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First Time for Everything

Yerington soccer teams bring home state championships

Lion girls hold off Dust Devils in finale, score winner on penalty kick with five minutes to play

By Tony Erquiaga

YERINGTON — From the start of the season in mid-August, the Yerington High girls soccer team showed and proved it was the best 2A team in the state.

A season ago, the Lions came up short in their bid for the first state title in program history, losing in a shootout to White Pine. They made sure that didn't happen again.

With that in mind, Yerington rolled through the Northern 2A and the regular season, winning 14 straight matches.

Yerington entered the NIAA 2A State Championships in Ely on Oct. 30-31, looking for the top prize.

The weekend started on Friday, Oct. 30, with a convincing 7-1 win over Pershing County, the No. 4 seed.

The Lions led 4-1 at halftime and added three more goals in the final 40 minutes. Senior forward Nataly Gutierrez-Marquez netted herself a hat trick with three goals.

Meanwhile, freshman Xavia Dini joined her soon-to-be graduating teammate with three goals of her own. Mari Basaca-Funtes notched a goal as well.

Marquez and Dini each had an assist and Clarisa Alvarez and Laney Triplett added assists.

The semifinal victory set up an all Lyon County final on Oct. 31, with Yerington taking on Dayton. The Lions won the regular season meetings 3-1 and 2-1. The state championship proved to have a little more offense from both.

Yerington scored 90 seconds into the match, as Marquez fired a shot over the head of the Dayton goalie.

The action settled down until the 22nd minute, when Dini converted a penalty kick, giving Yerington a 2-0 advantage.

Dayton closed the gap to 2-1 in the 36th minute, using the quick turf to help them push the ball down the field, where they found the net.

The Dust Devils erased the deficit and tied the match at 2-2, four minutes into the second half.

The goal actually came off the foot of a Yerington player, attempting to clear the ball on a corner kick. As she was clearing the ball from inside the box, her kick hit the bar and went in.



Courtesy Photo

The Yerington High School girls soccer team captured its first state title in program history, defeating Dayton 4-3 on Saturday, Oct. 31, at White Pine High School in Ely.

Yerington reclaimed the lead in the 65th minute, as Dini took a cross in the middle of the box and fired the shot.

Three minutes later, the Dust Devils tied at 3-3, converting a free kick after the Lions were called for a foul.

In the 76th minute, Dayton was called for a handball in the box and Marquez made it count as the winning goal, easily connecting on the shot and the 4-3 win.

Yerington finished the season 16-0, outscoring its opponents 119-10.

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Yerington boys beat Dayton 2-1 on a double overtime penalty kick to win first-ever soccer title

By Tony Erquiaga

After seeing its girl counterparts win the state championship for the first time, the Yerington boys were looking to do the same.

First the Lions needed to beat Battle Mountain on Friday, Oct. 30, and did just that. Yerington netted all seven of its goals in the first half en route to a 7-0 victory in the semifinals.

The Lions outscored the Longhorns 24-1 in three matches this season.

Senior Wilbert Martinez-Garcia finished the day with a hat trick (three goals) and an assist. Ruben Jimenez added two goals and Erick Juarez had one goal. Freshman Adan Juarez dished out an assist.



Courtesy Photo

The Yerington High School boys soccer team won the first boys state championship in school history, defeating Dayton 2-1 on Saturday, Oct. 31, at White Pine High School in Ely.

That created a rematch of last year's state final, where Dayton beat Yerington 1-0. It would take some extra time, two periods to be exact, as Yerington avenged that loss with a 2-1 victory in double overtime.

The Lions scored the only goal of the first half on a penalty kick by Martinez-Garica in the 27th minute.

The Dust Devils score the equalizing goal six minutes into the second half off a perfectly-placed corner kick.

