

SPORTS

OUTLAW SOFTBALL

Outlaws run winning streak to six

Chieftain staff

ENTERPRISE — The Wallowa Valley softball team finally returned to play on its home field Friday, April 29, and continued what is now an extended winning streak.

Liz Rowley and Aimee Meyers both tossed one-hit shutouts, Rilyn Kirkland had seven RBIs on the day, and the Outlaws earned two dominant victories over Riverside in Special District 2 play, 11-0 and 14-0.

The wins were the fifth and sixth in a row for Wallowa Valley, which has now won eight of its last nine contests. Five of those eight victories have been via shutout.

Rowley struck out eight batters and walked two in five innings in the opener, and helped herself at the plate by going 3-for-3 with an RBI and three runs scored.

Kirkland swung a big bat, as the senior went 3-for-4 with a double and a home run, and finished with six RBIs. She also scored twice. Between them, Kirkland and Rowley combined for six of the Outlaws' 10 hits and seven RBIs.

Meyers was just as solid in the pitcher's circle in the nightcap, striking out seven in her five innings of work.

The offensive output, meanwhile, was a bit more distributed. Maci Marr finished with a double and a game-high three RBIs, while Sophie Moeller, Meyers and Rowley each had two RBIs and scored twice. Rowley, in fact, went 3-for-3 with two doubles to cap off a day where she went 6-for-6 at the plate.

In all, 11 players had a hit for the Outlaws in the second game, 10 players scored and nine drove in runs.

The Outlaws (14-6 overall, 6-2 SD2) continue SD2 play May 4 when they host Umatilla.



Melissa Kirkland/Contributed Photo

Wallowa Valley's Cooper Nave, right, awaits a throw at first base during a doubleheader against Riverside Friday, April 29, 2022.

Kirkland homers in each game as Wallowa Valley sweeps Echo/Stanfield

Chieftain staff

The Wallowa Valley softball team headed into its final homestand of the season with momentum after a road sweep — one that included the Outlaws surviving a slugfest.

Rilyn Kirkland and Cooper Nave both homered to help power Wallowa Valley to a wild 17-15 win Tuesday, April 26, at Echo/Stanfield, and the Outlaws secured a

7-5 win in the second game to pull out the sweep.

Nave also doubled, walked twice, and finished with five RBIs and three runs scored, while Kirkland went 3-for-3 with three walks, three RBIs and four runs scored. Sophie Moeller, Liz Rowley and Brianna Rouse also had three hits each.

As a team, Wallowa Valley batters finished with 19 hits, 13 RBIs and were walked 12 times. The Out-

laws also registered five stolen bases.

All of that offense was needed as Echo/Stanfield did its own damage at the plate. The team earned 11 hits, walked five times and saw four batters hit by a pitch.

In the nightcap, Kirkland hit another home run, Aimee Meyers and Abby Straight had two RBIs apiece as the Outlaws won a second, much more tame, contest.

TRACK AND FIELD

Nelson, Ferguson take three at Union to lead Eagles

Chieftain staff

UNION — Reece Nelson and Kale Ferguson each won three events as the Joseph boys track and field team placed second at the Union Relays on Saturday, April 30.

Nelson reached 6-feet-2 in the high jump for the second weekend in a row to win the event. He also earned the top spot in the long jump at 20-feet-2½ and in the triple jump at 40-feet-9½.

Ferguson coasted to victory in the javelin, winning by more than 22 feet with a throw of 147-feet-6. He eked out a win in the shot put by just over six inches at 36-feet-½, and won discus handily with a mark of 134-feet-7. The junior also was part of a win in the 4x100 throwers relay with Gavin Russell, Lucas Goodrich and Brad Wilcox, as the quartet won in 52.10 seconds.

An eighth win for the Joseph boys came in the 4x100, as Russell, Dylan Rogers, Jayden McNall and James Burney took the top spot in 48.90 seconds.

Adding second-place finishes was the 4x800 team of Bayden Menton, Jett Leavitt, Lucas Goodrich and Ian Goodrich, in a time of 9:47.08, and the distance medley relay team of Leavitt, Kane Johnson, Alexander Perry and Menton, in 12:05.32.

Russell added two individual second-place finishes in the shot put (35-feet-6) and the javelin (125-feet-3).

Taking third in the discus was Lucas Goodrich at 96-feet-6, and in fourth in the 110 hurdles was Rogers in 22.52 seconds, and Johnson was fifth in the javelin at 104-feet-4.

Basey Dawson had a strong day for the Joseph girls, snagging the Eagles' lone victory in the high jump at 4-feet-8. She also was third in the javelin at 82-feet-6, and was part of both the fourth-place 4x200 relay (2:06.85) and the fifth-place 4x100 relay (59.97). In both relays, she teamed with Flora McDonald, Casen Cunningham and Abby Orr.

Ariana Samples added an individual third-place finish in the discus at 72-feet-0. And also fifth was the 4x100 throwers relay of Cunningham, Sarah Orr, Samples and Lakotah Steel in 1:07.11.

The Enterprise girls posted three victories on the afternoon, two from Nevaeh James who went 1-2 with Jada Gray in both the 100 hurdles and 300 hurdles. James turned in times of 18.32 and 53.39, respectively, to win the races, while Gray followed at 19.11 and 55.49.

