

GOLF

Jennings claims district title, Homan takes third

By RONALD BOND

For the Wallowa County Chieftain

PENDLETON — Dylan Jennings won the district championship and a state tournament berth Monday and Tuesday, May 9-10, at the 3A/2A/1A Special District 3 tournament in Pendleton.

Jennings shot a two-day score of 174, and had his best effort on the second day of the tournament,

when he shot a low round of 84 to secure the title. The final nine holes was where Jennings really stepped up. He had shot a 46 on the front nine both days, and a 44 on the back nine May 9. But May 10 he cut into that score, carding a 38 to secure the win.

Jennings finished eight strokes ahead of Nyssa's Bailey Walker, who was second at 192. In third, and also securing a state tourna-

ment berth, was Chase Homan of Wallowa/Joseph, who rebounded from a first-day total of 98 to shoot an 89 in the second round and finish with a score of 187.

Alex Albanez shot a two-day score of 205 (105, 100) to post the second-best total for Enterprise. Caleb Sheahan shot 269 for two days, just ahead of teammate Nathan Lamb, shot a 271 over two days. Gunnar McDowell

wrapped things for Enterprise with a score of 332, but had a 22-stroke improvement on the second day.

Willie Gibbs had a two-day score of 274 for Wallowa/Joseph, and Jonas McKee had a 291 for the two days of the tournament.

For the EHS girls, Kimber Stein led the way with a two-day score of 259, shooting 128 on the opening day and showing consistency with a 131 on the final day.

Jordan Jennings shot a 269, two shots ahead of Cody Cunningham at 271. Jordyn Stonebrink had a two-day score of 295 and Ashlynn Greer rounded out the scoring at 316.

Jennings and Homan competed May 16 and 17 at the boys 3A/2A/1A state golf tournament in Banks. The EHS girls wrapped their season at the district tournament.

JOSEPH TRACK

Menton wins two district titles to lead Eagles

By RONALD BOND

For the Wallowa County Chieftain

BAKER CITY — Kale Ferguson and Reece Nelson have garnered much of the attention this season for the Joseph boys track and field team.

But on Friday, May 13, it was Bayden Menton leading the charge for the Eagles in terms of district titles.

Menton won two district championships to help power Joseph to a third-place finish with 92.33 points during the 1A Special District 4 championship in Baker City.

The senior distance runner took the top spot in both the 1,500 meters in a time of 4:13.84, and topped the podium in the 3,000 as he finished in 9:29.48. Both times were personal bests for Menton.

Ferguson and Nelson did both turn in strong days, even if it didn't garner multiple district titles. Ferguson did take the top spot in the discus with a throw of 138-feet-7, and was third in both the javelin (151-feet-1) and the shot put (37-feet-10).

Nelson, meanwhile, had three runner-up efforts, taking second in the high jump (6-feet-1), the long jump (20 feet) and the triple jump (42-feet-5).

Ferguson and Nelson were also part of a third-place 4x100 relay team, joining Gavin Russell and Dylan Rogers as the group finished in 47.38 seconds.

Additionally, Jett Leavitt was fourth in the 1,500 in 4:30.14, and seventh in the 800 in 2:19.36. Ian Goodrich was fifth in the 800 (2:16.39), Rogers was sixth in the 110 hurdles (20.37), and Russell was seventh in both the 200 (24.34), and the shot put (33-feet-7). And in eighth were Lucas Goodrich in the 800 (2:19.66), Kane Johnson in the javelin (119-feet-1) and James Burney in a tie for eighth in the high jump (5-feet-2).

The girls team, which took seventh with 23.5 points, got a strong day from Basey Dawson, who tied for third in the high jump (4-feet-6) and placed fifth in the javelin (89-feet-3), and was part of the fifth-place 4x100 relay team (1:00.15) with Flora McDonald, Casen Cunningham and Sarah Orr.

Iona McDonald was fifth in both the 1,500 (5:49.05), and the 3,000 (13:09.42), and Flora McDonald was tied for sixth in the high jump (4 feet).

