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Bigger than sports

For this week there is no poking at anybody, no sarcasm and I am not bashing anybody.

This is a brief overview of an interview I did at the end of last week, on a topic that goes unnoticed.

Last Friday, during the Lowry High School girls soccer game with Truckee, I conducted the most emotional and thoughtful interview I have done in some 30 years of doing this.

I did little — only providing the questions — but it was Neveah Gerhard that did all the work. All this young lady wanted to do since she was little, was play soccer.

She made on her way to the varsity team in 2025, only to see her career end quickly after a collision on the field. Gerhard suffered a serious concussion. No one knew how bad it was until later on.

After getting back up and continuing to play, she wasn't right, as teammates called for help.

With the help of players and coaches, she got back up. Little did Gerhard know, she would never see the field again.

I had seen Gerhard at the Buckaroos alumni game in early August and she was talking about it a little bit. Afterward, I thought to myself, others need to her story.

I texted head coach Chris Entwistle and asked what he thought of me doing a story.

Lowry cross country squad starts season at Douglas Class Races

Hoagland, Thomas pace Buckaroos; squad runs in California on Saturday

By Tony Erquiaga

Range Media

The Lowry High School cross country began its season this past Friday in Minden, with its annual trip to the Douglas Class Races.

The event is shorter race at 2.5-miles, with the classes broken up 9-12th grade.

After a frustrating start, where she was stung by a bee and fell to the ground, Buckaroo senior Alyla Thomas battled back to finish fourth, stopping the watch at 16 minutes, 31 seconds.

She was the highest-finishing, small-school runner. Reno's Avery Johnson won the race at 15:22 followed by Spanish Springs' Taizley Felsted (15:46) and Reno's Sophie Cliffe (16:01).

Lowry's Adel Hall placed 21st in the senior race with a time of 20:49.

Azure Sagers was the lone runner in the junior race, placing 18th at 19:22.

In the freshman girls race, two more Thomas' joined the fray, as Ajerra Thomas placed seventh in a time of 18:06 and Makaylah Thomas was 11th at 18:51.

Spring Creek's Gianna Salisbury ran away with the victory with a time of 16:16. With Damonte Ranch's Abigail Cowles (17:13) second.

On the boys side, Cooper Hoagland finish 24th with a time of 14:59, while Patrick Moses placed 13th in the junior race in a time of 15:14.

The Buckaroos featured three sophomores in the 2.5-mile race, with Josia Merki (17:03) and Edward Moyer (17:04) hitting the finish line at almost the same time, finishing 23rd and 24th, respectfully. Andrew Lockie placed 55th in a time of 21:51.

Tony's New Adventures

By Tony Erquiaga

The last thing I wanted to do is stir up bad memories or create an uncomfortable position.

As we sat in the one shady spot, under the scoreboard, on the sideline it was evident, she was the much stronger person.

I wanted to cry during the 15 -minute or so interview. I felt horrible.

Gerhard was articulate, funny and open at all times. She still feels like she has let her team down by not being on the field for her senior year. Gerhard said that is who she is as a person.

Hearing that, I was thinking to myself, goddamn that's a tough statement to say. We went through some dark moments that she has gone through in the last year.

It's a conversation that you never want to have with a young lady that is set to graduate this coming up June.

She has gone through a lot in the past five years or so, stuff that no one should have to go through.

I have always said, I do this job because of the kids. If I had to deal with the adults, it would be over. All I know after taking to Neveah is that she's going to be OK. After talking to her, I am going to be OK.

Contact Tony Erquiaga at tony@range-mediaco.com.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Range Media
Alyla Thomas with here medal from the state championships in November 2025.

Lowry brought four freshmen on the trip, with Francisco Renteria finishing 13th at 15:30, for the second quickest time for the Buckaroos on the day. Quincy Hall (17:46) was 32nd and Sebastian Fuchslin (18:44) placed 38th. Dominique McClerkin rounded out the times at 25:01.

Lowry heads into California on Saturday for the Oakmont Invitational at Johnson-Springview Park.



SANDY BENGEOA LUTZ
Battle Mountain quarterback Daniel Lara hands off to Damian Solis during Friday's game at White Pine.

Battle Mountain football cruises to season-opening win at White Pine

By Tony Erquiaga

Range Media

If you take away the first couple minutes of the Battle Mountain High School football season-opener in Ely against White Pine, it was near perfect for the squad afterward.

White Pine stunned Battle Mountain, scoring on a 61-yard run on the initial possession of the contest to lead 7-0 but it was all Longhorns after that.

Battle Mountain answered back one play later, as senior Damian Solis took the hand off from Daniel Lara and weaved his way through the Bobcat defense and a 62-yard run for an 8-7 lead, 90 seconds into the contest. The Longhorns did not trail again.

