

Sports

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NIAA State Girls Golf Championships

Lowry finishes fourth at NIAA 3A State Girls Golf Championships

Hislop places ninth in individual standings;
Bengochea ties for 10th
By Tony Erquiaga

WINNEMUCCA — The Lowry High School girls golf team capped off its season with a fourth-place finish at the NIAA 3A State Girls Golf Championships, held Oct. 13-14, at Ruby View Golf Course in Elko.

After a rainy first two days, the weather improved for the final 18 holes.

The Buckaroos, were ahead of Elko by a stroke after day one, and shot 831 over two days. Boulder City ran away with the team title, shooting a 692 after rounds of 333 and 359.

Truckee (778) placed second and Elko (812) was third. Virgin Valley finished fifth with a two-day score of 844.

After missing out on the state tournament by a shot last year, Buckaroo junior Makinley Hislop placed ninth at 196. She carded rounds of 97 and 99.

Fellow junior and LHS softball teammate as well, Maite Bengochea tied for 10th with Boulder City's Ashlyn Ruter at 198.

"The girls had a really good season, I am extremely proud of them and all of the work they put into the sport," said LHS coach Ty Lucas. "The girls were competitive in every tournament this year, and each of them found themselves at some point shooting new personal best rounds. As a team, we did well enough to advance through the regional tournament and make it to the state tournament held in Elko.

See STATE Page C4



ANTHONY MORI • Elko Daily Free Press
Lowry freshman Hadlee Corbitt hits a shot during the state tournament.



ANTHONY MORI • Elko Daily Free Press
Lowry's Bailey Miller hits a drive during the NIAA 3A State Championships at Ruby View Golf Course in Elko.



LOWRY HIGH SCHOOL
The Lowry High School girls golf team finished fourth at the NIAA 3A State Championships held Oct. 13-14 at Ruby View Golf Course in Elko.

Cavanaugh, Oasis Academy earn runner-up finishes at NIAA 2A State Girls Golf Championships

Siebecker finishes 19th,
Peixoto 21st
By Robert Perea

FALLON — The Oasis Academy girls golf team placed second at the 2A State Tournament in Jackpot on Oct. 13-14. The Bighorns shot a two-day total score of 843 to place second for the second consecutive year.

Oasis was tied with Sierra Lutheran after the first round at 410, but Sierra Lutheran shot 408 in the second round while the Bighorns posted a total of 433.

Individually, Meirra Cavanaugh finished second individually with a 174.

She and Sierra Lutheran's Sidney Smith, the individual champion at 170, were tied for first after the opening round at 84.

Bailey Beebe placed fifth with a 200, shooting 95 on the first day and 105 on the second.

Lora Siebecker finished 19th with rounds of 115 and 118 for a 233 and Bailey Peixoto placed 21st, shooting 116 and 120 to finish at 236.



Courtesy of Oasis Academy
Oasis Academy's Meirra Cavanaugh finishes second at the NIAA 2A State Championships and the Bighorns finished third as a team



Leslie Bullock Jorgensen
The Battle Mountain High School girls golf team concluded its season with a fifth-place finish at the NIAA 2A State Girls Golf Championships on Oct. 13-14, in Jackpot.

Battle Mountain finishes fifth at NIAA 2A State Girls Golf Championships

Jorgensen places 18th in individual standings

By Tony Erquiaga

BATTLE MOUNTAIN — After enjoying a wonderful weather year, Mother Nature threw a curve ball to the Battle Mountain High School girls golf team and four other squads at the NIAA 2A State

Girls Golf Championships on Oct. 13-14 in Jackpot.

A dash of winter it Jackpot Golf Club on the Nevada/Idaho border, making conditions tough for the players.

Battle Mountain finished fifth in the team standings, with a two-day total of 1,014.

See BMHS Page C3



Cate Sgroi named NIAA Executive Director



Cate Sgroi

New director now in place

By Tony Erquiaga

RENO — Cate Sgroi has been selected as Executive Director of the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association. Sgroi, an assistant director of the NIAA since July 2024, will become the association’s seventh full-time executive director. She is also the first female executive director for the NIAA. “I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to serve as the next Executive Direc-

“Cate has my undying support in this position and I have full faith in her,” stated NIAA board member Lori Woodland. Woodland is also a member of the Humboldt County School District board. “I wish her the best. I want to admonish this board. I think it its imperative that we all support her. We need to make sure she is successful. Because if she is successful, we are successful and then our athletes in Nevada are successful. We need to give her our full support”

tor,” Sgroi said. “I look forward to building on the strong foundation of the NIAA, bringing all stakeholders together around a shared vision, and finding meaningful ways to enhance the experience of Nevada’s student-athletes.” A graduate of Syracuse University with master’s degrees from Columbia University and Sierra Nevada College, Sgroi oversees student eligibility and compliance, new school membership and the NIAA’s rules and regulations. Sroi replaces Timothy Jackson, who stepped down from the position this summer. The NIAA Board on Control originally selected Todd Cutler to be the new director but Cutler and the board could not come to an agreement on a contract. “The way this situation unfolded is a little unconventional,” Sgroi told the board after getting approved. “It is a little awkward coming in knowing that I wasn’t the first choice. I am very excited and grateful. This organization and sports in Nevada

mean a lot to me. I am ready to step up to the plate and prove myself to the board.” She was a director in the Clark County School District athletics office for two years prior to joining the NIAA staff. Sgroi has earned Certified Master Athletic Administrator certification through the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. The CMAA designation is the highest level of certification provided by the organization. She began her career in education as a biology teacher at Sierra Vista High School in Las Vegas. Sgroi coached track and girls volleyball at the school and became the school’s athletic director, a position she held for four years, in 2016. Sgroi was an assistant principal at Sierra Vista for nearly two years before moving into the CCSD athletics office. She began her duties as executive director on Oct. 19.

“Cate has my undying support in this position and I have full faith in her,” stated NIAA board member Lori Woodland. Woodland is also a member of the Humboldt County School District board. “I wish her the best. I want to admonish this board. I think it its imperative that we all support her. We need to make sure she is successful. Because if she is successful, we are successful and then our athletes in Nevada are successful. We need to give her our full support”

- Previous NIAA Executive Directors**
- Bert Cooper (1974-89)
 - Jerry Hughes (1990-2007)
 - Eddie Bonine (2007-14)
 - Bart Thompson (2015-21)
 - Donnie Nelson (2021-24)
 - Timothy Jackson (2024-26)
 - * Sean FitzSimons (2026)
 - * Served as interim



SANDY BENGEOA LUTZ • Great Basin Sports
Battle Mountain's Jose Vazquez races down the sideline toward the end zone.

Battle Mountain bounces back in big way, sinks North Tahoe

Longhorns host rival Mustangs, with first place in Northern 2A on the line

By Tony Erquiaga

BATTLE MOUNTAIN — A week after suffering its first Northern 2A defeat in heartbreaking fashion to West Wendover, the Battle Mountain High School football team bounced back in a big way this past Friday on Tim Knight Field. Daniel Lara threw four touchdown passes to Chase Lutz, leading the Longhorns to a 50-3 victory over the winless Lakers. Battle Mountain improved to 5-2 overall and 3-1 in the Northern 2A. Battle Mountain is tied for third with Coral Academy of Reno and both teams have clinched playoff berths. The Longhorns and Falcons meet in the regular-season finale in Reno. The only league loss for Coral Academy was to Pershing County. Battle Mountain hosts league-leading



SANDY BENGEOA LUTZ • Great Basin Sports
Battle Mountain's Travis Obieta fights his way for extra yardage.