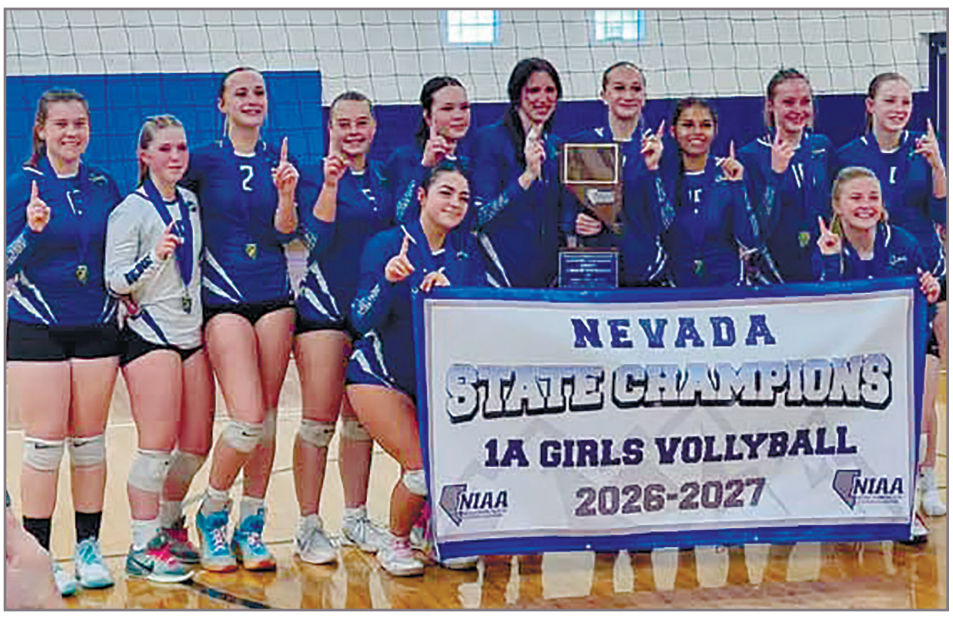
With four minutes left in the second overtime, Dayton was called for a foul in the box, giving Yerington a match-winning penalty kick.

Ruben Jimenez hit the shot, sending the Yerington players into a frenzy.

The Lions were perfect on the year as well, going 11-0 and outscoring opponents 69-8.

Tenacious

Smith Valley captures 10th state volleyball crown, first since 2023



COURTESY PHOTO

The Smith Valley High School volleyball team swept Coleville, Calif., this past Saturday in Las Vegas to win the 1A state championship. The 2026 team includes: Lilly Slater, Aubrey Leinassar, Dakota Gray, Evelyn Emhoff, Mallory Sexson, Madi Slater, Trissa Wright, Presley York, Katelynn DuBlanc, Elina Quesada, Lexie Gray, Danielle Galula and coaches Celeste Callinan and Amber Emhoff.

Bulldogs' 10 titles are fifth most in state history

By Tony Erquiaga

SMITH VALLEY — It would be tough to find any more dominant season in the state of Nevada this fall from the one that was witnessed by the Smith Valley High School volleyball team.

The Bulldogs dropped just two sets in league play this fall and that dominance continued into the NIAA 1A State Championship this past weekend Sierra Vista High School in Las Vegas.

Smith Valley won all three of its matches in straight set on its way to winning a 10th title in school history.

The 10 titles are the fifth most in Nevada history only behind Pahranagat Valley (22), Moapa Valley (14) and The Meadows and Whittell with 11 each.

Smith Valley began its state run on Thursday, Nov. 5, against Beatty. The Bulldogs dominated the undermanned Hornets, giving up just 21 points in three sets.

Beatty did not score in double figures in any set, as Smith Valley won 25-9, 25-8, 25-4.

Madi Slater and Lilly Slater led the hitting attack with 14 and 12 kills, respectively. Lexie Gray added seven kills, Dakota Gray two and Triss Wright one.

Aubrey Leinassar had a team-high five aces, with Presley York four and Dakota Gray two. Lexie Gray finished with three blocks and a team-high 12 digs, while Evelyn Emhoff had 11 digs.

Dakota Gray and Madi Slater finished with nine and eight digs respectively. Pressley York paced the Bulldogs with 23 assists and Trissa Wright contributed 10 assists.

The victory set up a semifinal match on Friday. Nov. 6, with Lund, the 1A East regular and postseason champion. The Mustangs were a tougher opponent, scoring more points in the first set than Beatty did in the entire match.

The Bulldogs led 19-14 and 20-15 in the opening set but saw that lead dwindle to a 22-22 tie. After the set was tied again at 23, 24 and 25 all. Smith Valley won the final two points (27-35) off a Lund defensive error and a kill.

See CHAMPS C2

CHAMPS —

Cont. from C1

Smith Valley took control after that, winning the final two sets 25-13 and 25-18. The Bulldogs had 47 kills, including 21 from Lexie Gray, 13 from Madi Slater, Lilly Slater none and Dakota Gray three.

Madi Slater served five of the seven aces and Lexie Gray had three blocks and York added a block. Madi Slater added 23 digs, with Dakota Gray (11) and York (10), joining her in double figures. Emhoff added five digs and Danielle Galula four.

York had a team-high 27 assists and Galula added 11 assists.