The Longhorns were gifted great field position moments later, as the White Pine punter could not handle the snap and fell short of a first down. Three plays later, Lara connected with Chase Liutz for a 32-yard throw and catch for a 14-7 advantage after the missed 2-point conversion.

Another Bobcat miscue later in the first quarter, an interception by lutz led to another touchdown and a 22-7 advantage. Battle Mountain capped off the short 34-yard drive on a 3-yard run.

Early in the second quarter, the Longhorns took of advantage of good field position, as the Bobcats failed to convert a fourth-down play at their own 30-yards line.

Lara added a 14-yard pass to Lutz across the middle of the field to increase the lead to 28-7 and later in the first half,



SANDY BENGEOA LUTZ
Battle Mountain's Chase Lutz picks off a White Pine pass.

Lara took the ball himself into the end zone for a 3-yard touchdown and 36-7 lead.

The scoring barrage continued in the second quarter, with White Pine cutting the lead to 36-13, when Lara added a 43-yard touchdown pass, once again to Lutz at the end of the half to make the score 42-13.

Ten seconds into the fourth quarter, sophomore running back Jeremiah Goodman took the hand off and scampered for a 53-yard touchdown.

Battle Mountain has three off weekends, with one of those this week. The Longhorns travel to Beatty High School on Sept. 5, to play The Meadows at 6 p.m.



SANDY BENGEOA LUTZ
Battle Mountain quarterback Daniel Lara fends off the White Pine pass rush.

Mustangs shake off slow start, rally past Portola in season opener

PCHS begins league play Friday at home against Coral Academy

By Peggy Jones
Range Media

The Pershing County High School football team may have needed a half to shake off their opening-night jitters, but once they did, Portola couldn't slow them down.

Trailing 13-0 at halftime, the Mustangs scored 20 unanswered points in the second half to rally for a 20-13 season-opening victory.

Coach Mike Brooks said Portola came into the game as the kind of well-coached, physical team the Mustangs expected.

"We had a slow start, a lot of first-game jitters and some younger kids making their first varsity appearance," Brooks said.

The Mustangs wasted little time changing the momentum after halftime.

On the second play of the third quarter, sophomore quarterback Ryan Houston broke free for a 55-yard touchdown run. Amare Rosas then connected with Jaxson Happy for the extra point, cutting Portola's advantage to 13-8.

The Pershing County defense held, and Happy's strong punt return put the Mustangs back in Portola territory.

Pershing County marched down the



Pershing County head coach talks with quarterback Ryan Houston in between plays, during Friday night's game in Portola.

field, with Houston finishing the drive on a 1-yard touchdown run to give the Mustangs their first lead of the game, 14-13.

The comeback continued in the fourth quarter when Houston connected with Jorden Fitch on a long pass down the

sideline for a touchdown, extending the Mustangs' lead to 20-13.

The defense again kept Portola out of the end zone, and Pershing County's running game helped make sure the Tigers didn't get another opportunity. The Mustangs ran the final four minutes off the clock by continuing to pick up first downs.

Brooks credited Israel Knight and Fitch with strong defensive performances and said strong running from Eddie Aceves, Houston and Quinton McKinney helped carry the Mustangs to victory.

Houston finished with 107 rushing yards and two rushing touchdowns while also throwing a touchdown pass. Fitch had 40 receiving yards and a touchdown reception and added an interception on defense.

After giving up 13 points in the first half, the Pershing County defense shut out Portola in the second half while the offense put together three scoring drives to complete the comeback.

On Friday, the Mustangs host the Coral Academy Falcons for their first home game of the season. It also the Northern 2A opener for both teams.

Coral Academy comes into the matchup following a 45-0 loss to the Fernley Vaqueros on Aug. 14. The JV game begins at 4:30 p.m., followed by the varsity game at 7 p.m.

Blocked extra point preserves Greenwave win at Reed

Fallon back on the road for a third straight week, opens Northern 3A slate at South Tahoe

By Robert Perea
Range Media

For the second straight week, the Churchill County High School football team came up with a big play when it needed it most.

Alijah Juarez blocked an extra point attempt with 2:44 left in the game to preserve a 1-point lead as the Greenwave again held off a comeback attempt to beat Reed last Friday night, 14-13.

"Alijah was able to get through and be a playmaker and block it and change the

whole momentum and trajectory of the game," Fallon coach Calvin Connors said.

The Greenwave are now 2-0 on the season with both wins coming on the road against 5A opponents.

They open league play this week, with a game at South Tahoe at 7 p.m. Friday.

After Juarez blocked the extra point, the Greenwave recovered Reed's onside kick attempt and was able to get two first downs before taking a knee to run out the clock.

The matchup was an old-school defensive battle from the start, but Fallon scored twice in the second quarter to take a 14-0 halftime lead.

Quarterback Camden Richardson and Calin Anderson connected on an 8-yard touchdown with 8:03 left in the second quarter.