Pershing County on Friday, with kickoff set for 7 p.m. West Wendover is also 4-0 at tied with Pershing County for first place in the Northern 2A. West Wendover and Pershing County close out the regular season against each other in Lovelock.



SANDY BENGEOA LUTZ • Great Basin Sports
Battle Mountain's Parker Ramsdell looks to get the edge on the sideline during Friday's game against North Tahoe.

Riding the Wave: Regular Season Champions

Fallon clinches No. 1 seed with 42-14 win over Elko

Greenwave close regular season at Lowry

By Robert Perea

FALLON — Showcasing the versatility that has defined its season, the Churchill County High School football team used a dominant ground game to beat Elko 42-14 last Friday and clinch the No. 1 seed for the 3A Northern League playoffs. The Greenwave has earned a bye in the first round of the playoffs and will host the league’s No. 4 or No. 5 seed on Nov. 6. This week, the Greenwave looks to finish the regular season unbeaten when it visits Lowry at 7 p.m. Friday. Fallon’s season has been defined by versatility, and has gotten to this point by turning its offense into a tactical game of whack-a-mole for opposing coordinators. With multiple ways to win each week, when opponents try to neutralize one option, the Greenwave finds another threat to pop up somewhere else. Elko attempted to lock down Fallon’s passing game with double- and sometimes triple-coverage on its receivers, so the Greenwave took advantage with its running game. “The biggest portion of the game that the kids stepped up was our O-line, running backs, and quarterbacks,” Fallon head coach Connors said. “Our receivers were taken away, which gave us a light box to run, so we ran the ball.” Alijah Juarez took advantage early to set the tone, capping Fallon’s opening possession with an 18-yard touchdown to put Fallon up 7-0. Nathaniel Bianchi followed with a 3-yard run that made it 13-0. Elko found an answer in the second quarter when Hagen Robinson broke loose for a 22-yard touchdown run, cutting the deficit to 13-7. However, Fallon responded immediately. Bianchi found the end zone for the second tie on a 2-yard run, extending the lead to 19-7. Connors said the key moment came in the final minute of the first half. The Greenwave got the ball with about 40 seconds left, and scored in two plays. Juarez ran for 27 yards, followed by a spectacular 26-yard touchdown pass from Camden Richard-



son to Calin Anderson, who leaped over double coverage to secure the catch. The score sent Fallon into halftime with a 27-7 cushion. Connors said the Greenwave defense put the offense in great field position all night with multiple 3-and-outs and fourth down stops. “Proud of the execution in all three phases,” Connors said. “You’re given the ball on so many opportunities and we capitalized on all of those in the first half.” The Greenwave scored on two third-quarter drives as well, on a 15-yard run by Calin Anderson to go up 34-7, followed by a 7-yard touchdown pass from Richardson to Cameron Anderson to make it 42-7. Connors said it felt good to avenge the Greenwave’s only loss from last season. “But at the same time, it’s a different head coach, different kids, and the same with us as far as a different team,” he said. “You don’t want to forget about last season, but don’t hang your hat on it because that team was a different team and their team was a different team. Focus on this season and what makes our team great.” This year, that has meant being able to succeed in many different ways. Against Elko, the Greenwave wound up running the ball 30 times for 202 yards, and passing just nine times, completing seven for 146 yards and two touchdowns. Now they have a chance to finish an undefeated regular season, before turning their attention to the playoffs. “We’ve just got to finish out regular season strong, do what we need to do and control what we can control,” Connors said.

Oasis volleyball falls in two road matches

By Robert Perea

FALLON — The Oasis Academy volleyball team lost in four sets at Battle Mountain on Oct. 16, falling 26-24, 15-25, 8-25, 11-25. The Bighorns were swept the next day at West Wendover, 3 0. Scores of the individual sets were not reported. Oasis Academy is scheduled to play Monday at Silver Stage.

Lakers trying to clinch No. 2 seed for West Region Tournament

By Robert Perea

PYRAMID LAKE — The Pyramid Lake High School volleyball team bounced back from a loss to Smith Valley by winning three matchess last week, On Oct. 14, the Lakers beat Sage Ridge 25-20, 25-11, 19-25, 25-14. On Oct. 15, the Lakers swept Wells 25-16, 25-23, 25-20. One day later, Pyramid Lake finished the week on Oct. 17 beating Virginia City 25-9, 25-19, 25-16. No stats from the first two matches were reported, but the Lakers had a bal-

anced attack at the net against Virginia City. The Lakers had 30 kills against the Muckers, with Nadaya Centeno knocking down seven kills, Aiyana Collins adding six and both Josie Lara and Jordan Keo with four. Pyramid Lakes finishes the regular season this week, with a game Tuesday against Excel Christian, then Saturday at Coleville. The Lakers are looking to wrap up the No. 2 seed for the 1A West Region Tournament in Smith Valley next Saturday in Smith Valley.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports Fallon players celebrate winning a point during its match with Lowry in Winnemucca.

Fallon volleyball clinches playoff spot with wins over Dayton, Lowry

By Robert Perea

FALLON — Fallon won twice last week, sweeping Dayton on Oct. 14 and defeating Lowry in four sets on Friday to secure a Morthern 3A playoff berth. The two wins assures that the Greenwave will be one of the eight teams in the 3A North Region Tournament and will play next Tuesday, but the location and opponent were to be determined by this week’s matches. Fallon was scheduled to play Incline in a Northern 3A crossover match on Wednesday, then host Spring Creek at 6 p.m. Friday and Elko at noon Saturday. The top two teams in the East and West divisions and the next four teams with the most points in the standings regardless of division qualify for the tournament. Fallon enters this week tied for third place in the East with Elko and Spring Creek at 4-4, while Dayton is second at 5-4. Either of those four teams could end up as the second-place team in the East and could be seeded anywhere from third to eighth for the region tournament. The top four teams earn a home game for the first-round next Tuesday, with the semi-finals and finals nest Friday and Saturday at South Tahoe. Stats were not available for the Green-wave’s 3 0 win over Dayton. Against Lowry, Fallon won 25 14, 25 8, 23 25, 25 15. Raegan Johnson finished with 20 kills, Audrey Fruzza added 10 kills and four blocks, Layla Walker had 19 digs, and Amillya Bishop recorded 25 assists.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports Layla Walker receives a serve during last week's match at Lowry.

Fallon coach Tristin Johnson said the team is building momentum. “We are very excited that we played well against Lowry and guaranteed ourselves a playoff spot,” she said. “We’re still working hard to keep improving each day. We just want to give ourselves a chance. I firmly believe we can beat anyone when we’re playing together as a team. Looking forward to the opportunities ahead of us so we can get better each game.”



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports Amillya Bishop sets the ball while hitter Raegan Johnson gets set for the attack.