James also ran on the winning 4x100 relay team, joining Althea Komiskey, Maddie Nordtvedt and Lannie Stonebrink to win in 54.88.

Two other EHS girls relay teams were second, with the 4x100 throwers relay team of Lacie Hearing, Gabby Delapena, Sophia Espinoza and Kadence Budge finishing in 1:03.98, and the distance medley relay team of Nordtvedt, James, Alisha Melville Michaila Caine taking second in 15:46.99.

The 4x200 relay of Stonebrink, Ailena McEntire, Madison Wigen and Nordtvedt was third in 2:05.06.

Wigen and Gray were second and third in the high jump at 4-feet-6 and 4-feet-4, respectively, and Espinoza was fourth in the discus at 70-feet-6.

For the EHS boys, Roan Flynn was second in the 110 hurdles (21.64 seconds), 300 hurdles (45.32), and the long jump (17-feet-8-1/2). Tanner Kesecker also was second in the discus (105-feet-8). And the 4x200 relay team of Ransom Peters, Mali Wilson, Cory Walker and Levi Ortswam was second in 1:47.13.

In third was the 4x100 throwers relay team of Rylan Coulson, Felix Stieger, Kesecker and Noah Meyer in 59.72, and the 4x800 relay team of Peters, Ortswam, Liam Wolfe and Andrew Hurley in 9:48.77. Individually, Weston Wolfe was third in both the 110 hurdles (21.80) and the 300 hurdles (47.46), and fifth in the triple jump (34-feet-6).

The Joseph boys were 3.5 points behind Union, taking second at 132.5. The EHS boys were fourth with 77 points. On the girls side, EHS scored 97 points to take second, and Joseph was with 38 points.

Meanwhile, a night earlier on the other side of the state, Enterprise's Zac Knapp finished ninth at 9:10.44 in the men's 3200-meter run at the Nike/Jesuit Twilight Relays April 29 in Portland.

Knapp's time was just 15 seconds behind race winner Max Girardet of Central Catholic, who won the race in a time of 8:55.25. Knapp defeated runners from much larger Oregon schools such as Newberg, Marshfield, Jesuit, West Salem and Wilsonville, among others.

Both teams are back in action May 6, Joseph at the Baker Invitational and Enterprise at the Grant Union Invitational.

BASEBALL

Wallowa Valley settles for split against Riverside



Mandy Decker/Contributed Photo

Wallowa Valley's Lane Rouse slides into home to score during a doubleheader against Riverside Friday, April 29, 2022.

Chieftain staff

ENTERPRISE — The Wallowa Valley baseball team settled for a split in just its second and third home games of the season Friday, April 29, dropping the opener of a Special District 5 doubleheader to Riverside, 11-9, before rolling in the nightcap, 14-1.

The Eagles squandered a 4-0 first-inning lead and an advantage of 6-2 in the opener. The Pirates scored twice in the third to cut the lead in half, three times in the fourth to take a 7-6 lead and added on in the fifth and sixth innings.

Spencer Decker and Maclane Melville each scored twice in the opening contest,

and Lane Rouse finished with three RBIs.

In the second game, Wallowa Valley again took an early lead and this time didn't let up. The Eagles scored twice in the third to pad their lead to 5-1, then broke the game open with nine runs in the fourth. Decker and Rouse, who each had three runs on the day, scored twice each in the fourth. In the frame, Wallowa Valley had seven hits, including five straight at one point. Rouse's RBI double and Melville's run-scoring single started the onslaught.

The Eagles (9-8 overall, 4-4 SD5) are currently in fourth in the district with four SD5 games to play. They next host Umatilla on May 4.

GOLF

Jennings takes second, Homan third, at John Day

Chieftain staff

JOHN DAY — Dylan Jennings shot 87 overall to take second and lead the Enterprise boys golf team to a third-place finish at the Grant Union Invitational Friday, April 29, in John Day.

Alex Albanese shot 104 for the Outlaws to take fourth overall. Nathan Lamb carded a 126 and Parker Siebe shot 144. As

a team, the Outlaws had a score of 461, trailing the host Prospectors (418) and Vale (451).

Wallowa/Joseph had just three golfers compete, but had one of the best performances of the day, as Chase Homan shot an 89 to take third. Willie Gibbs added a 122, and Jonas McKee shot a 205.

For the EHS girls, Kimber Stein and Jordan Jennings

both shot 128 to pace the Outlaws and tie for fourth. Stein shot a 61 on the back nine to catch her teammate, who had shot 60 on the front nine. Jordyn Stonebrink had a 137, two shots ahead of Codi Cunningham, who had a 139, Ashlynn Greer had a round of 147, and Lydia Yost shot a 173.

Earlier in the week, at the La Grande Girls Invitational

on April 26, Jennings carded a 116 to lead the Outlaws. Cunningham followed with a 133, while Stein was involved in yet another tie with a teammate, this time with Greer as both shot 139. Martina Ayad rounded out the scoring for Enterprise with 187.

The teams return to action May 6 at the Enterprise Invitational.

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