

Crawford set to retire at conclusion of this season

EHS girls coach has 519 career victories in 33 seasons

By RONALD BOND
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Long-time Enterprise girls basketball coach Mike Crawford has announced he'll call it a career and retire following this season.

Crawford is in his 33rd year leading the girls team, with his first season being in

1989-90. Along the way, success has been a theme for the program. Over the weekend, Enterprise secured its 24th season under Crawford with a record of at least .500. The Outlaws have reached 20 victories 14 times in that span, made it to the state playoffs 17 times and 10 times placed at state, with the peak being a 58-54 title-game victory over Santiam Christian in 1996.

The program was most dominant from the mid-1990s to the early 2000s, a stretch during which Enterprise won the league eight years in a row and claimed six district titles. The team also won 20 games



Ronald Bond/Wallowa County Chieftain

Enterprise head coach Mike Crawford watches his team during the second half of a game Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022. The coach, who is in his 33rd season leading the Outlaws, has announced he'll retire at the end of the season.

or more each of those years and followed the '96 title with a third-place finish in '97 and a runner-up performance in 2001. The team's record during that time was 182-31.

Crawford told the Chieftain last year that a major factor in the success he and Enterprise have had over the years is due to his players.

"I've been incredibly blessed to be at one school and have the people around me in that entire time to be able to accomplish the feats we have done together," he said.

He was honored with a ceremony during halftime

of the boys game on Feb. 12, where more of the accolades achieved by Crawford and the program were highlighted. Along the way, Crawford has amassed a record of 519-273, having coached in 792 games. He picked up his 500th win when Enterprise defeated Heppner in overtime, 40-38, during a Blue Mountain Conference district tournament contest Feb. 22, 2020.

His tenure at one school is the longest of any coach in Oregon girls basketball history. His win total is eighth

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Emily Love, right, shoots during the second half of Enterprise's 50-30 home victory over Weston-McEwen Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022.



Ronald Bond/Wallowa County Chieftain, File

Enterprise's Cody Fent, shown during the Enterprise Kickoff on Dec. 3, 2021, took fifth at 170 pounds during the Pine Eagle Invitational on Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022.

Outlaws, Eagles wrap up regular season on the mat

Chieftain staff

HALFWAY — The Enterprise wrestling team had a second-place finish and two third-place efforts in its final tournament of the regular season as the Outlaws took eighth at the Pine Eagle Invitational on Saturday, Feb. 12, in Halfway.

Will Ogden posted a second-place finish at 195 pounds for the Outlaws in just two matches. He pinned Irrigon's Austin Wells in the semifinals, but in the finals lost by technical fall, 18-1, to Cade Cunningham of Heppner.

Gunnar McDowell went 3-1 to take third at 220. He opened with a pin of Crane's Emery Hammond, and in the semifinals lost by fall to Gabriel Bowlin of Nampa Christian. He followed with two more pins, topping Heppner's Nathan Ellsworth, and in the third-place match pinning Peyton Riggs of Nampa Christian.

Gabby Delapena, wrestling at 120, also took third. She dropped a semifinal match to Joseph's Jett Peterson by fall, then pinned Payton Perry of Vale in the third-place match.

Both Cody Fent (170) and Pearce Schnetzky (132) went 2-2, with Fent taking fifth. Fent dropped a quarterfinal match by fall to Crane's Jake Doman, then won a consolation match over Raul Gonzalez of Vale by a 10-4 decision. He dropped a consolation semifinal by fall to Nampa Christian's Ethan Pearson, but finished in the fifth-place match with a win by fall over Alex Finley of Grant Union.

Schnetzky didn't place, but opened with a first-round win by an 11-6 decision over Irwyn Murguia

of Irrigon. He was pinned in the quarterfinals by Vale's Colt Cummings, then pinned James Carey of Echo in the consolation bracket before being eliminated by fall against Brady Otley of Crane.

Tegan Evans was the busiest wrestler, going 3-2 at 145 and placing sixth. After an opening-round win by fall over Imbler's Krager Muilenburg, he dropped a match by fall to Reece McConnell of Elgin. He later earned a 7-1 decision over Vale's Tyler Richardson, but lost by fall to Will Seggerman of Pine Eagle in the consolation semifinals. In the fifth-place match, Evans dropped a close 4-1 decision to Vale's Buster Harmon to settle for sixth.

And Trey Charlton dropped two matches by fall at 285 to Rolando Moreno of Grant Union and to Gino Gallegos of Echo.

For Joseph, Peterson's aforementioned win over Delapena moved him to the championship match at 120 pounds, where he lost by fall to Roen Waite of Heppner.

Gavin Russell took fifth at 152 by going 2-2. He took the quarterfinal match, a win by fall over Adrian's Derek Faulconer, then dropped two in a row, one to Elgin's Gen Wintersteen by fall, and one to Kelton Dunten of Crane by a score of 10-5. In the fifth-place match, he took down Ryan Coombs of Grant Union by fall.

Dylan Rogers dropped two matches by fall at 126, one to Giovanni Cartwright of Pine Eagle and one to Tanner Cagle of Nampa Christian.

Both teams compete in the 2A/1A Special District 4 tournament Feb. 19 in Adrian.

Outlaws tame TigerScots

Enterprise overcomes struggles, emotion to defeat Weston-McEwen in season finale

By RONALD BOND
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — A combination of emotion and exhaustion hampered the Enterprise girls basketball team in its regular-season finale Saturday, Feb. 12.

It was senior night. The Outlaws hadn't returned from the previ-

ous night's game in Pilot Rock until about 1 a.m. And there was emotion around the fact that the game would be the final regular-season contest for longtime head coach Mike Crawford.

But even that didn't keep Enterprise out of the win column.

Emily Love scored a game-high 23 points on a night when shots wouldn't fall for Enterprise and, despite the struggles, the Outlaws secured what on paper appeared to be an easy 50-30 win over Weston-McEwen.

That the Outlaws finished with 50 points despite the struggles impressed Crawford.

"Interesting game," he said. "My

perspective on that is we seemed to struggle, a lot of it, and then to still drop 50... Emily went crazy in the game. And she's been a stud for us anyways. She really had a spectacular game today."

It felt like Enterprise was in command most of the game — as it was following a 13-0 second-quarter run that put the Outlaws ahead for good. But the TigerScots hung around, and an uneasy feeling descended on Quinn Court when Dalana Pickard scored to make it 32-26 with 5:35 to play.

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Outlaws' district bid falls short

By RONALD BOND
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — The Enterprise boys basketball team had shown ample improvement in the late stages of the season, enough that the Outlaws had something to play for — a potential district tournament berth — in the regular-season finale on Saturday, Feb. 12.

But visiting Weston-McEwen grabbed the lead for good with 45.9 seconds remaining in a back-and-forth thriller and forced three turnovers in the final minute, and the TigerScots survived a Blue Mountain Conference battle, topping the Outlaws, 57-54, to bring an end to Enterprise's season.

Still, even in the loss, head coach

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Enterprise's Jackson Decker glides in for a layup attempt during the second half of a basketball game Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022.

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