BMHS —

Cont. From Page C1 Sierra Lutheran and Oasis Academy were tied at 410 after day one, with Sierra Lutheran shooting two strokes better in the final 18 holes to win at 818. Oasis Academy (843) was second, followed by Whittell (882) and White Pine (964). Senior Jaylee Jorgen was the highest finishing Longhorn golfer in 18th, with rounds of 120 and 112 for a 232.

2026 Class 2A State Girls Golf Championship														
Tuesday, Oct. 13 and Wednesday, Oct. 14														
at Jackpot Golf Club (par 72)														
Team scores					Individual scores									
		Rd 1	Rd 2	Total				Rd 1		Rd 2		Total		
1	Sierra Lutheran	410	-	408	-	818	1	Sidney Smith	Sierra Lutheran	84	-	86	-	170
2	Oasis	410	-	433	-	843	2	Meirra Cavanaugh	Oasis	84	-	90	-	174
3	Whittell	438	-	444	-	882	3	Reese Hoffheins	Virginia City	90	-	93	-	183
4	White Pine	474	-	490	-	964	4	Sofia Spero	North Tahoe	98	-	100	-	198
5	Battle Mountain	519	-	495	-	1014	5	Bailey Beebe	Oasis	95	-	105	-	200
							6	Emma Stewart	Whittell	103	-	101	-	204
							7	Isabella Lopez-Linda	Virginia City	104	-	102	-	206
							8	Payton Walker	White Pine	102	-	109	-	211
							9	Briella Bodenstein	Sierra Lutheran	105	-	109	-	214
							10	Lily Sumner	Sierra Lutheran	113	-	102	-	215
							11	Kayla Krum	Virginia City	106	-	110	-	216
							12	Rossi Erven	Sierra Lutheran	108	-	111	-	219
							13	Jade Valentine	Whittell	109	-	112	-	221
							14	Elizabeth Hansen	Incline	117	-	107	-	224
							15	Lily Stewart	Whittell	112	-	114	-	226
							16	Oaklee Campeau	White Pine	114	-	115	-	229
							17	Danielle Rozier	Whittell	114	-	117	-	231
							18	Jaylee Jorgensen	Battle Mountain	120	-	112	-	232
							19	Lora Siebecker	Oasis	115	-	118	-	233
							20	Gianna Palleschi	Incline	121	-	114	-	235
							21	Bailey Peixoto	Oasis	116	-	120	-	236
							22	Alissa Waller	Sierra Lutheran	124	-	116	-	240
							23	Maggy Rodriguez	West Wendover	121	-	129	-	250
							24	Neveah Serna	Battle Mountain	128	-	123	-	251
							25	Isabell Callender	White Pine	120	-	132	-	252
							26	Arabella Martinez	Wells	125	-	129	-	254
							27	Neveah Stelton	Battle Mountain	131	-	133	-	264
							28	Melanie Beardall	Wells	137	-	129	-	266

Fallon’s Guerrero places 25th at 3A State golf

By Robert Perea

FALLON — Churchill County High School golfer Rylie Guerrero dropped 16 strokes off her first-round score to place 25th at the 3A State Tournament at Ruby View Golf Course in Elko last week. Guerrero shot 120 in the first round on Oct. 13 but followed it up by shooting 104 the next day in the second round to move up eight places in the standings with a final total of 224. Truckee’s Allison Mortimeyer shot a two-day total of 148 to win the individual championship. Boulder City won the team championship with a total score of 692.

Fernley’s Hall ties for 17th at NIAA 3A State Golf Tournament

By Robert Perea

FERNLEY — Fernley’s Hailey Hall tied for 17th at the 3A State Girls Golf Tournament at Ruby View Golf Course in Elko Oct. 13-14. Hall was tied with Lowry’s Makinley Hislop for 11th place after shooting 97 in the first round and shot 110 in the second round to finish tied with Sofia Winer of Elko in 17th place. “Hailey scrambled well and put together a good Day 1 score,” Fernley coach Brian O’Neill said. “She came out Day

2 playing really well, hit a roadblock and couldn’t really get a putt to drop the last 12 holes.” O’Neill said Hall represented Fernley High School well. “I’m very proud of her effort over the past four years,” he said. “She grew a lot from her freshman year at the state tournament in Mesquite and definitely deserved to represent the Northern 3A.” Truckee’s Allison Mortimeyer shot a two-day total of 148 to win the individual championship. Boulder City won the team championship with a total score of 692.



ANTHONY MORI • Elko Daily Free Press Fernley’s Hailey Hall tees off on the par-4 ninth hole during the second round at the 3A State Golf Tournament at Ruby View Golf Course in Elko on Oct. 14.

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Lowry's Iris Ramirez tees off the first hole.

STATE —

Cont. From Page C1

While at state, the team persevered through adverse weather dealing with rain, wind, and cold temperatures. Regardless, they represented themselves and our school and we had two players finish individually inside the top 10. This was a great group of players with great attitudes and I am lucky to have the opportunity to coach them.”

In her first state championship, freshman Hadlee Corbitt carded equal rounds of 103 to finish 16th with a score of 206. Senior Bailey Miller shot 231 to finish 30th and Iris Ramriez (245) placed 33rd. Truckee’s Allison Mortimeyer claimed the individual crown at 148 after rounds of 72 and 75. Boulder City’s Emmerson Hinds (155), Makenzie Martorano (165) and Morgan Terrill (174) were the next best scores.

2026 3A Girls Golf State Championship				TEAM RESULTS				MEDALISTS			
Ruby View Golf Course, Elko, NV				1	BOULDER CITY	692	1	Allison Mortimeyer	148		
October 13-14				2	TRUCKEE	778	2	Emmerson Hinds	155		
							3	Makenzie Martorano	165		
							4	Morgan Terrill	174		
							5	Caitlyn Nielson	178		
							6	Isabella Jadin	179		



Above: Lowry's Maite Bengochea hits an approach shot to the green. Below: Lowry's Makinley Hislop hits a shot out of bunker.



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TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Issabelle Walter-Chicas-Garibay had the top finish for Fallon at the Lowry Invitational.

Fallon girls place 7th at Lowry Invite

By Robert Perea

FALLON — Issabelle Walter Chicas Garibay placed 12th to lead the Churchill County High School cross country teams at the Lowry Invitational last Friday.

Walter-Chicas-Garibay posted a time of 20 minutes, 41 seconds, leading the Greenwave to a seventh-place finish with 165 points in the girls race.

Aubrey Strickland finished 25th in 22:19, and Casandra Hooper placed 36th in 23:23.

Zoe Rasmussen finished 77th in 29:34, Kylee Moore placed 78th in 29:41, and Abigail Lacow finished 82nd in 30:34.

The boys placed 10th as a team with 255 points.

Jackson Barbee had the fastest time for Fallon, placing 45th in 19:05, followed by Cody Frey in 52nd at 19:17 and Lars Rasmussen in 56th at 19:21. Michael Lister finished 77th in 20:22, Levi Bradford placed 80th in 20:25.

In addition, Tayven Martinez finished 82nd in 20:33. Ryan Centimano placed 91st in 21:18, Vernon Harper finished 104th in 22:29, and Landon Liston placed 109th in 22:56.