Smith Valley saw a familiar foe in the state title match on Saturday, Nov. 7, taking on 1A West rival Coleville, Calif.

Like it was the regular season, the Bulldogs took care of the Wolves in three sets 25-18, 25-19 and 26-24 to win the crown.

Smith Valley led early in the third set, when Coleville rallied back to go in front 15-12. The set would be tied at 16, 17 and 18, when Smith Valley reeled off three straight points and forcing Coleville to take a timeout.

The Bulldogs scored the next three points out of the break to get championship point at 24-18.

That was easier said than done, with the Wolves scoring six straight points to tie the set at 24 with their season in the balance. Tied at 24, Coleville served the ball in the net and with Galula serving championship point, the Coleville defense could not get the ball back over the net.

In her final high school match, Madi Slater finished with a team-high 23 kills, while fellow senior Lexie Gray added 13 kills. Lilly Slater had 10 kills and Leinassar three. Madi Slater added 15 digs and a block with Lexie Gray and Emhoff finishing with 15 and 11 digs, respectively. York had a team-high 27 assists and Galula 11.

Smith Valley finished the year 26-11 overall and 14-0 in league play.

Mineral County rallies past Carlin to advance to 1A state semifinals

Serpents hit the road to face top-seeded Muckers on Friday night

By Tony Erquiaga

HAWTHORNE — The Mineral County High School football team scored the final 21 points of its 1A state quarterfinal game against Carlin to win 33-12 and advance to the state semifinals against Tonopah.

The two teams combined for four touchdowns in the first 13 minutes of the contest. Mineral County jumped on the board first, as Dylan Johnson connected with Quentin Isom for a 43-yard touchdown for a 6-0 lead.

Johnson perfectly placed the pass over the hands of the Carlin defender.

Four minutes later, senior Ramiro Lalonde pushed the advantage to 12-0 on a 70-yard punt return with 3:55 left in the opening quarter.

Carlin found its offense on its second possession and drove the field and cut the Mineral County lead in half after a 12-yard touchdown run. On the ensuing kickoff, the Railroaders recovered an onside kick. It appeared the kick didn't go the full 10 yards before it was touched but the ball was given to Carlin.

The Railroaders drove 50 yards and tied the game at 12-12, following an 11-yard run.

With four minutes left in the first half, Johnny Serrato hit Lalonde for a 25-yard touchdown pass to go in front 19-12 after the extra point. The Serpents did not trail again.

Mineral County got the ball back with 64 seconds left in the second quarter and made the possession count as Serrato found Lalonde down the sideline and the receiver did the rest on the 75-yard touchdown, as Mineral County led 26-12.

It went from bad to worse for Carlin, as Mineral County struck again, this time on defense.

Isom intercepted a pass and ran it back 20 -yards to give the Serpents a 33-12 lead at halftime.

Mineral County travels to Tonopah on Friday to play the top-seeded team from the Southern 1A. Tonopah enters the contest at 10-0 and have outscored its opponents 578-92.

The last time the two teams played was in the 2022 season when Mineral County won 64-60.

Kickoff is set for 6 p.m. Pahranagat Valley travels to Eureka on Saturday.

The two winners advance to the state championship on Friday, Nov. 20, at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas. The game time has not been set as of press time.



MIKE NATTRESS • Great Basin Sports

Fallon's Maxton Richardson intercepts a pass during last Friday's playoff win over Elko.

Dominant second half carries Greenwave past Indians

Fallon hosts Pahrump Valley on Saturday

By Robert Perea

FALLON — Most championship-caliber football teams look for momentum.

The undefeated Churchill County High School football team simply creates it out of thin air, then rides it like a tidal wave.

The Greenwave scored 33 points in a 15-minute second-half explosion last Friday night, turning a stagnant, penalty-ridden dogfight into a 40-6 blowout over Elko to punch their ticket to the NIAA Class 3A state semifinals.

Fallon will host Pahrump Valley, which beat Virgin Valley 30-29 on a last-minute touchdown, at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Edward Arciniega Athletic Complex for the right to play in the state championship game at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas next week.

In a game where the Greenwave (11-0) had the ball just twice in the first 15 minutes of the game, they scored on five consecutive possessions in the first 15 minutes of the second half to roll to the 40-6 win.

"I mean, you look at it, we've got playmakers all over the field," coach Calvin Connors said. "Shout out to our O-line, D-line, being able to come up big on a few 4th downs, so just very proud of all three phases, offense, defense and special teams."

The Greenwave looked entirely human before the intermission. An opening 12-play, 69-yard march capped by a 3-yard touchdown run from sophomore Alijah Juarez put the Greenwave up 7-0 with 4:14 left in the first quarter.