"It's a great moment going into our league play and I think it just speaks volume to, first and foremost, our players. It's the players that are able to get it done and they're the ones who believe in themselves and they're able to fight through adversity and fight through the highs and the lows of a game and come out on top."

— Fallon head coach Calvin Connors

The Greenwave went up 14-0 on a 35-yard run by Juarez, on which he scooped up a bobbled pitch from Camden Richardson and was able to get just inside the pylon.

Reed cut the lead in half in the third quarter, with a 14-play, 70-yard drive, capped by a 5-yard run by quarterback Peyton Smith with 1:47 left in the quarter.

An interception by Reed near the goal line with 9:34 left in the game thwarted a chance by Fallon to extend the margin, and after another exchange of possessions, Smith connected with Jesse Douglas for an 84-yard touchdown pass and appeared it was going to tie the game with 2:44 left.

"It's a great moment going into our league play and I think it just speaks volume to, first and foremost, our players," Connors said. "It's the players that are able to get it done and they're the ones who believe in themselves and they're able to fight through adversity and fight through the highs and the lows of a game and come out on top."

Connors credited the defensive effort, which forced two critical turnovers.

"It was just one of those kind of old-school games that's just a grinder, and our defense, coach (Trent) DeBraga does a stellar job of calling the defense and our players were able to get an interception

and a fumble recovery that was huge for our momentum as well."

The Greenwave committed three turnovers of their own and Connors said the Greenwave had to fight to overcome those as well as several penalties,

"Wins can kind of cover up a lot of mistakes," Connors said. "We have a lot of things that we need to clean up offensively, defensively, and special teams-wise."

While beating a pair of 5A foes to open the season has garnered the Greenwave some attention, it's what comes next that matters most.

"When you beat two 5A schools people might believe that we've arrived," Connors said. "And the fact of the matter is that we're not even close to as good as we can be, and that we will be."

Next up is South Tahoe (2-0), a team coming off consecutive wins against North Valleys and Wooster.

"We're going to their house, and they've played us tough for the past two years, and this year's gonna be no different," Connors said. "When you look at that 3A schedule, everyone's gunning for each other and everyone's kind of used to the playing each other year in and year out. So, it's exciting and we're excited to head up to Tahoe."

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Fallon Football



TONY ERQUIAGA • Range Media

Heavy smoke from the Hawk Fire in north Reno could be seen from Mackay Stadium this past Saturday, as Lowry took on North Valleys. The fire quickly spread into the North Valleys area.

North Valleys knocks down last-second Lowry pass to win 13-7 at Mackay Stadium

Buckaroos open Northern 3A play Friday in Dayton

By Tony Erquiaga
Range Media

RENO — What was to be a good day for football in northern Nevada, ended with fire engine sirens blaring, roads closing and heavy smoke eerily covering northern Reno.

It was still a good day for football for eight Nevada teams, as the Lowry High School football team and North Valleys hit the Mackay Stadium field at 4 p.m.

By the time the last play came, mandatory evacuations were being announced in the North Valleys area, including the school. With sirens blaring in the background, the Panthers knocked down a fourth-down pass from Ben Marvel at the goal line with less than a minute to play.

North Valleys took two kneel downs to win 13-7 and after a quick handshake, the Panthers were back on the bus to get back to their school.

After the teams punted on their first possessions, the Buckaroos began their second drive at the Panthers’ 42-yard line and nearly scored on the first play.

Ben Marvel tossed a long pass to Nathanael Gordon but the receiver had the ball go off the tips of his fingers near the goal line.

Lowry held on to the ball for more than five minutes, only to see the drive stall out at the North Valleys’ 14-yard line.

Both offenses continued to struggle into the second quarter, until North Valleys went on a 66-yard drive to take a 7-0 lead, Quarterback Trenton Reyna connected on a short pass out in the flat and Albert McCoy did the rest, scoring from 33 yards out.

The Buckaroos (1-1) finally got in the scoreboard with 1:18 left in the third quarter, capping off a methodical drive with a 7-yard pass from Marvel to Gordon, which was first tipped by Lowry’s Juan Mendoza to tie the game at 7-7.

North Valleys had an opportunity to go back in front early in the fourth quarter, when the Panthers failed to convert a 4th and 10 play at the Lowry 22-yard line.

The Buckaroos could not take advantage of the turnover on downs and quickly punted. North Valleys turned it over on downs



TONY ERQUIAGA • Range Media

Lowry’s Teyo Gomez finds room to run in the North Valley’s secondary.

once again inside the 50-yard line, setting up Lowry in excellent field position. After a Buckaroo holding penalty.

The Panther defense broke through the offensive line to cause a fumble and started what would be the 39-yard, game-winning drive. Reyna gave North Valleys a 13-7 lead after a 3-yard run, when the Panthers missed the extra point with 3:16 to play.