Isaac Frederick finished 112th in 23:07, Alex Sorensen placed 114th in 23:14, Alex Bacallo finished 132nd in 26:06, and Thomas Alvarado placed 136th in 27:43.

Saturday the Greenwave is scheduled to compete at the Flat SAC Invitational in Elverta, Calif.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Fallon's Cody Frey runs during the Lowry Invitational.

Chavez places 11th to lead Pyramid Lake runners at North Valleys Chase Race

By Robert Perea

PYRAMID LAKE — Pyramid Lake High School freshman Jayar Chavez placed 11th to lead the Lakers at the North Valleys Chase Race last Thursday.

Chavez posted a time of 18 minutes, 8 seconds to finish 11th in a race that featured 11 runners.

The race featured runners taking the course in groups, or waves, creating the

chase format, with runners placed in waves based on their times in previous meets.

Zeke Davis finished 32nd in 19:48, William Darrough placed 45th in 20:36, and John Kelly finished 65th in 22:06.

In the girls race, with 85 runners, Koge Redstone placed 42nd in 26:00.

Pyramid Lake closes the regular season this Friday at the Dave Marson Trail Race at Sierra Lutheran High School in Carson City.

McDermitt volleyball snaps three-match losing streak, sweeps Carlin

Bulldogs secure postseason berth, travel to Jackpot, Owyhee
By Tony Erquiaga

MCDERMITT — After wrapping up its home schedule slate, the McDermitt High School volleyball began a stretch of three straight road matches on Thursday, Oct. 15, in Carlin.

The Bulldogs snapped a three-match losing streak with a 25-17, 25-11, 25-12 victory over the Railroaders. McDermitt improved to 6-14 overall and 4-6 in the 1A East.

Lund (9-0) and Owyhee (6-2) have secured spots in the 1A East Regional Championship on Saturday, Oct. 31, at Elko High School. In addition, Lund receives a first-round bye.



Eureka (6-4) sits in third and McDermitt (4-6) and Wells (3-7) hold the final two spots.

McDermitt and Wells will face each other in the regional tournament, with the winner playing Lund in the semifinals.

McDermitt travels to Jackpot on Friday and Owyhee on Saturday, to conclude the regular season.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Oasis Academy runners Kamron Bracken and Connor Tolman on the course at the Lowry Invitational.

Davis leads Oasis cross country runners at Lowry Invitational

By Robert Perea

FALLON — Riley Davis' 39th place finish out of 95 runners in the girls race led Oasis Academy at the Lowry Invitational last Friday, where the Bighorns' boys placed 11th as a team.

Davis posted a time of 23 minutes, 37 seconds as the highest placer for the Bighorns.

She was followed by Sonora McInturff, who finished 90th in 34:58, and Faith Torres May, who placed 91st in 35:22.

On the boys side, Leonidas Arcoraci led Oasis Academy with a 69th place finish out of 141 runners in 20:06.

Zayden Martinez finished 110th in 22:56, Connor Tolman placed 113th in 23:11, Jose Montalvo finished 123rd in 24:32, Kamron Bracken placed 130th in 25:36, and Tristan Bracken finished 141st in 33:44.

This week the Bighorns are scheduled to run Friday in the Dave Marson Trail Race at Sierra Lutheran High School in Carson City, in the final race before the Northern Region Championship next Friday in Reno.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Riley Davis runs during the girls race at the Lowry Invitational last Friday.

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TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Battle Mountain's Libby Preece makes her way around the ninth green and clubhouse as part of the course.

Preece paces BMHS cross country team at Lowry Invitational

By Tony Erquiaga

BATTLE MOUNTAIN — On a perfect day to run, the Battle Mountain High School cross country team brought three runners to Winnemucca Municipal Golf Course this past Friday afternoon for the Lowry Invitational.

On a fast 5,000-meter course, Longhorn sophomore Libby Preece placed 43rd in a time of 24 minutes, 22 seconds.

Teammate Megan Aguilar stopped the clock at 32:59. There were 95 runners in the race, one of the biggest fields in recent memory.

Truckee freshman Avery Aldrich set a course record, winning with a time of 18:26, nearly 90 seconds ahead of the field. Lowry senior Alyla Thomas was second at 19:45.

Truckee won the team title with 40 points, followed by Douglas (73), Damon-te Ranch (88), Lowry (98) and Elko (116).

In the boys race, there were 141 runners, with Kaleb Hart in 106th in a time of 23:39. Truckee's Connor Bilodeau (15:50) and Wooster's Carson Boyer (15:58) placed first and second, respectively.

Truckee also won the team title with 42 points and South Tahoe (50) was second.

The Northern 2A Regional Championships is set for Friday, Oct. 30, at Rancho San Rafael Park in Reno. The boys run at 10 a.m. and girls at 12:35 p.m.

The top three teams from the Northern



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Battle Mountain's Kaleb Hart makes his way downhill on the fourth hole.

Region meet and the top three teams from the Southern Region meet advance to the 2A state meet.

The top seven individuals from teams that did not qualify for the state meet in the Northern Region meet and the top seven individuals from teams that did not qualify for the state meet in the Southern Region meet also advance to the Class 2A state meet.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Battle Mountain's Megan Aguilar paces herself with an Elko runner.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Lowry's Taylor Soderstrom (1456) and Ajerra Thomas (1457) make their way around the clubhouse at the top of the course.

Thomas second, Lowry cross country girls finish fourth on home course

Buckaroos close regular season in Sacramento

By Tony Erquiaga

WINNEMUCCA — On a near-perfect day for running, the Lowry High School cross country hosted its annual invitational at Winnemucca Municipal Golf Course on Friday, Oct. 16.

The meet was the largest it has been in recent memory with a number of the top 3A and 5A schools in attendance. The girls featured 95 runners.

Truckee's Avery Aldrich continued her stellar senior year, setting a new-course record, finishing with a time of 18 minutes, 26 seconds on the 5,000-meter course.

Lowry senior Alyla Thomas was the only other runner to be under the 20-minute mark, placing second at 19:45.

Douglas' Taylor Chase (20:09), Damon-te Ranch's Abigail Cowles (20:19) and Truckee freshman Aurelie Doliof (20:20) completed the top five.

Taylor Soderstrom ran a strong race to a 17th-place finish in a time of 21:35, with Makaylah Thomas (22:16) and Azure Sagers (22:58) finishing 24th and 31st, respectively.

Senior Natalia Cassinelli stopped the clock at 23:34 to place 38th, Ajerra Thomas (24:18) was 42nd and Adell Hall (24:55) and Lexie Salvino (27:00) rounded out the Buckaroo finishers.

Truckee, the reigning 3A state champion, showed why it's the favorite to win again, claiming the team title with 49 points.

Douglas (73) and Damonte Ranch (88) of the Northern 5A were second and third and Lowry (98) and Elko (116) rounded out the top five.

On the boys side, there was a full field of 141 runners, with Truckee senior Connor Bilodeau winning in a time of 15:50. Wooster's Carson Boyer close behind at 15:58.

South Tahoe's Shamus Nealis (16:02), Truckee's Cody Johnson (16:22) and Incline's Asher Edwards (16:56) were next



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Lowry's Azure Sagers runs behind the ninth hole.

in line.

