

## SPORTS

# Enterprise cruises past Ione/Arlington, 51-6

By RONALD BOND  
Wallowa County Chieftain



Ronald Bond/Wallowa County Chieftain, File  
**Enterprise's Gideon Gray, shown earlier this season against Crane, rushed for 165 yards and three touchdowns in the Outlaws' 51-6 win over Ione/Arlington on Friday, Oct. 1, 2021.**

going to come in here con- strong showing, really dom-  
fident.' (We had) a very inant performance. Prob-

ably our best game of the year overall."

Not only was it the best game of the year for the Outlaws, but arguably the best in a few years. The 51 points was the first time Enterprise had scored 50 since defeating Imbler 50-12 in 2019, and the margin of victory was only eclipsed the last three years by a 58-8 win over Arlington/Condon in 2018.

In addition to a big game from Gray, EHS also saw Trey Stewart rack up 82 yards and two scores. Ransom Peters added 62 yards and a touchdown, and Jackson Decker had 176 yards passing and added one 49-yard touchdown scramble.

And in a rarity in 8-man

football, Tyler Knapp was a perfect 6-for-6 on extra points and connected on a 26-yard field goal.

"Very happy with the defensive side of the ball. Kids stepped up," Eschler said. "We didn't have a scouting report and kind of went into the game cold."

The coach also credited the play of the offensive line, highlighting Tanner Kesecker who filled in for regular starter John Howard.

"He did outstanding," Eschler said. "All the offensive line blocked their butts off. They're the big reason why we have that many yards of rushing."

The Outlaws (2-3 overall, 2-3 Special District 2-West) face Elgin on Fri-

day in their final regular-season home game.

### Joseph forfeits due to quarantine

The Joseph football team was forced to forfeit its Friday, Oct. 1, contest at Pine Eagle due to having players in quarantine because of COVID-19.

Head coach Duncan Christman said the quarantine was the reason the previous week's contest against Prairie City/Burnt River was rescheduled to late October. A reschedule date didn't work, though, this time around.

Joseph (3-1 overall) hopes to be on the field Saturday, Oct. 9, when it hosts Huntington for a 2 p.m. kickoff.

# Cougars denied by late Cove score

Wallowa also loses quarterback Lute Ramsden to an injury in 34-28 loss

By RONALD BOND  
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Ronald Bond/Wallowa County Chieftain  
**Wallowa's Cody Riverman, center, looks for running room against the Cove defense during a game Friday, Oct. 1, 2021, in Cove. The Leopards scored late to steal a 34-28 victory.**

COVE — Wallowa appeared to be on the way to nabbing a victory in a tight back-and-forth matchup against Cove.

But in a rough final minute, the Cougars saw the Leopards steal the win, and saw their best player leave with an injury.

Cove's Patrick Frisch scored the winning touchdown with eight seconds to play as the Leopards escaped with their second win of the season, topping Wallowa 34-28 on Friday, Oct. 1, in Cove.

"Kids fired up, did a lot of good things," head coach Jeremy McCulloch said. "Down a lot of starters, (but the) kids fought hard. That's what's important."

With less than a minute to play, Wallowa forced a fumble inside the five-yard line recovered by Sawyer Wentz that appeared it would give the Cougars a 28-24 victory.

But Lute Ramsden, the Wallowa do-everything quarterback and defensive back, suffered a leg injury on the drive, forcing him out when the Cougars took back over on offense. His status moving forward is not yet clear.

The ensuing snap went over the head of Wentz, the

backup quarterback, into the end zone for a safety to make the score 28-26, and the free kick was returned by Cove to the Wallowa 38 with 27 seconds to play.

Frisch threw two incomplete passes, but on third down got loose on the right side to reach the end zone for the game-winning score.

Cove then recovered the ensuing kickoff and was able to kneel out the win.

"We lose (Ramsden) at the end or were able to take knees, but it is what it is. We dressed 12 and ended with 11," McCulloch said. "It's a tough game."

Wallowa took the lead, 28-24, with 9:01 to play on a three-yard scoring run by Ramsden, part of another big day by the junior, who amassed 193 yards on 27 carries and scored twice. He also completed 7-of-12 passes for 45 yards. Lucas Hulse and Cody Riverman also scored for the Cougars, who finished with 299 yards of offense, including 254 on the ground.

Ramsden intercepted a pass from Frisch on the first play of the game to set up the Cougars at the Leopards' 35, and Wallowa needed just nine plays to get on the

board, with Riverman scoring from five yards out for an early 6-0 lead just 5:27 into the game.