Aided by a facemask penalty, Lowry took over at the midfield and quickly gained 10-yard on a run by Teyo Gomez. Gomez then reeled off nine more yards on the next play.

On 2nd and 1, a pass interference penalty by the Panthers put the Buckaroos at the 15-yard line. On third down from the 11, a pass to Keston Unrein was knocked down at the goal line.

On fourth down, Marvel was hit as he through the ball and his pass was once again knocked down near the end zone.

The Panthers then went on the eventual game-winning 57-yard drive.

Lowry is back on the road for its third straight contest, opening Northern 3A on Friday against Dayton at 7 p.m.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Range Media

North Valleys defenders converge to knock down a last-second pass from Lowry’s Ben Marbel to secure the 13-7 victory.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Range Media

Above left: Lowry’s Nathanael Gordon stretches out in an attempt to catch the ball in the first half of Saturday’s game against North Valleys. Above right: Ben Marvel makes his way through the North Valley’s defense.

Fallon volleyball opens with win at Sparks



ROBERT PEREA • Range Media
Fallon's Sutton Yost stretches to keep ball in play during Fallon's match at Sparks on Aug. 19.

Greenwave head to Reno Sept. 4-5 for High Sierra Volleyball Invitational
By Robert Perea
Range Media

The Churchill County High School volleyball team overcame early jitters that led to a slow start to sweep Sparks in three sets in its season opener last Wednesday. A dominant service performance from Kalaya Downs and strong play at the net by Audrey Fruzza helped the Greenwave recover from their slow start. Coach Tristin Johnson praised her team's resilience in turning things around,

winning 25-21, 25-9, 25-11. "They were a little nervous, which is fine, but they pushed through and that's the thing," Johnson said. "You've got to be able to handle a little bit of pressure." After Sparks opened the match with a 7-3 lead in the first set, the Greenwave scored seven consecutive points and 17 of the next 21 to take a 20-11 lead. Then with Kalaya Downs serving to open the second set, the Greenwave scored the first 13 points of the second set. After Sparks scored two points, Fallon scored six in a row to lead 19-2. Fallon also had 9-0 and 6-0 runs in the third set. "If we serve and pass and play good defense, we're going to be all right, and then we did a really good job of keeping our swings in the court," Johnson said. "We didn't have to kill it super hard, but they were good ball placement and we hit most of our balls in, and most of them were kills."

The Greenwave have 10 seniors on the roster, although only eight players were available for the first match. Johnson said the team will only get stronger once everyone returns to action. "We've got lots of different lineups we're going to try, so once we get everybody back, we just get more options, and that's a good problem to have," she said. "The new players are getting more experience, and then we'll start to figure out what exactly is our best lineup." The Greenwave is scheduled to play at 6 p.m. at Wooster this Thursday, then next Thursday at South Tahoe. They are also scheduled to play in the High Sierra Volleyball Invitational at the Swift Sportsdome in Reno Sept. 4-5, where they are guaranteed six matches in a best-of-3 format that includes pool play followed by bracket play.



ROBERT PEREA • Range Media
Fallon's Kalaya Downs sets the ball while her teammates prepare to attack.



ROBERT PEREA • Range Media
Fallon's Sutton Yost tips a free ball over the net.

Davis posts best finish for Oasis cross country at Douglas Class Races

By Robert Perea
Range Media

With runners competing in four categories, Freshman Riley Davis had the best finish for the Oasis Academy cross country team at the Douglas Class Races last Friday. Runners in the meet were divided by grade for the 2.5-mile races. Davis placed 16th in the freshman girls race with a time of 19:23. Oasis had two runners in the sophomore girls race, with Sonora McInturff finishing 44th in a time of 31:03 and Faith Torres-May close behind her in 45th place (31:07).

The boys had seven runners competing, three in the freshman boys race and four in the senior boys. The fastest time for the Bighorns was by Leonidas Arcoraci, who came in 40th with a time of 16:12 in the senior boys race. Other Bighorn senior boys were Elijah Jones (20:43) in 66th place, Jose Montalvo finished 70th (22:00) and Kamron Bracken was 71st (22:01). Vincenzo May had the best finish by place for the Bighorns, taking 36th in 18:04 in the freshman boys race. Behind him, Connor Tolman came in 42nd (19:09) and Zayden Maynez finished 59th (24:26). Next up for the Bighorn runners is the Reed High School Invitational on Sept. 5.

Oasis volleyball begins league play this week

By Robert Perea
Range Media

After playing in two tournaments to open the season, the Oasis Academy volleyball team was scheduled host Lovelock for its first home game to open Northern 2A League play on Wednesday. The Bighorns went 0-2 in a tournament at Hug last Saturday, losing 25-9, 25-18 to North Tahoe in the first match and to Portola, 25-10, 25-18 in the second. Against North Tahoe, Kylie Moya and

Avery Laca both recorded two kills, LyanRose Goss made six digs and Sophia Moya had five assists. Laca had four kills against Portola, while Moya had three kills and four assists, and Goss had four digs and received 10 serves. The Bighorns are 1-4 overall. After hosting Lovelock, the Bighorns are scheduled to play at North Tahoe at noon Saturday, then next week they travel to Sierra Lutheran on Sept. 4.