See FALLON C4



LYNN CONLEY • Great Basin Sports

Eureka quarterback Mason Mills throws over the out stretch arms of a Wells defender.

Eureka runs winning streak to eight, gets Pahranagat Valley rematch in 1A state semifinals

Panthers handed Vandals their only loss this year

By Tony Erquiaga

EUREKA — Since the calendar turned over to September, not much has gotten in the way of the Eureka High School football team.

The Vandals have reeled off eight straight wins, seven of those by double figures and sit at 9-1 overall.

That eighth straight victory came this past Friday in the opening round of the NIAA 1A State Championships, with Eureka cruising past Wells 44-6.

The win moved the Vandals one win from returning to the title game, since winning the title in 2023 over Pahranagat Valley.

Eureka will have to get past the perennial power in order to get back to the finale. The Vandals host the Panthers on Friday at 6 p.m.

This is the second trip to eastern Nevada for Pahranagat Valley, who handed Eureka its only loss, a 32-14 defeat on Aug. 28. Since then, Eureka has outscored its next eight opponents 380-66.

In the victory over Wells, Eureka used a defensive stand on the first drive of the day and followed that with a 16-yard touchdown run by Hank Mentabery to lead 8-0 after the 2-point conversion.

The Leopards punted on their next two possessions in the first quarter, which led to a touchdown pass and then a scoring run for a 24-0 advantage in the first quarter.

Mentaberry added another rushing touchdown early in the second quarter and followed that with a 30-yard touchdown pass to Dean Benson for a 36-0 lead. The Vandals failed on both 2-point conversions.

Eureka wasted little time adding to the margin in the third quarter, taking the opening possession down the field and scoring.

The only points for Wells came on the ensuing kick, as Justice Nelson returned the kickoff for the score. The entire second half was played with a running clock under the NIAA mercy rule.



LYNN CONLEY • Great Basin Sports

Eureka's Daniel Schweble sacks the Wells quarterback.



LYNN CONLEY • Great Basin Sports

Above: Eureka's Hank Mentaberry blasts his way for extra yardage in Friday's game against Wells. Below: Dean Benson takes the handoff from Hank Mentaberry.



Pershing County advances to state semifinals with 52–28 victory over Battle Mountain

McKinney sets school record, Lutz ties state record; Mustangs to host Lake Mead in 2A state semifinals

By Peggy Jones

LOVELOCK — The Pershing County High School football team kept its undefeated season alive Friday night, Nov. 6, defeating Battle Mountain 52-28 in a hard-fought playoff game at home and advancing to the state semifinals.

The victory improved the Mustangs' overall record to 10–0. Pershing County finished its regular-season league schedule undefeated at 6–0, taking first place in the 2A Northern League.

Battle Mountain finished the season at 5-5.

The game also marked a milestone for PCHS junior Quinton "Q" McKinney, who broke the Pershing County High School record for most touchdowns in a single season.

McKinney scored three touchdowns against Battle Mountain, bringing his season total to 31 and surpassing the previous school record of 30 set by Lucas Montes in 2005.

His season total includes 23 rushing touchdowns, six receiving touchdowns, one kickoff return touchdown and one punt return touchdown.

McKinney was a major offensive force Friday, rushing for more than 160 yards and adding 100 receiving yards.

Quarterback Ryan Houston also delivered a strong performance, throwing three touchdown passes, including one to McKinney and two to Aaron Zelaya.

The Mustangs attempted 18 passes, easily their highest number of attempts in a game this season, according to Coach Mike Brooks, who praised Houston's efficiency.

Brooks said Battle Mountain came prepared to challenge the Mustangs after losing to them earlier in the season.

"Battle Mountain showed up ready to avenge their previous loss to us," Brooks said.

"They forced us into situations offensively that I wouldn't say we shy away from, but we certainly aren't used to. We made mistakes along the way but I'm certainly proud of the way kids handled some adversity and came away with the win."

Battle Mountain kept the game competitive through the first half, with Pershing County holding an 8–6 lead after the first quarter and a 22–14 advantage at halftime.

The Mustangs extended their lead to 30-14 by the end of the third quarter before pulling away for a 52–28 victory.

Brooks credited his defense with making important stops when Battle Mountain threatened to close the gap.

"The defense came up with some key stops and we made enough plays through passing to keep the game in our favor," he said.

Amare Rosas came up with a key interception that gave the Mustangs possession and led to a touchdown on the ensuing drive.

