

Herald Sports



SUMMER TRACK

A number of locals farewell on big stage

HERMISTON HERALD

EUGENE — Several area students ran and jumped their way into the TrackTown Youth League Championship Meet held June 9 at Hayward Field at the University of Oregon, Eugene. Featuring more than 500 of the top youth athletes from across the state, local participants included:

Girls, age 7/8: Aubrey Savage of Hermiston, javelin (seventh place, 10.02 meters); Ayana Garcia of Umatilla, javelin (seventh, 2.73 meters)

Girls, age 9/10: Lily Borgelt of Hermiston, 100-meter dash (19th, 17.34), long jump (21st, 2.64 meters); Emily Salinas Ortiz of Umatilla, 100 meters (16th, 17.33), 400-meter dash (16th, 1:21.99); Rylee Sanchez of Umatilla, long jump (22nd, 2.61 meters) javelin (ninth, 14.05 meters); Alexa Garcia of Umatilla, long jump (sixth, 14.47 meters)

Girls, age 11/12: Kirsten Tracy of Hermiston, 100 meters (20th, 15.60), long jump (13th, 3.28 meters); Jackie Garcia of Hermiston, 1,500-meter run (fifth, 5:23.93); Morgan Hendrix of Hermiston, javelin (fifth, 21.68 meters); Claudia Castro of Umatilla, 1,500 meters (18th, 6:08.43)

Boys, age 7/8: Drayson Lathim of Hermiston, 400 meters (13th, 1:28.37); Jayden Martinez of Hermiston, 400 meters (14th, 1:29.11), 1,500 meters (8th, 6:07.80); Brayden Cortabera of Hermiston, long jump (13th, 2.60 meters); Xzavier Rodriguez of Umatilla, 400 meters (12th, 1:25.38), javelin (fourth, 16.65 meters)

Boys, 9/10: Brody Parrish of Irrigon, long jump (18th, 2.92 meters)

Boys, age 11/12: Pedro Alejandra Chavez of Boardman, 100 meters (15th, 15.00), long jump (13th, 3.44 meters); Camren McCann of Hermiston, 400 meters (18th, 1:12.72); Jaysen Rodriguez of Hermiston, 1,500 meters (ninth, 5:16.03); Tate Neddo of Hermiston, javelin (14th, 19.39 meters); Alexis Armenta of Umatilla, 100 meters (21st, 15.64), 1,500 meters (22nd, 5:41.39), long jump (15th, 3.36 meters)

While in Eugene, participants had the opportunity to watch the NCAA Track and Field Championship meet.

For more information, visit tracktownyouthleague.com

ALL-STATE FAMILY DUO



STAFF PHOTO BY KATHY ANEY

Siblings Wyatt and Bailee Noland played the same position this season for Hermiston High School, Wyatt on the baseball team and Bailee for softball.

Bailee and Wyatt Noland made up only a handful of Bulldogs recognized on the state level

By ALEXIS MANSANAREZ
STAFF WRITER

HERMISTON — Hermiston's Bailee and Wyatt Noland have always been competitive.

Whether it's with teammates, a parent's legacy or themselves, the catchers ruled the plate this last year with the Hermiston softball and baseball teams. Only a year apart, the pair have grown up together in their respective sport and in competition.

Over what exactly?

"Over everything," Bailee said.

The hyper-competitiveness these two exude has served them well as they orchestrated the defense in some battle-tested wins and even heartbreaking losses. The softball team returned to its winning ways for the first time since the 2015-16 season, and made it all the way to the quarter-finals before falling 11-8 to Lebanon. The baseball team, under first-year head coach Kevin Moore, showed potential despite finishing 7-17. Leading the group of promising Bulldogs were the Nolands.

Bailee, finishing her sophomore campaign, was named to the first team all-conference for the second consecutive year, and recently picked up second team



STAFF PHOTO BY KATHY ANEY

Siblings Wyatt and Bailee Noland played the same position this season for Hermiston High School, Wyatt for baseball and Bailee on the softball team.

all-state honors as a utility player. Wyatt, who will be entering his final year as a Bulldog, was also awarded a spot on the first team all-conference and second team all-state as a catcher.

Not only playing catcher, Bailee would also spend time in the circle pitching when Hermiston needed her to and would even take the infield for an inning or two — helping out whenever

necessary. Her efforts on defense translated into a high-powered offense that moved her from the middle of the pack to either leading the team or closely following another teammate.

Bailee went 39-for-88 (.443), which was second behind team leader Sydney Stefani (.571) and one of only three batters above .400 on the season. She notched 39 hits and scored 25 runs, again

following Stefani, and finished with a team-best 42 RBIs. Bailee also had one of the highest on base percentages (.469) and slugging percentages (.830).

"This season at practice I focused more on making myself better and hitting — I'd keep hitting and hitting until I'd get it right," Noland said of her vast improvements, "and I just had more motivation this season than ever because I wanted to beat what I had done last year; that's really my motivation for getting better."

Bailee is one of the top players on a young squad that will return nearly their entire roster. It was the team's youth that also lit a fire under Bailee.

"It did light a fire because freshman year I didn't expect going in that I was going to get first team, but as soon as I did (I knew) next year I wanted to get the same exact thing or better," she said.

Bailee succeed at that, and Wyatt followed. He had played catcher all of his life, along with Bailee, but last year found an open spot in the outfield as his cousin manned the plate. This season, it was Wyatt's chance to get back into a position he loved and he took full advantage.

Wyatt was a calming force while Hermiston would cycle through pitchers, fighting pitch counts and some explosive opposing offenses. For Wyatt, it was all about focusing in and that served him well when it was his turn to hover the plate instead of squatting behind.

"Really, I just focused in," he

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Simplifying the hunt

Oregon trimming down hunting, fishing regulations for 2019

By PHIL WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Make them simpler. That's the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's aim for big game regulations for the 2019 hunting season.

Hunters for years told the state agency its regulations were too complicated. They

joked about needing a lawyer to understand them.

Nick Myatt said the department has heard those refrains. He's the ODFW Grande Ronde watershed manager based in La Grande, and leading the team tasked with trimming them down.

"Regulations are often added and seldom removed," Myatt said. "It takes an effort like this to look at the bigger picture that we're providing to our customers, the hunters."

ODFW about five years ago started simplifying fishing regulations, and that

work is nearing its end with new rules for salmon and steelhead. But big game regulations, Myatt said, needed the biggest reworking.

Corum Delyria of Enterprise is on board with that. He said he hunts most everything he can, and he gets frustrated with the pile of state regulations.

"Honestly, there's a lot of stuff in there that just should not be there," he said.

Delyria doesn't understand some equipment rules, such as hunts that allow him to use his .44 Magnum handgun with a 10 1/2 barrel but not a lever-action car-

bine rifle that fires the same round of ammunition.

He also thinks the state should change when and how it sells game tags. ODFW requires hunters to buy a license and pay for game tags. If the hunter does not draw the tag, they are out of luck. He said that should be the other way around.

"You put in for your tags and if you draw your tags, then you should not be able to buy the tags until you buy the license," Delyria said.

Justin Buckley of Condon said he would like to

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY CORUM DELYRIA

Corum Delyria of Enterprise shows the bear he killed on a hunt in Oregon a few years ago. Delyria would like the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to simplify and revise hunting regulations and allow for the use of mechanical broadheads for archery hunts.