Lowry had four runners in the 18-minute range, with senior Cooper Hoagland finishing 28th in a time of 18:27.

Patrick Moses (18:46), Anden Thomas (18:51) and Francisco Renteria (18:52) ran in a close group to place 33rd, 37th and 39th. Moses and Thomas are juniors and Renteria is a freshman.

Sophomores Josiah Merki (19:30), Ben Bayles (20:12) and Edward Moyer (20:29) were 59th, 75th and 81st, respectively. Sebastian Fuchslin (21:41), Andrew Lockie (24:32) and Dominique McClerkin (26:39) finished out the Buckaroo runners.

There were 11 team scores, with Truckee edging South Tahoe 42-50, with Spring Creek (69), Douglas (88) and Elko (145) rounding out the top five. Lowry was sixth with 179 points.

Lowry travels to central California on Saturday for the Flat SAC Invitational.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Above left: Lowry's Patrick Moses (left) and Francisco Renteria make their way up the seventh hole at Winnemucca Municipal Golf Course at the beginning of the boys race. Above right: Lowry's Ben Bayles runs down the road parallel to the fourth hole.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Fernley's Corbyn Gillespie races Hannah Crookston of Spring Creek to the finish at the Lowry Invitational last Friday.

Wilson leads Fernley boys at Lowry Invitational

By Robert Perea

FERNLEY — The Fernley High School boys cross country team placed eighth with 207 points at the Lowry Invitational last Friday, led by Cael Wilson, who finished 12th in 17 minutes, 38 seconds.

Ayden Johnson and Zachary Petersen finished side-by-side in 43rd and 44th, both running 19:04. Daniel Hiles placed 66th in 19:59, Logan Petersen finished 87th in 21:07, and Mason Varner placed 100th in 21:56.

Addison Davis finished 103rd in 21:56, Cameron Farr placed 107th in 22:47, Bentley Ubben finished 127th in 25:13, and Parker Johnson placed 129th in 25:24.

In the girls race, Corbyn Gillespie led Fernley with a 44th place finish in 24:28. JoJo Cardinal placed 48th in 24:45, Wyn-ter Angus finished 59th in 25:38, and Kaylee Nicolas placed 69th in 28:35.

The Vaqueros are not scheduled to compete this week. Next Friday they will run in the 3A North Region Meet at Rancho San Rafael Park in Reno.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Fernley's Daniel Hiles passes Truckee's Noah Thies just before the finish at the Lowry Invitational last Friday.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Lowry goalie Izayus Barajas dives and goes airborne for a save in Saturday's 6-0 win over Fernley in Winnemucca.

Becerra hat trick leads Lowry boys soccer to 6-0 win over Fernley

Buckaroos face Indians, Wolverines to end regular season

By Tony Erquiaga

WINNEMUCCA — The Lowry High School boys soccer team salvaged a week-end split of a pair of Northern 3A East matches in Winnemucca. It was the final regular season home matches for the Buckaroos.

After dropping a 3-0 decision to Fallon on Thursday, Oct. 15, on senior night on Jerry Tobin. Lowry honored its 10 seniors.

It was a much better day on Saturday, as Lowry was back up on its field on Great Basin Drive and used a hat trick from David Becerra in the 6-0 victory over Fernley. With the loss the Vaqueros dropped to 0-19 on the season.

Criss Arriola, Cruz Flores and Kale Webber each netted one goal. Arrio-

la added a pair of assists, with Jayden Fuentes and Webber each with an assist. Goalkeeper Izayus had an assist and had an opportunity score on a penalty kick as well. However, his shot was knocked away and the rebound did not go in the back of the net.

The win improved to Lowry to 3-5-0 in the Northern 3A East and a spot in the playoffs.

The top eight teams qualify for the Northern 3A Regional Championships. The opening round will be played at home sites, with the semifinals and final in Winnemucca on Oct. 30-31.

South Tahoe is the only team locked in seed wise and are the No. 1 seed. Truckee, Incline and North Tahoe, members of the West Division hold playoff spots, with Elko, Spring Creek and Fallon joining Lowry from the East.

Lowry travels to Elko on Friday for a 3:45 p.m. start and to West Wendover on Saturday at 1:30 p.m.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Lowry's Caedon Entwistle battles for control of the ball.

Nighthawks claim third league win

By Robert Perea

SILVER SPRINGS — The Silver State High School volleyball team beat Coral Academy of Science- Reno on Oct. 17 for their third win of the season in the 2A North.

Priscilla Hesselguesser led the Nighthawks with 10 kills and three blocks, while Mikaela Woodhams made 16 digs and Paige Winter added 15. Setter Robin Smith had 10 assists and Aliyah Diaz served five aces.

The Nighthawks were scheduled to host Oasis Academy Monday evening and finish the regular season by hosting North Tahoe Saturday at noon.

Battle Mountain volleyball split home match, nearly upsets Yerington

Longhorns close regular season at home against West Wendover

By Tony Erquiaga

BATTLE MOUNTAIN — All a coach is looking for toward the end of the season is if his or her team is improving and beginning to peak at the right time.

For Battle Mountain High School volleyball coach Julia Ramirez, the answer to that question is a yes. The Lady Longhorns were back on their home floor last weekend to play Fallon's Oasis Academy and Yerington.

Battle Mountain knocked off Oasis in four sets 24-26, 25-14, 25-8, 25-11. On Saturday afternoon, the Longhorns took on Yerington, with the Lions winning in five sets 25-17, 23-25, 17-25, 25-10, 15-13. In early September, Yerington comfortably won in three sets.

"This weekend definitely showed the amount of work and growth that has gone into this season," said BMHS Ramirez. "The second time facing these teams shows how much improvement has been made for everyone involved, including the other teams. I am super proud for the adjustments they can make on the fly and always putting their team first."

In the win over Oasis, Paitynn Johns and Ella Matheus paced Battle Mountain with seven and six kills, respectfully, while Kamila Farias had three.

Farias was the team leader in aces with 12, with Matheus and Yadira Vazquez had four and three, with Vazquez contributing two blocks.

Sofia Andrade had a team-high 11 digs, with Farias adding eight, Johns five and Miranda Lomeli three. Andrade had eight assists and Lomeli five.

Against Yerington and in her second-to-last match at home, Johns knocked down 13 kills, Vazquez added nine and Matheus, Farias and Lomeli each had three kills. Rami McGrath had two kills.

Farias and Vaquez each served three aces and Vaquez added four blocks. Matheus had a team-high 22 digs, Andrade 17, Johns 14 and eight each from Keona Colver. Farias led the way with 23 assists.

Heading into the final week of the regular season, North Tahoe (14-0) and Yerington (13-1) have clinched the top two spots.

Third to sixth-place is a different story. Battle Mountain, Sierra Lutheran and West Wendover and Pershing County are all tied at 8-6.

Battle Mountain travels to Lovelock on Wednesday to play Pershing County and hosts West Wendover on Friday at noon.

Lowry rally falls short in home finale against Fallon

Bucks close out season with Elko County trip

By Tony Erquiaga

WINNEMUCCA — The Lowry High School volleyball team was on Pat Hart Court for one final time this past Friday night, as the squad celebrated its four seniors in their final home match against Churchill County.