Brooks also praised the defensive line, noting that several players recorded tackles for loss.

Among those he singled out were Houston Allen and Elijah Dickerman, along with linebacker Tate McIntee.

In the secondary, Jaxson Happy, Jorden Fitch and Zelaya contributed important defensive plays.

Battle Mountain also had an individual milestone during the game.

Senior Chase Lutz, wearing No. 88, caught a touchdown pass in the final moments of the contest, tying the 2A state record for touchdown receptions in a season with 18.

With the victory, Pershing County advances to the state semifinals, where the Mustangs will host the Lake Mead Christian Academy Eagles Saturday at 1 p.m.

The Eagles, from Henderson, finished third in the 2A Southern League and enter the matchup with a 6–4 record.

Lake Mead advanced to the semifinals after defeating White Pine 27-14 in the playoffs. Brooks said the Mustangs are looking forward to the challenge. Coral Academy travels to Lincoln County in the other semifinal.

The state championship is set for Saturday, Nov. 21, at a Reno-area high school.

"We are excited to test ourselves against Lake Mead, who has been playing very strong over the last month," he said.



SANDY BENGOA LUTZ • Great Basin Sports

Battle Mountain's Chase Lutz tied the school record for touchdowns in a career.



PEGGY JONES • Great Basin Sports

Pershing County's Quinton McKinney (22) races past Battle Mountain defenders on his way to a touchdown during Friday night's playoff victory.



PEGGY JONES • Great Basin Sports

Battle Mountain's Daniel Lara scrambles for yardage in Friday's game against Pershing County.



PEGGY JONES • Great Basin Sports

Pershing County's Jaxson Happy (21) carries the ball as teammates block Battle Mountain defenders during Friday's playoff game.



PEGGY JONES • Great Basin Sports

Pershing County's Amare Rosas (7) crosses the goal line for a touchdown against Battle Mountain during Friday night's playoff victory.



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Fernley Women's Golf Club
Results Oct. 27, 2026
Game: Closest to Par
Red Tees

1st: Terry Richter, 1 (1 under)
2nd: Juneil Key, 73 (1 over)
3rd: Linda Garrett, 74 (2 over)

Purple Tees

1st: Verl-Lee Ely, 75
2nd: Sandi Sewchok, 86
Fewest Putts: Juneil Key, 27
Birdies: Patty Liljeberg, No. 4; Loretta Bradley, No. 7; Kathy Kennedy, No. 14
Closest to the Pin No. 7: Linda Garrett, 11'5"
Closest to the Pin No. 11: Patty Liljeberg - 9'2"
Chip Ins: Juneil Key, No. 3; Patty Liljeberg, No. 4; Jana Garner, No.14; Kathy Kennedy, No.14

Nov. 3, 2026
Game: Stroke Play
Red Tees

1st Gross: Patty Liljeberg, 97
2nd Gross: Juneil Key, 99
1st Net: Shane Miller, 65
2nd Net: Loretta Bradley, 65
3rd Net: Terry Richter, 71
4th Net: Linda Garrett, 71
Fewest Putts (Tie): Jana Garner, Susan Marinucci, Patty Liljeberg, 29
Birdies: Linda Garrett, No. 7; Kathy Kennedy, No. 14
Closest to the Pin No. 7: Juniel Key, 10'11"
Chip-ins: Bonnie MacQuarrie, No. 4; Loretta Bradley, No. 10; Kathy Kennedy, No. 14; Linda Garrett, No. 16

Yerington grad Stevens finishes 11th at Pac-12 Cross Country Championships

By Robert Perea

YERINGTON — Yerington High School graduate Kutoven Stevens placed 11th at the Pac-12 Cross Country Championship last Friday in Boise.

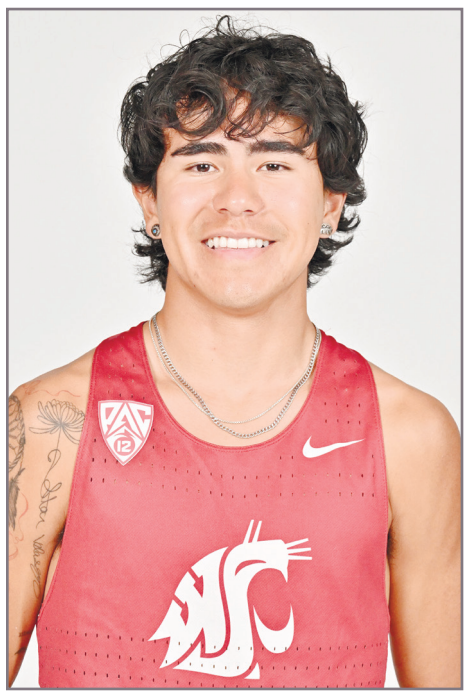
Stevens ran a time of 23:51.6 in the 8-kilometer race, which earned him second-team All-Pac-12 honors. Stevens posted the third fastest time for the Cougars, behind Solomon Kipchoge and Evans Kurui, who finished first and second, respectively, at the meet.

