

Enterprise

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son Decker are our only two seniors, and they have been outstanding leaders.”

Crane responded with the eventual game-winner on the next possession. On fourth and five near midfield, quarterback Mitch Clark broke away down the left side for a 46-yard touchdown, and then threw a successful conversion pass to Jake Doman for the two-point lead.

“Just a few mental errors and mistakes on defense,” Eschler said. “We correct those in practice and the defense has been solid for us the last two weeks in practice. We just made some mental errors. Get those corrected and we should be even better.”

Enterprise’s ensuing drive was stalled, but the Outlaws forced a stop to get the ball

back with 3:30 remaining. The Outlaws drove to the 31 of Crane, with Gray doing most of the damage on the ground, but Jared Zander sacked backup quarterback Tyler Knapp — who filled in for an injured Decker on the final two drives — on fourth down to get the ball back, and Crane was able to run out the clock.

Enterprise scored on its first possession of the game — and the season — to take an early lead. The Outlaws recovered an onside kick to open the game, maneuvered their way downfield, and didn’t let a holding penalty get in the way of the endzone. They were backed up due to the penalty early in the series and eventually faced fourth-and-16, but Decker found an open Gray who went 25 yards for the score and an early 6-0 lead just 4:45 into the game.

“I see our boys’ poten-

tials. I think we can get there too, we just gotta work hard and not let anything stop us,” Gray said.

Crane got on the board early in the second quarter, with the key play on the drive a Taylor Krueger 24-yard run on a double-handoff to get the Mustangs to the eight-yard line. Clark dove in from a yard out three plays later and threw a conversion pass for the 8-6 lead with 9:16 left in the second. It was the only score until Gray’s run in the fourth.

Enterprise seemed to catch a break in the third when Gray recovered a Kelton Dunten fumble at the Crane 45. Gray, though, fumbled on the next possession to give the ball back to the Mustangs.

The senior didn’t let the error faze him, and accounted for all but one of Enterprise’s 35 yards on a short drive on its next possession, including the score for the lead in the fourth.

“I knew if I got down that my team would get down so I gotta keep my head up,” he said of bouncing back from



Ronald Bond/Wallowa County Chieftain

Enterprise’s Gideon Gray, center, waits for a hole in the line to open up before breaking away for a 26-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter of the Outlaws’ game against Crane Friday, Sept. 3, 2021. The touchdown gave Enterprise the lead, though Crane scored on the next possession and ended up winning 16-14.

the fumble.

Gray was the main force on offense, not only rushing for 148 yards but adding 40 yards receiving. The rest of the team had 21 total yards rushing and receiving.

Decker was 3-for-6 passing for 60 yards.

“On offense I gotta give most of the credit to my blockers,” Gray said. “I just follow them. They make the holes, make it happen. I just

run the ball. It’s mostly all the credit to them.”

Clark passed for 81 yards passing and 53 rushing to lead Crane’s offense.

Enterprise (0-1 overall) visits Pilot Rock Thursday.

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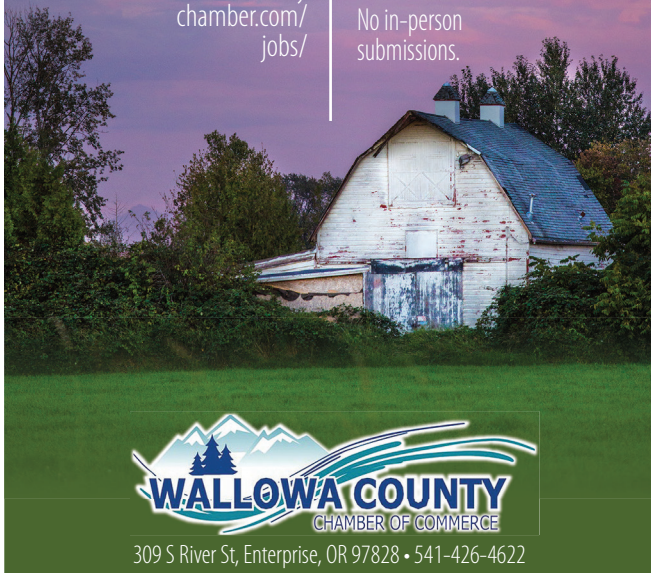
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Joseph:

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of 12 yards. On the next play, Miller dropped the quarterback — who fumbled the ball attempting to throw it away — and Ferguson scooped it up and went the other way for a 55-yard touchdown to tie the score at 6-6.

“Between the two of them, you are probably looking at two defensive players of the year,” Christman said of Ferguson and Miller. “They’re going to destroy it.”

Seemingly now in control, the defense backed Echo up and ultimately, Jesse Larrison sacked Curiel in the endzone for a safety and an 8-6 lead. On the next offensive series, Grover

broke free for his first score of the day — a 19-yard run — for a 14-6 advantage late in the opening quarter.

He again scored midway through the second, this time from five yards out, to cap a nine-play drive and give Joseph a 20-6 lead.

“He didn’t come out as a freshman, but he came out this year as a sophomore and immediately took a roll and just has been putting it to it. It’s like he hasn’t missed a beat,” Christman said of Grover. “He’s crushing it.”