Silver Stage football rolls past Coral JV in season opener

Staff Report

The Silver Stage High School football team began its season in a big way, with a 52-12 win over the Coral Academy junior varsity squad, this past Friday in Silver Springs. The Nighthawks, are coached by Battle Mountain High School grad Mason Fuller. Once again, Silver Stage is playing an independent schedule, in attempt to rebuild the numbers in its football program. The Nighthawks are playing a scaled-down Northern 2A schedule, facing Incline, Coral Academy and North Tahoe. Silver Stage is also playing three JV teams. Silver Stage travels to Incline on Friday, Sept. 4, for a 7 p.m. kickoff.

Fallon girls tie North Tahoe in opener, lose to Truckee

By Robert Perea
Range Media

The Churchill County High School girls soccer team opened its season with a 0-0 tie against North Tahoe last Friday and lost 8-0 to Truckee on Saturday. This week the Greenwave are scheduled to play at Incline at 4 p.m. Friday and at South Tahoe at 11:45 a.m. Saturday. The Fallon boys soccer team played to a 1-1 tie with the Debbie Smith CTE Academy on Aug. 21 and was scheduled to play at Dayton on Aug. 25, but the score was not reported before press time. Next week the Greenwave is scheduled to play at Truckee at 4:45 p.m. Sept. 4.



Provided by John Baker
Fallon's Karlie Simper tries to get past North Tahoe's Lyla Denis and Ivy Wilson during their game in Fallon last Friday.

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Leanne Cruz • CruzDown Memory Lane Photography
Fernley's Kayden Paredes and Julian Bill - Ramirez tackle a Bishop runner during last Friday's game

Vaqueros left frustrated after loss to Bishop

Fernley travels to Elko in Northern 3A opener

By Robert Perea
Range Media

As he and a few of his assistants who were still waiting for him left the field last Friday night in Bishop, CA, Fernley High School football coach Anfernee Sloan couldn't wait to watch the game film during the 4-hour ride home, even though he knew that doing so would probably drive him crazy.

In a game they dominated statistically, running twice as many offensive plays and gaining almost twice as many total yards, the Vaqueros somehow trailed most of the game and came away with 27-20 loss to the Broncos.

Adding insult to injury, the game ended in controversy on the final play, when the officials ruled that Fernley quarterback Elijah Devold fumbled at the Bishop 1-yard line when he was trying to spike the ball on third and goal with 8 seconds left.

"He told me that it was a fumble," Sloan said of the referee. "I argued that being the head white hat, you should know in your mind in this situation, the kid is trying to spike the football. And he clearly threw his hands forward, he clearly threw the ball forward, which is considered a forward pass."

Sloan argued to no avail, as he did two plays earlier when Fernley's Jayse Jones was ruled down short of the goal line on a play where Sloan believed he had hit the pylon for a touchdown.

As frustrated as he was with the calls, Sloan was equal parts pleased with the way his team responded to adversity throughout the game and aware that much of that adversity was self-inflicted.

"Excuses or results, you can't have both," Sloan said. "I'm going to accept the result. There's a lot of facets of the game that we can be better about."

Two minutes into the second quarter, the Vaqueros found themselves trailing 13-0, even though to that point they had run 24 offensive plays to Bishop's nine.

After recovering a Bishop fumble on the first play of the game, the Vaqueros held the ball for nearly eight minutes, moving from the Bishop 46-yard line to 1st-and-goal at the 1, only to lose five yards on the next two plays and then had a touchdown pass nullified by a holding penalty.

They ultimately turned the ball over on downs when they were unable to convert on 4th-and-goal from the 16-yard line.

Two plays later, Bishop running back Hunter Dailey ran 76 yards for a touchdown.

Fernley went 39 yards in 10 plays on its second possession but again turned the ball over on downs, and Bishop made it a 13-0 game with a 53-yard pass from Dom Barlow to Devaun Mitchell.

Fernley struck back in one play, an 80-yard touchdown pass from Devold to Keaunue Tolliver, then after forcing a Bishop punt, they drove 58 yards in seven plays to go ahead 14-13 on a 5-yard touchdown run by Jayden Esparza with 4:34 left in the first half.

"By that point, they had already battled so much adversity," Sloan said. "That's why I said, I think it's going to kind of kill me when I watch this, because I'm just going to be like, wow."

The adversity was just beginning, however.

A 4-yard touchdown run by Dailey put Bishop back on top 19-14 with 43.9 seconds left in the half, and, knowing the Vaqueros were going to receive the second-half kickoff and were moving the



ball well offensively, Sloan opted to take a knee and regroup.