Stevens graduated from Yerington in 2023 and attended Oregon for two years before transferring to Washington State.

He ran in three meets as a freshman at Oregon and didn't compete as a sophomore.

He competed in all seven meets for the Cougars last season, finishing eighth in the West Coast Conference Championships and 29th at the West Regional.

Stevens and the Cougars are scheduled to race at the NCAA West Regional this Friday, Nov. 13 in Sacramento, Calif.



Courtesy Washington State University Athletics
Ku Stevens

Fernley grad Perkins earns All-Conference honors for Rocky Mountain College cross country

By Robert Perea

FERNLEY — Fernley High School graduate Joe Perkins finished 15th at the Frontier Conference Championships to earn All-Conference honors as a freshman at Rocky Mountain College in Billings, Mont.

Perkins finished with a time of 25:52.0 in the 8k race at the conference championship and was one of six runners from RMC to place in the top 15. Rocky won its second consecutive Frontier Conference championship and will compete in the NAIA National Championship race for the fourth straight year on Nov. 20 in Vancouver, WA.

Perkins graduated from Fernley High School in June. He placed third at the 3A state cross country meet as a senior last fall.



Courtesy Rocky Mountain College Athletics
Fernley High School graduate Joe Perkins earned All-Conference honors in cross country as a freshman at Rocky Mountain College.



MIKE NATTRESS • Great Basin Sports
The Churchill County High School Naval JROTC unit presents the colors while the marching band plays the national anthem before last Friday's football playoff game against Elko.

FALLON —

Cont. from C2

But a delay of game penalty, an interception by Elko's Isiah Steward halted another possession and a holding penalty wiped out a goal-line opportunity at the Elko 4-yard line just before time ran out in the second quarter.

But at halftime, head coach Connors and his staff didn't need to talk X's and O's or make adjustments. They simply reminded the players of the regular-season game in Spring Creek where they scored 40 points in the second half.

"We shot ourselves in the foot in penalties and we were behind the sticks, and that's really tough offensively when you're playing behind the sticks," Connors said. "We kind of got in our own way, but, you know, shout out to Elko for their defensive plan and doing a good job of minimizing our explosive plays in the first half."

With the self-inflicted wounds out of their system in the second half, the Greenwave wasted no time keeping the scoreboard operator busy.

After the Greenwave forced a quick Elko three-and-out to start the third quarter, Juarez took a second-down handoff, found a seam and turned it into a 63-yard touchdown run that opened the floodgates.

Moments later, Maxton Richardson intercepted a pass and two plays later, quarterback Camden Richardson hit Drake Rowlett for a 19-yard touchdown strike to push the score to 21-0 with 7:37 left in the third quarter.

Elko briefly interrupted the onslaught with a 17-yard touchdown run by Hagen Robinson, but the Greenwave answered quickly, with Camden Richardson capping a drive with a 10-yard touchdown keeper to push the lead back to 27-6.

On the second play of the fourth quarter, Nathaniel Bianchi erupted for an 83-yard touchdown run right through the middle of the field, and moments later, Camden Richardson and Rowlett connected again for a 94-yard touchdown pass.

"We're very capable of scoring at will when we get momentum, and it was all about taking momentum away from Elko and giving it to ourselves." Connors said. "The kids respond well to the adversity. We've proven that every single game this year, and we're battle tested."

Camden Richardson completed 14 of 19 passes for 253 yards and two touchdowns, both to Rowlett, who caught nine passes for 192 yards. Juarez ran for 148 yards on 13 carries.

The only downside for the Greenwave was an arm injury suffered by Bradley Cabral, who was in his first game back from an injury he suffered over the summer.

"Our hearts are broken for Brad," Connors said. "He suffered a broken collarbone at football camp this summer and has been a great leader for us when he's on the field. Man, it was very, very heartbreaking to see him go out the way he did tonight."

Rowlett and Caleb Edgmon both returned from injuries suffered earlier this season and made immediate impacts.

Now the Greenwave get to host a state semifinal game. They played on the road in the semifinal round the past two seasons, winning at Virgin Valley last year on their way to winning the state championship.

