EASTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY VOLLEYBALL

Mountaineers sweep 2 foes

By Ronald BondThe (La Grande) Observer

LA GRANDE — The Eastern Oregon volleyball team took some time to get started in each of its three sets against Multnomah Saturday.

Once they did, though, the No. 5 Mountaineers had no issue pulling away from the visiting Lions.

Jet Taylor had eight kills and five block assists and EOU, though not always sharp, swept Multnomah in Cascade Collegiate Conference action Saturday, 25-14, 25-11, 25-16, to cap a perfect weekend at home. Eastern swept Warner Pacific Friday, 25-17, 25-22, 26-24.

"That's been our M.O., to be honest, (and) tonight it was really pronounced," head coach Kaki McLean-Morehead said. "We didn't do a great job of the non-volleyball related stuff as far as starting off with strong communication, strong energy. That usually is something that gets us going, and we didn't do great job of that. But I think once we did get started, probably 10 points in, we started getting in a rhythm and doing what we needed to

Multnomah held an early lead in each set, and all three were tied at similar points — 7-7 in the first, 8-8 in the second, and 9-9 in the third.

It was about then in each set that Eastern put together a run to distance itself from the Lions.

A 9-2 run in the first set put the Mountaineers up 16-9, and a subsequent 6-3 spurt made it 22-12. A kill by Hailee Ackerman and a block by Ackerman and Taylor ended the set.

Madison Pilon capped a 9-1 run in the second set with an ace that put Eastern ahead 17-9, and an 8-0 run ended the set moments later on another Ackerman kill.

Eastern took a little longer to break away in the third, but another 9-2 run put the Mountaineers ahead 18-11,



Ronald Bond /The (La Grande) Observer

Eastern's Megan Bunn spikes Saturday against Multnomah blockers Emma Morcom, No. 8, and Faith Kraatz, No. 15.

and Sade Williams ended the match with a kill.

"We have a lot of room to improve. I don't think this weekend was our best weekend of play," Taylor said, pointing specifically to the team's attack as an area to get better. "For sure our hitting percentage. hitting wise we were making errors we don't normally make in games."

One area, though, that was consistent throughout the weekend — as it has been all season — was the defense. With Taylor leading the way both nights, EOU had eight team blocks Friday and seven Saturday. The team also had 117 digs in the two matches, which helped keep both Warner Pacific's and Multnomah kill percentage down. Kiley McMurtrey (30) and Aspen Christiansen (24) led the team in digs over the weekend

Christiansen pointed to the amount of court time together for her and McMurtrey — and, by extension, the team — as why the back line has been solid.

"It helps that this is Kiley and I's third year playing next to each other, so over the years we've gotten better at it, and we're finally hitting our peak," she said.

Megan Bunn and Breanna Shaffer each added four kills for EOU against Multnomah. McMurtrey had 19 digs and three aces. Pilon added 15 assists, Christiansen had 10 digs and both Taylor Tibbetts and Ackerman had three blocks.

On Friday, Bunn had 10 kills and Cambree Scott added eight to lead the Mountaineers' sweep of Warner Pacific.

EOU put the first set away against the Knights with an 11-3 run, ending it on a kill by Shaffer, but had to work to close out Warner Pacific in the second and third. Eastern built an 18-10 lead in the second on an ace by Ackerman, but the Knights got within 24-22 before Taylor ended the set with a kill.

In the third, Eastern rallied from a six-point deficit, and was down 24-22 before getting the final four points. Taylor tied the set at 24-24 with a kill. Bunn gave the Mountaineers the lead with a kill, then teamed with Taylor for a block to end the match.

The two wins set up what will be one of the biggest matches of the season on the national level Friday, when No. 7 Corban — the only team to defeat EOU this fall — comes to town Friday. The Warriors (12-3 overall, 9-0 CCC) currently lead the conference, while EOU (19-1, 9-1) is in second.

"We need to come out ready to set the tone against Corban next weekend,"Taylor said.

BAKER SOCCER

Baker girls shut out Pioneers, 1-0

By Gerry Steele

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Baker earned its first Greater Oregon League girls soccer win Saturday, defeating Mac-Hi 1-0 at Milton-Freewater.

Teygan Coley scored the only goal of the game for the Bulldogs.

Baker coach Kristen Rushton said the Bulldogs played well. "We had great leadership from Maya Smith and Rebecca Daniels," Rushton said. "Sydney Pierce played great all over the field. And we had

an excellent effort from Smith, Brooklyn Jaca, Taylor Gyllenberg and Anna Belding." Baker hosts La Grande Saturday at noon at the Baker

Sports Complex.

Baker boys remain winless in GOL play

MILTON-FREEWATER Baker remained winless in the Greater Oregon League boys soccer standings Saturday after dropping a 3-1 match at Mac-Hi.

Isaac Nemec scored Baker's goal on a header from a teammate's corner kick.

Baker hosts La Grande Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Baker Sports Complex.

PORTLAND STATE FOOTBALL

Vikings roll to win

PORTLAND (AP) - Davis Alexander threw two touchdown passes and ran for a score and Sirgeo Hoffman added two touchdown runs to power Portland State to a 52-31 victory over Southern Utah on Saturday.

The Vikings (3-3, 1-1 Big Sky Conference) started fast and never looked back against the Thunderbirds (1-5, 0-2). Portland State used Cody Williams' 37-yard field goal and Hoffman's 2-yard TD run to take a 10-0 lead after one quarter. Following Hoffman's score, Southern Utah drove 66 yards in 15 plays with Chris Helbig passing to

Lance Lawson for a 5-yard score to get the Thunderbirds within 10-7 just 17 seconds into the second quarter.

PSU then scored 28 straight points to lead 38-10 at the half. Alexander's 3-yard TD run started the second-quarter scoring burst. He added a 16-yard TD pass to Beau Kelly before Emmanuel Daigbe capped an eight-play, 70-yard drive with an 11-yard TD run to put PSU up 31-7 Anthony Adams then picked off Helbig and two plays later Alexander connected with Davis Koetter for a 46-yard TD and a 38-7 lead.

Baker City Herald



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Late entries will be considered invalid. Mail entries to: Football Contest, Baker City Herald, PO Box 807, Baker City, OR 97814 or drop off at our office at 1668 Resort Street, Baker City (our front door faces Auburn Ave across from Clark Auto Electric, look for the striped awning!)

Limit 1 entry per person. Maximum of 2 entries per household per week. The contest is open to everyone in Baker County. No photocopies accepted. Employees of The Baker City Herald and their immediate families not eligible. Winners will be announced in Wednesday's ad each week. Decisions of the judges are final.

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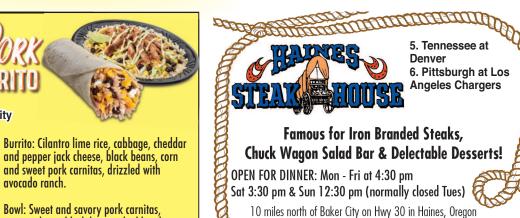
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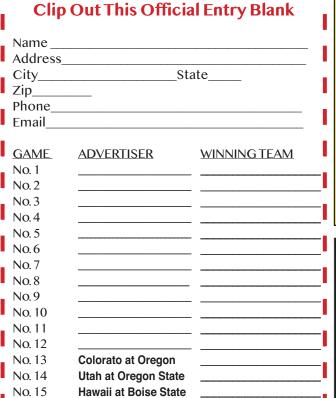




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