When the Vaqueros took that first second half possession 80 yards in 13 plays on a drive that lasted more than seven minutes, capped by a 20-yard touchdown run by Esparza, the Vaqueros seemed to have things under control with a 20-19 lead. They felt even better when they forced a 3-and-out by the Broncos.

With a chance to extend the lead, the Vaqueros drove from their own 47 to the Bishop 20 before coming up short again on 4th-and-1.

But facing 2nd-and-20 from their own 25, the Broncos got a 45-yard run by Dailey, and on the next play he covered the remaining 30 yards for a touchdown that put the Broncos back up 27-20.

When Fernley again couldn't convert on a fourth down, Bishop took possession needed just two first downs to put the game away.

Instead, after a 9-yard run on first down by Oscar Henriquez, the Vaqueros stopped the Broncos three straight times on 2nd-and-1, 3rd-and-1, and 4th-and-1. After an agonizing debate between the officials and a measurement that proved the ball was about 6 inches shot of a first down, the Vaqueros had one last chance with a little over three minutes left.

A 20-yard scramble by Devold and a 23-yard run by Esparza got them to the Bishop 22, and with a little over a minute remaining, Jones picked 3 yards and a few inches on 4th-and-3.

A pass from Devold to Jones took the ball to the 2, and on 1st-and-goal, Jones was ruled down at the 1-yard line.

During a timeout for an injured player, Sloan instructed Devold that if the Vaqueros didn't get in the end zone on second down, they needed to line up in a hurry and spike the ball on third down.

Devold was tackled for no gain on second down and the Vaqueros quickly lined up, but his attempt at a spike was instead ruled a fumble.

The last call was the topic of conversation, but Sloan said that wasn't what he was thinking the most about.

"We can't give up the big third downs. We can't mis-execute on fourth down right here, where if we get that we probably seal it because we're going to go up two scores," he said. "I mean, there's just other factors that play a role in that game."

Sloan's said his message to his dejected team afterward was that he liked the way they fought back and gave themselves a chance time and time again.

"Sometimes you are going to be dealt some cards that you don't want to deal with, that you don't want to have to face, but you have to get through it and it's not going to just go away," he said. "And I told them, tonight you learned a little about yourselves, not because you got punched in the face, by any means, but because you guys learned when things get hard, we can move past this."

Final prep work —



Photos by Chuy Herrera

The Pyramid Lake football team had the opportunity to fine tune its play with a scrimmage this past Friday against Coleville, Calif. Pyramid Lake begins its season with a trip to Indian Springs on Friday. After a trip to Hawthorne, Pyramid Lake hosts Carlin on Sept. 17, at 7 p.m.



Wilson leads Fernley runners at Douglas Class Races

Vaqueros in California for Oakmont Invite; host Fernley 4K on Sept. 4

By Robert Perea
Range Media

Senior Cael Wilson led Fernley at the Douglas Class Races on Aug. 21, with the team's fastest time and an 18th place finish in the 2.5mile senior boys race as the Vaqueros opened their season with grade-level competition across all divisions.

Fernley also placed third in the sophomore boys team race with 57 points. Zachary Petersen led Vaqueros' sophomores with a 12thplace finish in 15:49, followed by Logan Petersen in 30th (17:34), Mason Varner in 33rd (17:55), Addison Davis in 47th (19:51), and Cameron Farr in 54th (21:50).

In the freshman boys race, Parker Johnson finished 51st in 21:52, and Kirkland Mix placed 62nd in 25:08.

Fernley had two runners in the junior girls race. Regan Scott finished 28th in 21:50, and Wynter Angus placed 34th in 22:45.

In the senior girls race, Corbyn Gillespie finished 24th in 21:20.

"It was a good first meet to get our legs under us and test our fitness against quality competition," coach Kristian Slater said. "The biggest high of the day came from Cael Wilson and his performance that really displayed how when we are consistent with our training the results will follow."

Fernley's next meet is the Oakmont Cross Country Invitational on Saturday in Rocklin, CA. Next week the Vaqueros host the Fernley 4K on Sept. 4.

"Now we can use this meet as a stepping stone and move forward in our season," Slater said. "It is a nice set up where we get a few weeks in a row on short courses to help us build into the season and then jump into our first 5k up in Truckee at the end of September."

Pair of Fallon runners claim top 10 finishes at Douglas Class Races

By Robert Perea
Range Media

The Churchill County High School cross country teams opened the season at the Douglas Class Races on Aug. 21, with runners competing in 2.5mile races grouped by grade level.

The Greenwave collected a pair of top10 finishes and placed fifth as a team in the senior boys race.

Freshman Issabelle WalterChicasGariabay led Fallon's girls with a thirdplace finish in 17:27. Aubrey Strickland placed 16th in the sophomore race in 19:53, while Kylee Moore finished 35th among juniors in 23:08. In the senior race, Abigail Lacow placed 29th in 22:46 and Ella Bassham finished 30th in 23:07.