"Very excited for that opportunity to be able to host the semifinals here on Saturday," Connors said. "You get to sleep in your own bed, don't have to travel down south. For it to be a home game and being in Fallon on a beautiful Saturday afternoon, we're looking forward to it."



MIKE NATTRESS • Great Basin Sports
Fallon quarterback Camden Richardson hands off to Alijah Juarez for the second of his two rushing touchdowns in last Friday's playoff win over Elko.



JOHN BAKER • Great Basin Sports
Fallon's Garret Helton stretches out to attempt to block a pass by Elko quarterback Adan De Jesus.

Lowry girls cross country finishes third at 3A state championships

Buckaroo girls have three runners place in top 18

By Tony Erquiaga

WINNEMUCCA — A season after finishing as the state runner-up, the Lowry High School girls cross country team was looking to bring some more hardware to Winnemucca.

The Buckaroos made the long trip to Boulder City for the NIAA 3A State Championships held Saturday at Veterans Park.

Lowry came up just short of that new hardware, finishing third in the team standings with 77 points.

With the addition of two freshmen this year, Truckee won the state title with 20 points and Elko (68) placed second.

Pahrump Valley (114), Spring Creek (126), Moapa Valley (138) and Virgin Valley (182) completed the team standings.

In her final cross country race, Lowry senior Alyla Thomas finished 12th in a time of 21 minutes, 37.7 seconds.

Her younger sister and freshman Makaylah Thomas was 14th at 21:47.7 and junior Taylor Soderstrom made it three Buckaroo runners in the top 10, placing 18th, stopping the clock at 22:17.3.

Lowry's second freshman, Ajerra Thomas finished 25th in a time of 23:12.2, with Natalia Cassinelli (23:46.1) and Azure Sagers (23:48.2) in 30th and 31st, respectively.

Adell Hall placed 44th with a time of 25:32.9. Cassinelli and Hall are seniors and Sagers is a junior.

Truckee freshman Avery Aldrich won the individual title in a time of 18:54.4, followed by sophomore teammate Autumn Burks (19:22.7).

Coral Academy's Alexandra Herchik (20:22), Elko's Allyson Ortiz (20:44.2) and Truckee's Aurelie Dillof (20:54.3) rounded out the top five.

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Three Lowry boys run at state in Boulder City

Three Lowry boys ran at the state championships in Boulder City, with juniors Patrick Moses (19:04.1) and Anden Thomas (19:04.5) finishing 37th and 38th. Sophomore Josiah Merki placed 53rd in a time of 20:06.

Truckee's Connor Bilodeau won the race in a time of 15:50.06 and Wooster's Carson Boyer (16:19.5) was second.

Truckee claimed the team title with 33 points, followed by South Tahoe (60), Pahrump Valley (85), Spring Creek (107), Moapa Valley (125), Elko (126), Virgin Valley (172) and Boulder City (184).



LOWRY HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

The Lowry High School girls and boys cross country teams traveled to Boulder City last Saturday for the NIAA 3A State Championships. The Buckaroo girls finished third in the team standings.

Pyramid Lake's Chavez finishes 8th at 2A State Cross Country Meet

By Robert Perea

PYRAMID LAKE — Pyramid Lake High School freshman Jayar Chavez dropped nearly a minute from his regional qualifying time in finishing eighth at the NIAA 2A State Cross Country Meet last Saturday at Veterans Memorial Park in Boulder City.

Chavez ran the course in 17 minutes, 57.1 seconds.

He had qualified for the meet with a time of 18:45 in the Northern Regional meet, where he had finished seventh.

At State, he was the fifth runner from the Northern Region to finish.

Chavez was joined at state by William Darrough, who placed 38th with a time of 21:01.4.

In the girls race, Koge Redstone placed 18th with her time of 25:50.6.

Arcoraci, Davis represent Oasis Academy at state cross country

By Robert Perea

FALLON — Oasis Academy's cross country season concluded Saturday with Leonidas Arcoraci and Riley Davis competing at the NIAA State Championships after earning individual berths through the Northern 2A regional meet.

Arcoraci placed 29th in the boys race in 20 minutes, 25.7 seconds. He qualified for state after finishing 15th at regionals, and was also the 15th Northern Region runner to finish at state.

Davis finished 16th in the girls race in 24:27.6.

She advanced to state with an 11th-place finish at the regional meet and was the 11th Northern Region runner across the line at the state championships.

Oasis coach Krista Smith said she was proud of the work her athletes put in throughout the season.