Adrian won the boys championship with 112 points, while Crane was the girls district champion, scoring 141 points to edge Adrian (137).

The Eagles next compete at the 1A state championship May 19-20 at Hayward Field in Eugene. Joseph will have athletes in eight events on the boys side, and Dawson will be the lone girls representative in the high jump.



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Wallowa Valley's Maclane Melville pitches to a Nyssa batter Friday, May 13, 2022, during a game in Enterprise.

Eagles goes 2-2 on the week

By RONALD BOND

For the Wallowa County Chieftain

The Wallowa Valley baseball team wrapped up the regular season with a busy week that saw it go 2-2, as the Eagles were swept by Weston-McEwen on the road May 10, 4-2 and 9-8, then swept Nyssa at home May 13, 13-3 and 19-6.

The May 13 wins clinched third place in Special District 5, and sets up a district playoff game at home May 17 at home against Irrigon, a team the Eagles split with during the regular season.

The Eagles managed just three hits in the opener against Weston-McEwen, and didn't get on the board until Maclane Melville scored on a passed ball in the fourth inning to make the score 2-1. Jaxon Grover added a run in the fifth that made it 3-2, but the team got no closer.

Both Grover and Cody Fent allowed two earned runs in three innings.

The Eagles used a big third inning to take the lead in the nightcap May 10, and were ahead 8-6 after five innings, but the TigerScots scored in each of the last two innings, including twice in the bottom of the seventh, to

earn a comeback victory.

Weston-McEwen won the game in the seventh without a hit, as a walk, a hit-by-pitch and two errors — all with two outs — allowed the tying and winning runs to score.

An error, a steal of home and two passed balls allowed the Eagles five runs in the third, which put them ahead 6-1. Wallowa Valley scored two more runs in the fourth, which put it ahead 8-5, but went scoreless the rest of the way.

Grover went 3-for-4 and scored three times in the loss.

On May 13, the bats took off as the Eagles scored a combined 32 runs in the doubleheader sweep of Nyssa — a team that has also had single games of 30 and 31 runs allowed this season.

The Eagles broke the first game open with five runs in the first and three in the second to take an 8-2 lead, and added on from there. Caden Fent drove in three runs and scored three times in the victory, including an RBI double in the first that put Wallowa Valley ahead for good and a two-run single in the second. Spencer Decker and Melville each had a pair of RBIs.

In the nightcap, Wallowa Val-

ley scored in every inning — including six runs in the second, five in the third and seven in the fourth — to turn the game into a blowout, one that saw the Eagles pound out 15 hits.

Melville went 4-for-4 on the day and drove in three runs, while both Caden Fent and Jackson Decker went 3-for-3, scored three times and reached base four times. Six different players drove in two runs each, and four players scored three times.

Melville tied the game in the second at 3-3 with an RBI single, and Caden Fent put the Eagles ahead for good one batter later with an RBI double.

Trace Collier had the key hit during a five-run third with a two-run single that made the score at the time 11-4. In the fourth, an RBI single by Melville and a pair of errors helped push the lead to 16-6. Blade Suto later had a two-run double and scored on a bases-loaded hit batter for the final margin.

The Eagles (13-10 overall, 8-4 SD5) finished third in the district. They hosted Irrigon May 17 for the district's third playoff berth. A win puts them in the semifinal May 20 against Vale in Burns, while a loss ends the season.

SOFTBALL

Outlaws roll into district tournament on 10-game winning streak

By RONALD BOND

For the Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — The Wallowa Valley softball team may have seen its shutout streak end, but still earned two wins to wrap up the regular season.

And Cooper Nave had a huge role in both wins.

Nave homered twice as the Outlaws won the opener of a Friday, May 13, doubleheader against Nyssa, 12-3, then homered again in the nightcap, a 10-7 victory.

She finished the day 7-for-8 with three home runs, two doubles, eight RBIs and five runs scored.