Freshman Cayson Lacow paced the boys team with an eighthplace finish in

14:59. Michael Lister finished 33rd in 17:47, and Nikko Martinez placed 65th in 34:07. In the sophomore race, Cody Frey finished 15th in 16:12, and Landon Liston placed 34th in 18:06.

Fallon had four runners in the junior boys race. Isaac Frederick finished 32nd in 16:27, Tayven Martinez placed 33rd in 16:33, Lars Rasmussen finished 37th in 17:09, and Levi Bradford placed 54th in 19:35.

The senior boys finished fifth as a team with 137 points. Jackson Barbee led Fallon with a 33rdplace finish in 15:43, followed by Alex Sorensen in 56th (17:55), Alexander McBride in 61st (19:01), Vernon Harper in 64th (20:09), and Alex Bacallo in 65th (20:30).

Fallon's next meet is the Fernley 4K on Sept. 4.

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Fernley Vaqueros at Elko Indians

The Fernley Reporter – Sports Home of the Vaqueros

6 - Great Basin Sports, August 28, 2026

Fernley Women's Golf Club Results, Aug. 18

Game: Stroke Play Back 9 Twice
Red Tees

1st Gross: Susan Kinstler, 84
1st Net: Bonnie MacQuarrie, 66

Purple Tees

1st Gross: Verl Ely, 96
1st Net: Karen Holcher, 75

Birdies: Patty Liljeberg, #10; Susan Holcher, #16 (2 times); Linda Garrett, #16
Low Putts: Patty Liljeberg, 29
Closest to Hole #11: Susan Kinstler, 22'10"
Closest to Hole #14: Patty Liljeberg, 30'6"
Chip-Ins: Patty Liljeberg, #10

Storms, scheduling conflicts keep BMHS soccer teams at home

Staff Report

The Battle Mountain High School boys and girls soccer teams were scheduled to travel to Ely last Friday to play in the one-day White Pine tournament but did not make the trip.

Battle Mountain athletic director Mackenzie Schrool stated in an email that the Longhorns did not travel, due to schedules being moved around and storms in the area.

Battle Mountain will play at Tim Knight Field on Friday and Saturday to begin Northern 2A action. Dayton visits Friday, with the girls playing at 5 p.m. and boys 7



p.m. Saturday's games against Yerington start at 10 a.m. with the girls and the boys will follow.

Notice of workshop/public hearing to solicit comments on proposed regulations (NRS 233B.061)

NIAA Press Release

The Board of Control of the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) is proposing possible amendment, repeal, or other action, regarding certain regulations pertaining to Chapter 385B of the Nevada Administrative Code.

A workshop/public hearing has been set for 1 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 22, virtually, and at Bishop Gorman High School in Las Vegas.

The purpose of the workshop/public hearing is to solicit comments from interested persons on the general topics that may be addressed in the proposed regulations, including the repeal of certain regulations:

1. Proposed new regulation regarding spirit season dates
2. Proposed new regulation regarding spirit manual and championship
3. Proposed new regulation regarding spirit general requirements
4. Regulation regarding spirit squad definition: NAC 385B.046
5. Regulation regarding participation in certain activities: NAC 385B.376
6. Regulation regarding compliance with spirit rules book: NAC 385B.550
7. Regulation regarding spirit season duration: NAC 385B.552
8. Regulation regarding number and membership of spirit squad: NAC 385B.554
9. Regulation regarding spirit squad separate tryouts: NAC 385B.556
10. Regulation regarding participation in sanctioned sports: NAC 385B.558
11. Regulation regarding attendance in certain competitions: NAC 385B.560
12. Regulation regarding conduct of competitions: NAC 385B.562

13. Regulation regarding application for sanctioning spirit competitions: NAC 385B.564
14. Regulation regarding attendance in spirit competitions: NAC 385B.566
15. Regulation regarding membership: NAC 385B.208
16. Regulation regarding games limits: NAC 385B.378
17. Regulation regarding sanctioned sports list: NAC 385B.390
18. Regulation regarding awards: NAC 385B.652
19. Regulation regarding required certification and courses: NAC 385B.798
20. Regulation regarding officials' registration: NAC 385B.852
21. Regulation regarding limitation on football participation: NAC 385B.444
22. Regulation regarding multilevel team participation: NAC 385B.386

These regulations will result in no economic effect to the NIAA.
These regulations do not overlap or duplicate any regulations of any other State of Nevada or local agencies.
These regulations will not result in the establishment of a new fee or increase to any fee.



ADOBE STOCK

Nevada High School Rodeo Association starts 2026-27 season with Eureka rodeo

Staff Report

Less than a month after the National High School Finals Rodeo in Lincoln, Neb., the new season to the Nevada High School Rodeo Association began Aug. 15-16 in Eureka.

