team and gave me the opportunity to run in the track right away," he said. Rogers characterized the grueling 800 event as a "... all about will and doing a two-lap sprint." The Eagle senior expects to improve his time in the events after a long COVID layoff from track training and competition. "It will be good to get back on the track," he said.

Ellen Morris Bishop/For the Wallowa County Chieftain

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