

PREP SPORTS ROUNDUP

Eagles see winning streak come to end

Chieftain staff

UNION — The Joseph Eagles boys basketball team saw its perfect run to start the season end Friday night, May 28, with a 55-47 loss at Union.

The Bobcats, who opened up a double-digit lead in the second half and held on to win, were powered by a 28-point performance by Keegan Glenn.

Joseph, which trailed 29-23 at the half but saw the deficit grow to 47-35 after three quarters, was led by Mason Ferre, who scored 19 points. Reece Nelson added nine points and James Burney netted seven points.

Eagles thump Outlaws

A night earlier, the Eagles scored early and often in rolling over Enterprise on the road on May 27, 66-33.

The Eagles got 13 points from both Ferre and Chase Murray. Javon Brown added 10 points and Burney scored nine points.

Joseph built a double-digit lead by halftime of 32-19, then posted 25 points in the third quarter to break the game open and take a 57-25. Ferre had eight in the period to outscore Enterprise on his own.

The Outlaws did have balanced scoring, with both David Salim and Spencer Decker scoring seven points, and Jackson Decker adding six points.

Joseph (4-1 overall) hosted Cove Tuesday, June 1, while Enterprise (0-3) visited Wallowa June 1, then travels to Echo June 5.

Cougars take two tough losses

The Wallowa boys basketball team dropped a pair of home games, falling to Cove, 61-38, on Wednesday, May 26, and to Pine Eagle Friday, 46-37.

Against the Leopards, Tristin Bales led the way for Wallowa with 17 points, while Mason Moore and Zeb Hermens each scored six points.

Cove built a 29-13 lead by halftime. Wallowa hung tough, and was able to cut into the lead in the third quarter before the Leopards pulled away.

Tee Ledbetter led Cove with 23 points.

On Friday, the Spartans came away with a win in a low-scoring contest.

Pine Eagle led just 17-7 at halftime. The Cougars found an offensive rhythm in the third and cut the deficit to 29-22, but couldn't get over the top in the fourth.

Bales led the way with 15 points, including 13 in the second half, and Hermens scored 12 points.

The Cougars (0-3 over-

all) hosted Enterprise Tuesday, June 1.

Joseph girls edge Enterprise

The Joseph girls basketball team got the best of Enterprise in a road contest Thursday, May 27, collecting a 47-41 win.

On Thursday, the Outlaws grabbed a 19-18 lead at the half with its typical balanced scoring as seven players netted points in the first half.

In the third quarter, Joseph started raining 3-pointers, hitting five in the period — including two each from Sabrina Albee and Brianna Micka — to open up a 35-27 lead. Albee, who finished with a game-high 26 points, added seven in the fourth quarter to help the Eagles hold on.

Micka added eight points, and Sarah Orr scored seven.

For Enterprise, Rylin Kirkland scored 13 points, including 11 in the second half. Grace Collins chipped in with eight points as eight different players scored.

The Outlaws (1-2 overall) were at Wallowa Tuesday, June 1, then visit Echo June 5.

Union runs over Joseph

The Joseph girls saw their three-game winning streak end with a 47-25 road loss to Union Friday, May 28.

Union already was up 25-17 at the half, then busted the game open in the third, outscoring Joseph 12-3 for a 37-20 lead.

Kaylin Nowak and Callie Glenn had 11 points each for Union.

Albee led Joseph with 19 points, and the senior guard scored all eight of Joseph's points in the second half.

Joseph (3-2 overall) heads to Wallowa Wednesday, June 2.

Staigle takes second to lead Joseph/Wallowa wrestling at Culver

Jonah Staigle placed second overall to help the Joseph/Wallowa wrestling team score 42 points at the Culver Invitational Friday, May 28.

The senior recorded pins of Bonanza's Erza Neese (2:31), Nestucca's Dylan Prock (50 seconds) and Adrian's Toby Clow (51 seconds) to reach the final at 220 pounds. He lost there, though, by fall to Ridgeview's Cole Jackson in 3:14.

Justin Rogers (145 pounds), Adrian Cabrera (170) and Kale Ferguson (182) all went 2-2 for Joseph. Rogers and Ferguson won both their matches by fall.

Up next is the Jo-Hi on Thursday, June 3.

Scoring bursts by Albee, Micka lift Eagles

By RONALD BOND
Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH — Sabrina Albee caught fire in the third quarter. Brianna Micka followed suit in the fourth.

The scoring surges proved to be enough to boost the Joseph girls to a win in their first basketball game on the new home floor.

Albee scored 11 of her game-high 19 points in the third quarter, Micka hit three fourth-quarter 3s — including two late seal the deal — and the Eagles fended off a scrappy Wallowa Cougar squad for a 42-33 victory Tuesday, May 25, in Joseph.

“Basketball is a game of runs, for sure,” Joseph head coach Lance Homan said. “That game at a certain point could go either way depending on how the ball bounces, but definitely, if we can get Sabrina going, and Brianna’s shooting well right now and getting her in her spots, that helps a lot.”

The Eagles never trailed after Albee grabbed a steal, dribbled up court and popped a long 3-pointer for a 26-24 lead with 2:55 to play in the third.

But the Cougars, who were playing their first game of Season 4, hung around until the final moments, responding every time Joseph went on a run.

Libby Fisher, who led Wallowa with eight points, scored twice in the final two minutes of the third to pull the Cougars even at 28-28. Aimee Meyers’ layup to close the third gave the Eagles a two-point margin, and Micka opened the fourth with a trey for a 33-28 margin.