The Greenwave played the unfriendly guests, winning the first two sets 25-14 and 25-8.

Fallon looked in control to sweep the match, with a nine-point lead in the third set.

However, Lowry battled back from the deficit with the final seven points to win 25-23 and kept the match alive.

The Buckaroos kept the momentum going into the fourth set, when the Greenwave pulled away for the 25-15 win and the match victory.

For the final time on their home floor, seniors Raegen Terry (5), Tessa Jenkins (4), Josie Jenkins (4) and Hazen Root (3) combined for 16 of the Buckaroos' 21 kills. Sophomore Breylin Johnson added four kills and Peyton Anguiano one.

In addition, Terry contributed three aces and a block, with Tessa Jenkins, Root and Johnson also having a block. Tessa Jenkins and Root had nine and seven assists,



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Lowry's Finn Christean passes the ball to a teammate after receiving a serve during last Friday's match against Fallon

respectfully, and Emelia Mentaberry and Root each finished with a team-high 11 digs. Yareli Ojendiz and Terry each had nine digs.

Lowry travels to Elko on Friday at 6 p.m. and Spring Creek Saturday at noon.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
The Lowry volleyball team celebrates after winning a point.



PEGGY JONES • Great Basin Sports
Pershing senior Mili Gonzalez (11) scores a goal against West Wendover for the Mustangs during Friday's home game on senior day.

PCHS girls soccer sweeps West Wendover, honor seniors

By Peggy Jones

LOVELOCK — The Pershing County girls soccer team gave its seniors a week-end to remember, sweeping West Wendover with back-to-back shutouts and outscoring their opponents 9-0 in two games Friday and Saturday, Oct. 16-17.

Friday's game was especially memorable for seniors Alejandra Piñeda, Mili Gonzalez and Nayeli Acosta, who were recognized for their contributions to the program.

Pershing County entered the weekend knowing West Wendover had improved considerably in recent years. Throughout the week, the team practiced avoiding West Wendover's offside trap and worked on crossing the ball in front of the goal to create scoring opportunities.

The preparation paid off as the Mustangs controlled much of Friday's game.

Acosta led the offense with four goals, while fellow senior Gonzalez added the fifth after moving from her usual defensive position to center forward late in the game.

The coach praised all three seniors for their improvement, leadership and contributions to the team.

Piñeda, a forward, has improved considerably during her years at PCHS and has become a leader known for her kindness and encouragement of teammates.

Gonzalez has developed into a strong defender during her three seasons with the Mustangs. Her determination was rewarded when she moved to forward and scored the team's final goal.

Acosta, who accounted for four of the team's five goals, has been a leader both on and off the field.

The coach described her as someone the coaching staff can depend on to help guide the team.

"The experience, personality, and talent of these three seniors will be sorely missed next year," Brooks said.

Other Mustangs contributed to Friday's shutout victory. Elanie De Los Reyes recorded two assists, while Camila Garcia had several shots on goal.

Defenders Josie Brooks and Mary McBride kept West Wendover from advancing the ball into scoring position for much of the game.

Goalkeeper Aaliyah Lora also played an important role, coming out of the goal to stop opposing players before they could take shots.

Mustangs Complete Weekend Sweep

The Mustangs returned to the field Saturday, Oct. 17, and completed their week-end sweep of West Wendover with another shutout victory, winning 4-0.

The Wolverines came out strong, but the Mustangs kept the ball on their opponent's half of the field for much of the game.

Desaray Vidrio opened the scoring with



KELLY BROOKS • Provided to Great Basin Sports
Soccer seniors Mili Gonzalez (11), Alejandra Piñeda (2) and Nayeli Acosta (4) stand together on their home field on senior day.

an assist from Pineda.

Lily Reynolds added the second goal, putting the ball into the net following a corner kick by Acosta.

Vidrio scored again in the second half after taking advantage of a missed kick by the West Wendover goalkeeper.

With the Mustangs in control, the coaches experimented with different positions. Acosta moved to sweeper, Vidrio shifted to center midfield and Brooks moved to forward.

The changes produced another scoring opportunity when Brooks assisted Piñeda on the final goal.

Lora made several important saves, including stops on breakaway attempts by West Wendover players.

The coach said it was rewarding to see the players put their practice work into action and praised Lora's improvement throughout the season.

The two victories capped a successful senior night weekend for the Mustangs, who combined strong offense with solid defense to keep West Wendover scoreless in both games.

With the wins, the Mustangs improved to 5-7-1, overall, and 4-7 in the league.

Currently in fourth place, Pershing County is will play the first-place team in the opening round of the state tournament on Oct. 30, in Ely and White Pine High School.

Yerington (9-0) presently holds that position, but upcoming games against the second- and third-place teams could change the standings.

Tuesday, the Mustangs traveled to Battle Mountain to face the Longhorns for the last game of the regular season. Results were not available at press time.

Brooks said she is excited about how far the Mustangs have come this season and is looking forward to the playoffs.



PEGGY JONES • Great Basin Sports
Senior Alejandra Pineda (2) moves the ball up the field during Friday's game against West Wendover.

Pyramid Lake comeback attempt falls short in 16–14 at Wells

By Robert Perea

PYRAMID LAKE — Pyramid Lake comeback attempt came up just short in a league game at Wells on Friday, losing 16–14 after a second half push that nearly erased an early deficit.

Wells built its lead in the first half as Pyramid Lake struggled with miscues, including a fumble in its own end zone that helped the Leopards go up by two touchdowns in the second quarter. Wells led 16–6 at halftime.

Pyramid Lake opened the second half with a momentum swing on a long kick return by freshman Kyree Phoenix, setting up strong field position.

The Lakers' defense held Wells scoreless after the break and forced a fourth quarter safety behind Troy Yazzie, who finished with 12 tackles, and Uriah Coffman, who added 8.

Quarterback Bradley Lara connected



with tight end Ben Eben on a 54 yard pass on third and long, then scored on a quarterback sneak to pull Pyramid Lake within two. The Lakers couldn't close the gap in the final minutes, ending with the 16–14 loss.

Thursday the Lakers are scheduled to play at Coleville at 11 a.m., then they finish the season at home next Thursday, hosting Virginia City.

Mustangs sweep Coral Academy and Sierra Lutheran In Northern 2A play

By Peggy Jones

LOVELOCK — The Pershing County Mustangs volleyball team picked up two important victories last week, sweeping Coral Academy on the road and Sierra Lutheran at home as they continued preparing for the Northern 2A playoffs.

The Mustangs defeated Coral Academy 25-10, 25-22 and 25-11 before returning home to beat Sierra Lutheran 25-21, 25-10 and 25-15.

PCHS coach Monica Halverson said the team traveled to Coral Academy determined to play well and come home with a victory.

Although the Mustangs made mistakes along the way, they worked together, encouraged one another and maintained their focus to complete the three-set sweep.

"The awesome thing about volleyball is that it can change instantly and our training and drive helps us through those challenging moments," Halverson said.

She added that the team's struggles throughout the season have provided valuable learning experiences.

"We learn so much more when we are failing, so I think this season our eyes have been opened a lot," she said.

Arya Garland led the Mustangs with eight service aces and a season-high 28 digs. Khloe Montes added six kills and a season-high 20 digs.