"I am honored to have coached such a great group of kids," Smith said. "Everyone worked hard, improving their endurance and speed throughout the season. Riley and Leo did a great job and represented Oasis Academy well."

Wilson leads Fernley runners at 3A State Cross Country meet

By Robert Perea

FERNLEY — Fernley's Cael Wilson capped his season with a 13th-place finish to lead the Vaqueros at the NIAA 3A State Cross Country Championships on Saturday.

Wilson completed the boys race in 18 minutes, 1.5 seconds, improving on his 15th-place finish at the Northern Region meet, where he ran 18:43.

Wilson finished 10th among Northern Region runners at the state meet.

The top seven runners at state were all from the north, with Connor Bilodeau of Truckee winning the race in 15:50.6

Truckee also won the team title with 33 points, with all five of their runners finishing in the top 18.

Zachary Petersen also competed for Fernley in the boys race, placing 54th in 20:14.3.

On the girls side, Regan Scott finished 44th in 25:37.1, while Corbyn Gillespie placed 48th in 27:05.9.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Great Basin Sports

Fernley's Cael Wilson, shown running in Winnemucca, placed 13th at the state cross country championships last Saturday in Boulder City.

Fallon's Walter-Chicas-Garibay takes 9th at State Cross Country Meet

By Robert Perea

FALLON — Churchill County High School freshman Issabelle Walter-Chicas-Garibay finished ninth in the girls race to lead the Greenwave at the NIAA 3A State Cross Country Championships last Saturday in Boulder City.

Walter-Chicas-Garibay completed the course in 21 minutes, 18.9 seconds, improving on her 11th-place finish at the Northern Region meet. She was the seventh Northern Region runner across the finish line at the state championships.

Aubrey Strickland also represented Fallon in the girls race, placing 21st in 22:44.8.

On the boys side, Jackson Barbee finished 45th with a time of 19:32.5, shaving 11.5 seconds off his qualifying time at the regional meet, where he placed 30th in 19:44.

Truckee dominated the girls competition, winning the team title with 20 points as all five scoring runners finished in the top 10. Avery Aldrich won the individual championship in 18:54, while teammate Autumn Burks was second in 19:22.7.

The boys race was won by Connor Bilodeau of Truckee in 15:50.6. The Wolverines also captured the team championship with 33 points, placing all five of their scoring runners among the top 18 finishers.



Yerington volleyball falls to GV Christian in state semifinal for second straight year



ROBERT PEREA • Great Basin Sports

Yerington's Sanaya Brown blocks a spike attempt by Kendyll Zarley of GV Christian during the state semifinal match last Thursday.

By Robert Perea

YERINGTON — For the second consecutive year, the Yerington High School girls volleyball team saw its state championship hopes cut short by a familiar postseason nemesis.

The Lions fell to Green Valley Christian School in straight sets 25-16, 25-16, 25-19 during the NIAA 2A State semifinals at the Virginia Street Gym on the campus of the University of Nevada.

The Guardians had the Lions on their heels from the opening serve, starting the match with a 10-2 run in the first set and the closest they got was 18-11.

"I think the nerves got the best of us," Yerington coach Jesslyna Cochrane said. "A little first set jitters, for sure, and then no matter what, anytime you're chasing a set lost, it's always mind game, and it's a matter of who's going to show up and beat the game."

The Lions took the early advantage in the second set, leading 5-3, but the Guardians answered with five straight points and slowly pulled away.

GV Christian had a 7-0 run in the third set to go up 12-6, but the Lions fought back to tie the score at 17, but the Guardians wrapped it up with an 8-2 run, including the last five points of the match.

GV Christian went on to beat North Tahoe for its third consecutive state title and fourth in the last five years.

Despite the losses of several key players from last year's team, the Lions held the No. 2 spot in the Northern 2A all season.

"It's been a phenomenal season," Cochrane said. "I definitely don't think it was expected because we had some huge losses last year, but we had a large group of seniors that they worked their butts off all season long."



ROBERT PEREA • Great Basin Sports

Yerington's Rylee Slegers tries to get the ball over the net in the state semifinal against GV Christian.

The Lions will lose eight seniors from this year's team but will start work right away to return to next year's state tournament.

"We have a strong group of kids that are staying, so I'm looking forward to their growth," Cochrane said.





ROBERT PEREA • Great Basin Sports

Left: Yerington's Danika Gutierrez hits the ball over GV Christian blockers Malia Arredondo and Evanna Roel. Right: Yerington's Brooke Allison receives a serve in front of libero Karla Zarazua during last Thursday's 2A state semifinal match against Green Valley Christian.