The Curiels connected for a 16-yard score just before the break to get back within 20-12 at halftime.

A 3-yard Miller run and a 21-yard Javon Curiel reception were the scores for the respective teams in the third quarter, which ended with Joseph ahead 26-18 and set

the stage for a wild final few minutes.

While Curiel had moments where he picked Joseph’s defense apart, the Eagles also responded in kind often, sacking the quarterback seven times — five in the first half — and recovering the two fumbles and grabbing an interception, which Grover collected to set up Joseph’s fourth-quarter touchdown. Grover also had one of three fumble recoveries for Joseph. Miller had three of the sacks and Ferguson recorded two.

The Eagles’ primary source of offensive success was on the ground. Grover’s big day was part of a 215-yard effort in the running game for Joseph. Trace Collier was 6-for-10 for 48 yards passing, with Grover having four receptions for 29 yards.

The Cougars’ strong effort through the air was offset by a ground attack that netted minus-37 yards on the night, largely due to the seven sacks of Curiel resulting in a loss of 79 yards.

Javon Curiel had 12 catches for 206 yards, and Wyse added six catches for 147 yards. All told, Joseph won despite being outgained by Echo 388-263.

The Eagles (1-0 overall) host South Wasco County Friday, Sept. 10, in an early matchup between arguably the two best teams in the now four-year, six-man resurgence. The teams have met four times in the last three seasons, splitting the contests 2-2. The Redsidies won in the spring 45-0, and are the only team to hold Joseph under 30 points in six-man play.

Volleyball:

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clipped the net and fell in for an ace for the set and the lead.

The Eagles were never truly threatened in the

fourth set, building a quick double-digit lead and sending the match to the final set.

Meyers had five kills, 17 digs for Joseph, and was one of five players with at least 10 digs. Cooper Nave led the Eagles with 20 digs, McKenzie Keffer had 19, and Abby Orr and Maggie Miller had 14 each. Emma and Sarah Orr, meanwhile, each had four blocks.

On Saturday, the Eagles competed at the Cat Clash in Echo and Stanfield, defeating Elgin and Irrigon in pool play and losing to Stanfield, then in bracket play defeating Wallowa in two sets and losing to Union in three sets.

In pool play, Keffer tallied 10 aces. Curry had 14 kills and 13 digs, Meyers had a team-best 20 digs and Nave had nine kills and 16 digs. Abby Orr added 11 digs. Later in bracket play, Nave had 10 kills and 13 digs. Miller had 13 digs, Meyers had 10 digs and three aces and both Sarah Orr and Curry had five kills.

The Eagles (4-2 overall) visits Union Wednesday and hosts Cove Thursday.

Enterprise wins twice, then takes third at tourney

The Enterprise Out-

laws won matches last week against Griswold and Wallowa, then took third place at the Prairie City Tournament over the weekend.

On Tuesday, Aug. 31, Enterprise swept Griswold on the road, 25-16, 25-20, 25-15.

The Outlaws had played a pool play set against the Grizzlies earlier in the day and lost, so head coach Lisa Farwell was pleased with the team’s response.

“We were playing with only seven gals, so our lineup was limited,” she said. We showed some good composure to take the match in three sets after we’d lost to Helix in pool play in one set.”

On Thursday, the Outlaws showed more composure, dominating the final two sets of the match to defeat Wallowa in four sets, 25-19, 17-25, 25-11, 25-12.

In the match, Maci Marr had eight kills and Jada Gray added six kills. Both also served up five aces.

On Saturday in pool play, the Outlaws dropped two sets to Prairie City/Burnt River, defeated Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler in two sets, split two sets with Adrian, and dropped two sets to Ione/Arlington. Later in match play, Enterprise defeated Mitchell/Spray/

Wheeler, lost to Adrian and bounced back to top Ione/Arlington.

“We are improving with every set,” Farwell said. “My girls are gaining confidence as they gain experience with what’s already our second lineup of the season. Rilyn Kirkland and Bri Rouse are handling setting duties and are hustling all the time — their work ethic has been awesome. We played 16 sets in one day, so exhaustion set in, but the team kept pushing in our last match and came out on top. I was really proud of them.”

The Outlaws (5-2 overall) hosted Cove Tuesday, Sept. 7, then host Prairie City/Burnt River Saturday, Sept. 11.

Cougars open play

Wallowa dropped its first match of the season to Enterprise Thursday, Sept. 1, then competed in the Cat Clash Saturday, Sept. 4, in Echo and Stanfield.

The Cougars dropped matches to Union and Joseph in bracket play. The rest of the results were not available.

Wallowa (0-3 overall) visited Imbler Tuesday, hosts Pilot Rock Thursday and plays both Pine Eagle and Elgin in Halfway Saturday.

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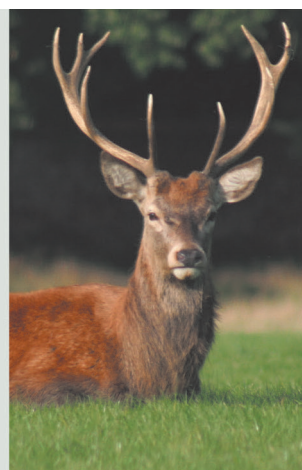


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