Avani Rosas recorded 18 assists, while Katelynn Elerick contributed 15 assists and three aces. Cami Watson and Jerzie Jones each finished with four kills.

Halverson also praised Coral Academy for its sportsmanship, saying the team is always enjoyable to play.

Mustangs Continue Winning at Home

The Mustangs carried their momentum into their home match against Sierra Lutheran, delivering another three-set victory.

Halverson said the performance was exactly what the team needed as the regular season nears its end.

The Mustangs adjusted their defense to handle tips and sharply angled hits while working hard to keep the ball in play, even after difficult first touches.

Halverson said she was especially pleased to see the determination and hustle that have traditionally characterized Mustang volleyball and basketball teams.

"My girls played their game and finished in 3 sets," she said. "They competitively finished the set in Mustang fashion, and I couldn't be prouder."

Garland again led the defensive effort with 21 digs, along with three kills and four assists.



PEGGY JONES • Great Basin Sports
Pershing County's Avani Rosas (11) sets the ball during the Mustangs' home game against Sierra Lutheran.

Montes contributed six aces, five kills and five digs. Whitlee Diaz recorded a season-high six kills, while Watson added four kills and three blocks.

Jones finished with 13 digs and three kills. Elerick and Rosas each contributed 11 assists.

Final Home Matches Ahead

The two victories gave the Mustangs momentum heading into the final week of Northern 2A regular-season competition.

The Mustangs were scheduled to host Battle Mountain on Wednesday, Oct. 21. Results were not available at press time.

They will wrap up their regular season Thursday, Oct. 22, when they host West Wendover for senior night.

The Mustangs' roster includes six seniors: Magdalena Ramirez, Arya Garland, Khloe Montes, Katelynn Elerick, Jerzie Jones and Whitlee Diaz.

Halverson encouraged Lovelock residents to come out and support the team during its final home matches.

With the top two positions in the standings out of reach, the Mustangs hope to earn a fourth or fifth seed in the playoffs and make a run toward the state tournament.

"My team is pulling it together when it is needed the most and making the last part of their season something that they can be proud of," Halverson said.

The team's guiding philosophy remains "Mustangs Mentality: Mind Over Matter, Family."



PEGGY JONES • Great Basin Sports
Pershing County volleyball players exchange high-fives during their home game against Sierra Lutheran.



JOHN BAKER • Great Basin Sports
Faith Mhondo battles for the ball with Delilah Tindal of Spring Creek.

Fernley girls soccer qualifies as No. 8 seed for Region Tournament

By Robert Perea

FERNLEY — The Fernley High School girls soccer team is back in the postseason. After missing the playoffs last year, the Vaqueros will be the No. 8 seed for the 3A North Region Tournament and will play next Tuesday, Oct. 27 at the home of the No. 1 seed.

The Vaqueros earned their postseason berth by virtue of their strong performance in league crossover games, where they earned three wins and a tie against 3A West teams.

The Vaqueros will play at Truckee or South Tahoe. Truckee leads the 3A West with a 10-0 record.

South Tahoe is 8-1 in the West and would need to beat Truckee this week to have a chance at the No. 1 seed.

Last Friday the Vaqueros lost 9-0 at Elko, then Saturday they lost a tough match to Spring Creek, 2-0. Saturday, they wrap up the regular season at 11:45 a.m. at Fallon.

Boys Soccer

The Boys soccer team plays at Fallon



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Fernley's Parker Bacon fights for control of the ball.

at 3:45 p.m. Friday to wrap up its regular season. The Vaqueros lost twice last week, 9-0 at Spring Creek on Friday and 6-0 at Lowry on Saturday.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Fernley's Damien Ruiz takes a shot during last Saturday's game at Lowry.

Fallon girls soccer looking to earn home playoff game

By Robert Perea

FALLON — With a win over Spring Creek and a tie against Elko last week, the Churchill County High School girls soccer team has a chance this week to earn a home game for the first round of the 3A North Region Tournament.

The Greenwave beat Spring Creek 2-0 last Friday and tied Elko 3-3 last Saturday to improve their record to 5-1-1 in the Northern 3A East and 9-3-2 overall.

In the playoff standings, the Greenwave have 42 points in the standings heading into the regular-season finale against Fernley on Saturday.

That ranks fourth in the North, and the Greenwave will clinch the fourth seed with a win over Fernley if North Tahoe loses or ties one of its final two games against Sparks or South Tahoe.

The top four teams seeds earn a home game for the first round of the regional tournament.

Heading into this week's action, the only team locked into a seed is No. 8 Fernley. Truckee will be the No. 1 seed if



it wins one of its final two games.

Against Spring Creek, the Greenwave scored once in each half to take the 2-0 win.

Saturday, the Greenwave took the lead three times, but the Indians answered each time, with the last goal in the 76th minute standing up for the tie.

Saturday's game at Fernley is scheduled for 11:45 a.m.

The first round of the regional tournament will be played next Tuesday, Oct. 27 at host sites, with the semifinals and finals at Lowry on Oct. 30-31.

Mustangs put undefeated season on the line on Friday

By Peggy Jones

LOVELOCK — The Pershing County High School football team had a bye week, giving the Mustangs a chance to rest and prepare for their final two games of the regular season.

The Mustangs are 7-0 overall and 4-0 in the Northern 2A, holding first place in the league with West Wendover.

Pershing County has dominated opponents this season, averaging approximately 48 points per game.

Recent victories include a 58-6 win over Yerington, a 42-14 victory over

Incline and a 51-0 shutout of North Tahoe.

The Mustangs will travel to Battle Mountain on Friday, before returning home to face West Wendover on Thursday, Oct. 29, in their final regular-season matchup. The final home game is traditionally senior night.

The Mustangs have eight seniors on their roster: Aaron Zelaya, Jorden Fitch, Amare Rosas, Eduardo Aceves, Brayden Padgett, Lorne Maita, Israel Knight and Bryan Lora.

Following the regular season, the Mustangs will turn their attention to the 2A state playoffs.

Fernley volleyball chasing top regional seed

By Robert Perea

FERNLEY — With just one match left in the regular season, the Fernley High School volleyball team has already clinched the top seed from the East for the 3A North Region Tournament. With a win over Dayton, they could be the No. 1 seed for the entire tournament.

The Vaqueros are 9-1 in league play heading in to Thursday's game against Dayton. With a win, they could be the No. 1 overall seed for the region tournament.

South Tahoe entered this week leading the West with an 8-1 record, but Truckee was second at 7-1.

The two teams split their matches, but South Tahoe owns the tiebreaker over Truckee.

Fernley beat South Tahoe but lost to Truckee, and the top seeds could come down to tiebreakers if all three teams win each game this week.

Either way, the Vaqueros will be playing at home for the first round of the tournament Tuesday at 6 p.m. As the No. 1 seed they would host No. 8, or as the No.

2 seed they would host No. 7. Either scenario could pit them against Fallon, Elko, Spring Creek or Incline.

Fernley swept both Spring Creek and Elko last week. On Oct. 15 the Vaqueros beat Spring Creek 25-13, 25-9, 25-17.