Cove evened the score late in the first when it snuffed out a Cougar punt fake and, on the next play, got a 29-yard touchdown run by Quinn Hobbs.

Wallowa responded with a 10-play drive that bled into the second quarter and took the lead back on Ramsden's first TD rush of the day, a scoring on a run of five yards.

Cove scored the next two TDs, with David Creech's score from two yards out

helping the Leopards take an 18-14 lead at the half.

Each team had an empty possession to open the third, then traded touchdowns. Hulse scored on a three-yard run with 4:04 to play in the third to put Wallowa ahead 22-18, but just six plays later Nolan Barton-Needham found paydirt from 12 yards out to put the Leopards back ahead, 24-22.

Ramsden's second score returned the lead to Wallowa and set up the dramatics at the end.

The Cougars (1-2 overall, 1-2 Special District 3-East) travel to Crane on Oct. 8.

# Eagles top OOL rival Badgers in five, stay unbeaten in league

Chieftain staff

NORTH POWDER — The Joseph volleyball team earned what, to this point, could be its biggest win of the season.

The Eagles clawed their way to a five-set road victory over Powder Valley on Thursday, Sept. 30, notching a 25-15, 25-12, 21-25, 23-25, 15-5 win.

"Girls were firing in the first two sets, then started making some mental errors in the next two sets (and) also missed 12 serves," head

coach Jill Hite said. "They gathered back up, got the final set and went back to (playing) fundamentally."

Joseph followed that with a road sweep of Pine Eagle on Friday to run its winning streak to 12 in a row and stay undefeated in Old Oregon League play.

In the win over the Badgers, Cooper Nave turned in her top match of the season, tallying 23 kills and adding six aces. Molly Curry had 13 kills, Emma Orr added seven kills and Aimee Meyers was the team leader in

assists and added four aces. Stats and scores were not provided for the Pine Eagle match.

The Eagles (16-3 overall, 7-0 OOL) hosted Wallowa on Tuesday, then travel to Elgin on Friday, Oct. 15.

### Enterprise returns to the court

Enterprise finally got on the court after 2½ weeks without a match.

The Outlaws dropped their Blue Mountain Conference opener to Weston-McEwen on Thursday, Sept. 30,

losing 25-15, 25-21, 25-21, then played two matches Saturday in John Day, winning one and losing one. EHS fell to Grant Union, 25-17, 25-10, 25-14, then defeated Pilot Rock, 19-25, 26-24, 25-16, 25-18, for its first league win.

Against Weston-McEwen in the Outlaws' first match since Sept. 11, Maci Marr had six kills, Rilyn Kirkland had four aces and Rosie Movich-Fields had eight digs.

"It was our first match back after a bye weekend

followed by a long, unexpected quarantine period," head coach Lisa Farwell said. "We weren't happy with our play overall, but considering we'd had one practice together, it was good to be playing again as a team. We have a lot of volleyball in the coming week, so hopefully we'll get back into the groove we had going before our long hiatus."

Stats were not available for Saturday's matches, but Farwell said the Outlaws

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# Knapp wins fourth straight to start season

Chieftain staff

BAKER CITY — Make it four wins in four races for Zac Knapp.

The senior standout for the Wallowa Valley cross-country team dominated again, winning the Baker Invite on Friday, Oct. 1, with a time of 16:15.34, his time the best in the field by more than a minute.

Knapp's dominant win helped lead the Outlaws to another team victory. Wallowa Valley finished with 32 points as a team, outpacing Union/Cove (54 points) which took second, and far outpacing third-place Parma, Idaho (97 points). Knapp was one of five Wallowa Valley runners in the top 15, and six in the top 20.

Joining him was Bayden Menton in second with a time of 17:28.51. Ian Goodrich took ninth in 18:21.69, Levi Ortswan was 11th in 18:41.85, and Weston Wolfe rounded out the Outlaws' top five in 13th in 18:46.94.

Chase Homan was 18th in 19:09.13, and Andrew Nordtvedt was 31st in 20:15.46.

The girls team for Wallowa Valley took sixth with 139 points. Weiser, Idaho, won with 53 points, and was one of four teams under 100.

Iona McDonald led the Outlaws in 27th with a time of 24:22.20, just ahead of Maddie Nordtvedt, who was 29th in 24:36.73.

Lannie Stonebrink was 35th in 25:57.58, Michaila Caine was 40th in 26:32.52 and Isabella Brann was 42nd in 26:36.89.

Wallowa Valley returns to action Thursday, Oct. 7, at the Mustang Invite in Heppner.

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