Liz Rowley earned two wins in the pitcher's circle for the Outlaws, tossing seven innings in the opener and allowing three runs on three hits, walking three and striking out eight. In the second game, she tossed the last five innings, allowing two runs on four hits, walking two and striking out seven.

Nave drove in five runs in the first game, but wasn't alone in bashing the ball in the opener. As a team, the Outlaws had 15 hits, with seven players getting at least one hit and five getting multiple hits. Rilyn Kirkland had a 3-for-4 effort in the opener and, along with Nave, scored three runs. Aimee Meyers added two RBIs in the win.

Nave drove in three more runs in the nightcap, while Kirkland had a pair of RBIs. Both scored twice, and Meyers and Rowley also scored two runs each.

The Outlaws (18-6 overall, 10-2 Special District 2), who are on a 10-game winning streak, face either Vale or Umatilla in the district tournament May 20 in Burns.

ENTERPRISE TRACK

Four Outlaws claim a pair of district championships

By RONALD BOND

For the Wallowa County Chieftain

ATHENA — Zac Knapp, Levi Ortsam, Weston Wolfe and Nevaeh James all won individual district titles for the Enterprise track and field team Friday, May 13, at the 2A Special District 5 track meet in Athena, as the EHS boys finished in third place as a team and the Outlaw girls placed sixth.

Knapp, the favorite to win a state title this weekend in both the boys 1,500-meter and 3,000-meter runs, won both races May 13, posting a time of 8:47.76 to take the 3,000 and 4:03:01 to win the 1,500, the latter time being a personal best.

James, the freshman standout for the girls team, also claimed a pair of individual championships, winning the girls 100 with a personal best of 13.41 seconds and

posting a mark of 50.26 seconds to win the 300 hurdles.

Back on the boys side, Ortsam turned in a time of 51.69 to win the 400, while Wolfe won the triple jump with a distance of 38-feet-2. The trio of Wolfe, Ortsam and Knapp teamed with Andrew Nordtvedt to round out the district titles as the group took the 4x400 relay in a time of 3:38.80.

The Outlaw boys added a pair of runner-up efforts, with Ortsam taking second in the 200 in 23.66, and Ransom Peters placing second in the 100 in 11.79. Additionally, the team had three third-place finishes: Peters in the 200 (23.95), Wolfe in the 300 hurdles (44.82) and the 4x100 team of Peters, Nordtvedt, Cory Walker and Ortsam (46.22).

Tyler Knapp added fifth-place efforts in both the 1,500 (4:50.01)

and the 3,000 (10:50.26). Tanner Kesecker came in sixth in the discus (114-feet-6). In seventh in the triple jump was Cody Johnston (34-feet-9½). And rounding out the top-eight finishes was Walker in eighth in the 100 (12.68) and Andrew Hurley in eighth in the 3,000 (10:59.95).

The boys scored 99 points as a team to secure their third-place effort. Grant Union took the district title with 124 points.

Back on the girls side, EHS added three runner-up efforts to James' victories on its way to 77 points and sixth place. In the 300 hurdles, Jada Gray followed James to take second with a time of 53.86. And the combination of Gray, James, Maddie Nordtvedt and Lannie Stonebrink took second in both the 4x100 relay (52.93) and the 4x400 relay (4:27.84).

Individually, Nordtvedt was third in the 200 in 28.36, and EHS added a handful of fourth-place finishes from Madison Wigen in the high jump (4-feet-8), Sophia Espinoza in the discus (84-feet-9), Alisha Melville in the 400 (1:07.73) and Michaila Caine in the 3,000 (13:09.90). Caine also was sixth in the 1,500 (6:04.75). And rounding out the EHS placers were Althea Komiskey and Gray in the high jump at sixth and seventh, respectively, with marks of 4-feet-6 and 4-feet-4).

The girls side saw a tie for first place as both Weston-McEwen and Stanfield/Echo scored 112 points.

EHS heads to Hayward Field in Eugene to compete in the 2A state track meet May 19-20. The Outlaws will have athletes in 10 events on the boys side and six on the girls side.



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