Sophie Moeller’s 3-pointer out of a time-



Ronald Bond/Wallowa County Chieftain

Joseph’s Sabrina Albee, left, sets up for a 3-pointer off a screen during the third quarter of a Season 4 basketball home game against Wallowa on Tuesday, May 25, 2021. Albee scored 19 points in the Eagles’ 42-33 victory.

out cut Wallowa’s deficit to 35-31 with 6:05 to play, and the game was still in doubt until Micka, who finished with nine points, hit a pair of 3s 30 seconds apart — the last for a 42-31 with just 2:06 to go — to put the win away.

“That pretty much was the difference right there,” said Greg Oveson, who is beginning his third stint as Wallowa’s head coach. “We ran out of gas. I don’t know that we were in any better shape than they were. I know Lance has had some girls that haven’t been there much. We just need a few more practices. I feel like we could have done a little better, but I’m really happy with what I saw tonight.”

The back-and-forth contest, which featured nine lead changes, saw neither team pull ahead by more than four points until the fourth quarter. Wallowa struggled with turnovers in its opener, but

made up for it with scrappy defense and length at several positions which gave Joseph issues.

“They have a pile of good young kids that have played a lot of basketball, and they’ve played a lot of basketball with Oveson, and they played hard,” Homan said. “I was extremely impressed, which was exactly what I expected. I was impressed with Wallowa. They’re much longer than us. They’re just athletic. They’re extremely athletic. They’re a good basketball team.”

Ella Moeller had four of her seven points in the first to help Wallowa take an 8-7 lead after one, and her 3-pointer in the second countered a 3-point play by Meyers and kept the Cougars ahead, 11-10. Meyers and Zoe Hermens traded baskets in the final 10 seconds to see Joseph go into the half up 17-15, and Haley

Brockcamp’s layup to open the third tied the score.

Albee then found her touch. The senior hit a 3 coming off a screen, then later had a layup for a 22-19 edge. Sophie Moeller’s trey and Brockcamp’s jumper gave the Cougars the lead back at 24-23 before Albee’s steal and 3 and then jumper in the key pushed Joseph back ahead, setting the stage for her teammate to go off in the fourth.

Sophie Moeller and Brockcamp both added six points for Wallowa, while Meyers chipped in seven for Joseph.

“I was pretty happy with the way we played,” Oveson said. “Five of the girls, last night was the first night they’ve been out. We were pretty disorganized. Other than that we did some good things. We start having a few more practices, I think in a couple weeks we’ll be alright.”

Inside game key as Eagles scoot by Wallowa

By RONALD BOND
Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH — An extended run that started midway through the first quarter and rolled early into the third quarter gave the Joseph boys basketball team a win in its home opener.

The Eagles held Wallowa without a point for more than nine minutes during a 25-4 run, and moved to 3-0 in Season 4 with a 55-29 win over the Cougars on Tuesday, May 25, at Sather Court.

“I was definitely proud of those guys. (They were) playing hard throughout the whole game,” Joseph head coach Olan Fulfer said. “I gotta give it to Wallowa, too. They played incredibly hard, and they played us tough the whole time.”

The teams were close early, but the tables quickly turned after Tristin Bales’ layup tied the game for Wallowa at 7-7 with 4:30 to go in the first quarter.

Mason Ferré, who had had a game-high 15 points, scored five straight to start the run, and Javon Brown had a late layup to send the Eagles into the second ahead 17-7.

Wallowa never got back within double digits.

A second quarter dominated by Brad Wilcox, who scored eight in the period



Ronald Bond/Wallowa County Chieftain

Wallowa’s Zeb Hermens, left, drives to the hoop against Joseph’s defense Tuesday, May 25, 2021. Hermens scored 12 points to lead Wallowa, but the Cougars fell, 55-29.

and 14 in the contest, ended with the Eagles ahead 30-11. In the quarter, Wilcox had a hot stretch late with a putback, a short field goal and a layup that helped Joseph quickly build the margin.

Fulfer said the goal was for his team to open up the inside game with outside

shooting, which was what the Eagles ultimately did.

“We missed a lot of shots that we’re hoping to later on make,” he said. “I still wanted them to take those shots. Some of them were kind of out of the offense, but the main thing is I want them attacking and feeding

the post, and that’s what we started doing finally after our timeout. Brad ended up with (several points) just off those drives and dishes.”

Zeb Hermens, who led Wallowa with 12 points, did hit a 3-pointer with 3:20 to go in the second that ended a nine-minute drought and pulled the Cougars to 22-10, but Wallowa got no closer the rest of the night.

The margin touched 24 in the third when Chase Homan’s trey made it 41-17. The Cougars trimmed the deficit to 17 to start the fourth on a putback by Jace Fisher, but Joseph scored eight of the next 10 points, going up 49-26 on another layup by Wilcox.

The Cougars struggled with turnovers and played rushed on the night, but Fulfer chalked a lot of that up to his opponents being in their opener, and expects they’ll improve quickly.

“Joseph played really well,” Wallowa head coach Cody Lathrop said. “It was a great atmosphere for Joseph. It was a pretty intimidating atmosphere for us. Being the first game, when we showed up, we wanted to win bad, and we were a better team than we showed.”

Brown added six points for Joseph, while Mason Moore chipped in seven for the Cougars.

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

SABRINA ALBEE

Sabrina Albee is already off to a fast start in Season 4 girls basketball. In five games, the Joseph senior is averaging 23.6 points per game, already has three contests with more than 25 points (with a high of 28) and has 19 3-pointers, averaging nearly four per contest. Nice work Sabrina, you’re this week’s Athlete of the week!

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Pet of the Week

The Purrfect Mother-Daughter Pair!
MEET WILLOW & SNICKERS!

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