Trista Menesini had 13 kills for the Vaqueros and Emma Masters added eight, taking advantage of 23 assists by Alauna Escartin.

Jocelyn Escartin had 19 digs for the Vaqueros and received 13 serves.

Fernley backed that up with another sweep Friday against Elko 25-17, 25-12, 25-21.

Masters had six kills and Menesini had five kills and five blocks. Jocelyn Escartin had 18 digs, and Alauna Escartin totaled 14 assists.

"The girls worked hard last week with the goal to redeem themselves and beat Spring Creek and be more aggressive offensively," coach Diane Chapin said. "Our defense played tough and made a lot of great digs and blocks to extend rallies. Thursday we will honor the seven seniors and hopefully continue to play well."



JOHN BAKER • Great Basin Sports
Jocelyn Escartin receives a serve during last Friday's match against Elko. Photo by John Baker.

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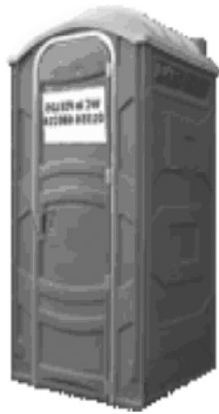
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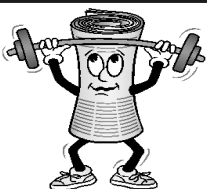
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JULIA RAMIREZ • Provided to Great Basin Sports
Battle Mountain High School held its homecoming last week with a number of activities. Sofia Andrade was selected as homecoming queen and Patxi Iturriaga as king.

Battle Mountain boys finish regular season, prep for state tournament

Lady Longhorns conclude season

By Tony Erquiaga

BATTLE MOUNTAIN — The Battle Mountain High School boys soccer team concluded its regular season last week at home with two matches against White Pine.

On Thursday, the Longhorns’ Abraham Nevarez netted a first half goal, as Battle Mountain trailed 2-1 after 40 minutes of play. White Pine pulled away for the 5-1 victory with three second-half goals.

The two teams were back on Tim Knight Field on Friday, with White Pine winning 8-0.

Battle Mountain has secured the No. 4 seed for the state tournament to be played Oct. 30-31 at White Pine High School in Ely.

Dayton (5-1-0), White Pine (5-1-0) and



Yerington (5-0-0) are fighting for the top three spots.

On the other side, the Battle Mountain girls soccer team has concluded its season. The Longhorns hosted White Pine twice this past weekend, losing 4-0 on Thursday and 3-0 on Friday.

The Longhorns hosted Pershing County on Tuesday, Oct. 20, and results were not available at press time. Battle Mountain entered the match at 1-9-2.

Fernley Women’s Golf Club Results, Oct. 13

Game: Pink Ball

Winning team: Jolene Coverston, Cheri Grutkowski, Paula Reed, Sandi Sewchok, 128

Closest to pin Hole #7: Jolene Coverston, 5’11”

Birdies: Nancy Newton, #3

Fewest putts: Bonnie MacQuarrie, 27

Chip-ins: Juneil Key, #13; Sandi Sewchok, #14; Cheri Grutkowski, #14



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports
Fallon’s Benny Enriquez tries to elude Lowry’s Abhinav Subedi.

Fallon boys soccer looks to end regular season with rivalry win

By Robert Perea

FALLON — While they would likely make the 3A North Region Tournament either way, the Churchill County High School boys soccer team looks to end the regular season this Friday with a win over its cross-valley rival.

The Greenwave hosts Fernley at 3:34 p.m. Friday for the regular-season finale. The Greenwave appear to be assured of a playoff berth and would be playing next Tuesday, but a win over Fernley would make that a certainty.

The Greenwave are currently fourth in the East Division with a 3-5-1 record but entered the week sixth in the 3A North with 24 points in the standings.

If Lowry were to lose its last two

games, to Elko and West Wendover, the Greenwave could end up as the No. 5 seed, but they could also drop to seventh if Incline wins both of its games this week.

The first round of the regionals is at home sites on Tuesday with the top four seeds hosting first round games.

The Greenwave solidified their position last week by beating Lowry 3-0 on Thursday. They also lost 4-1 to Spring Creek last Saturday. Fallon is Now 3-5-1 in Northern 3A East.

Raul Sanchez had two goals against Lowry, Adan Roman added a goal and Jarrett Ugalde had an assist. Goalkeeper Caiden Nietz made 13 saves.

No stats were available for Saturday’s game against Spring Creek.

Winner take all:

Vaqueros to battle Dayton Friday for final playoff berth

By Robert Perea

FERNLEY — It’s a simple equation with season-defining stakes for the Fernley High School football team this week as it hosts Dayton with both teams in the same situation: win and keep playing, or lose and turn in the pads.

The 3A Northern League postseason will effectively start a week early this Friday when Fernley and Dayton square off at 7 p.m. with the final playoff spot on the line for the Lyon County rivals.

Both squads enter the regular-season finale sitting at 3-6 overall and 2-5 in league play. For two teams that have endured a turbulent autumn, Friday night offers an opportunity for immediate redemption.

“It’s like a get on the horse and get to work and go reap the rewards of your hard work, like the fruits of your labor type situation,” Fernley coach Anfernee Sloan said.

The Vaqueros enjoyed the fruits of their labor last week, beating Lowry 26-7 to keep their playoff hopes alive and set up the win-and-in scenario this week.

It didn’t come without hardship though, as the Vaqueros were unable to convert on three scoring opportunities. Fernley’s first drive ended with a fumble at the Lowry 20-yard line, and the third ended when a runner fumbled just before crossing the goal line.

Another drive inside Lowry territory ended when the Vaqueros couldn’t convert on fourth down.

“I thought we were playing well, it was

just a matter of finishing the drives,” Sloan said. “We easily could have been up 21-0 or 28-0 at the half.”

The Vaqueros finally got on the board in the closing seconds of the first half, on a 33-yard touchdown pass from Elijah Devold to Keaunue Tolliver.

Sloan said that score was an emotional lift and created momentum into the second half for the Vaqueros.

“After that it was like peeling a banana, essentially,” he said. “Those guys were just making it look effortless.”

A 15-yard touchdown run by Jayse Jones in the third quarter made it 13-0.

On Lowry’s next possession, Julian Bill-Ramirez intercepted pass that Jayden Esparza deflected. His return to the 4-yard line set up a touchdown run by Esparza to make it 20-0 after a two-point conversion run by Esparza.

After Lowry drove for a score to make it 20-7, Esparza’s 8-yard touchdown run made it 26-7 with 3:18 left in the game.

Esparza finished with 178 yards rushing on 22 carries, and the Vaqueros had 313 total rushing yards. Devold completed 2-of-5 passes for 60 yards, including the 33-yard touchdown to Tolliver.

Now the Vaqueros hope Continue the way they played in the second half, when Sloan said they looked more like the team they’re capable of being.

“I keep telling everyone that we’re the scariest 3-6 team you’ll ever play and Coach Ivens at Truckee will attest to that,” Sloan said. “Our record doesn’t reflect the type of team we are.”



Photo by Leanne Cruz, Cruz Down Memory lane Photography
Fernley’s Wyatt McGinnis (4) tackles a Lowry runner with help from Jayden Esparza (22) and Max Torres.

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