Alamo's Raelee Christian was crowned as the all-around cowgirl, with Eureka's Quil Filipini the reserve cowgirl. Moapa's Hazel Griffith was the rookie cowgirl.

Fallon Stix Lee garnered all-around cowboy honors, with Henry Buchanan picking up reserve honors. Eureka's Frank Buchanan was the rookie cowboy.

There is a break in the schedule, with the next stop in Ely on Sept. 11-13 and Elko on Oct. 2-4.

High School Standings Following Eureka Rodeo

BARREL RACING

1. QUIL FILIPPINI — EUREKA 29
2. RYLIE GENCHI — SP SPRINGS 27
3. HAZEL GRIFFITH — MOAPA 23
4. BROOKLYNN — SENA WHITE PINE 22
5. KIALA LOPEZ — WHITE PINE 17
6. AINSLEY MACPHERSON — FALLON 16
7. HUNTLEY BYRD — HUMBOLDT 9
8. KASHLIN HILL — FERNLEY 7
9. EMMA CARMACK — BOULDER CITY 5
10. REESE MOSER — LAS VEGAS 5
11. KORI SADABSENG — DOUG-CARSON 4
12. SHAYLA ROUKEY — WASHOE 2
13. AALIYAH O'BRIEN — SP SPRINGS 2
14. DANI PEDEN — PAHRUMP 1
15. AUTUMN TAECKER — SP SPRINGS 1

BOYS CUTTING

1. BENNETT STAHL — SP SPRINGS 28
2. QUAID SPRATLING — WELLS 25
3. CLAYTON HIIBEL — FALLON 22
4. STIX LEE — FALLON 20.50
5. LANE BYRD — HUMBOLDT 20.50
6. HENRY BUCHANAN — EUREKA 19

BREAKAWAY ROPING

1. RAELEE CHRISTIAN — ALAMO 22
2. KAYDEE LACEY ELKO — 21
3. LEEAH OSTERHOUDT — EUREKA 21
4. HAZEL GRIFFITH — MOAPA 18
5. ANNIE TIBBITTS — EUREKA 18
6. LAUREN GOINGS — FALLON 15.50
7. RYLIEGH COE — INDEPENDENT 15
8. CHLOE KENT — FALLON 11.50
9. AINSLEY MACPHERSON — FALLON 8
10. BROOKLYNN SENA — WHITE PINE 5
11. LOUISE DELONG — HUMBOLDT 4.00
12. BROOKE ALLISON — FALLON 3
13. KASHLIN HILL — FERNLEY 2
14. DALLIE GRIFFITH — MOAPA 1

GIRLS CUTTING

1. LOUISE DELONG — HUMBOLDT 27
2. RAELEE CHRISTIAN — ALAMO 27
3. QUIL FILIPPINI — EUREKA 24
4. JORDYN PROCESS — FERNLEY 22
5. KASHLIN HILL — FERNLEY 20
6. TAYLOR HILL — HUMBOLDT 15
7. AINSLEY MACPHERSON — FALLON 12

GOAT TYING

1. RYLIEGH COE — INDEPENDENT 28
2. BROOKE ALLISON — FALLON 27
3. CHLOE KENT — FALLON 21
4. LEEAH OSTERHOUDT — EUREKA
5. KASHLIN HILL — FERNLEY 16.50
6. RAELEE CHRISTIAN — ALAMO 14
7. BROOKLYNN SENA — WHITE PINE 12
8. MEGAN ALLISON — FALLON 10
9. SHELBY FRY — ALAMO 7
10. HUNTLEY BYRD — HUMBOLDT 6.50
11. ASHLYNN KAVANAGH — DOUG-CARSON 2
12. KAYDEE LACEY — ELKO 1

POLE BENDING

1. HUNTLEY BYRD — HUMBOLDT 27
2. SHAYLA ROUKEY — WASHOE 21
3. JOSIE BRODSHO — WELLS 20
4. RAELEE CHRISTIAN — ALAMO 18
5. QUIL FILIPPINI — EUREKA 13

6. KASHLIN HILL — FERNLEY 10
7. FIA TROMBETTA — SP SPRINGS 10
8. ADDISON ALLEGRE — FALLON 9
9. AINSLEY MACPHERSON — FALLON 8
10. ANNIE TIBBITTS — EUREKA 8
11. TANNER BRUNSON — ELKO 5
12. HAZEL GRIFFITH — MOAPA 4
13. BROOKLYNN SENA — WHITE PINE 4
14. AUTUMN TAECKER — SP SPRINGS 4
15. KORI SADABSENG — DOUG-CARSON 3

RIFLE SHOOT

1. CLAIRE CONINE — SP SPRINGS 10
2. COLTER RUNNION — WELLS 9
3. AVEREE BARRAGAN — SP SPRINGS 8
4. CASSIDY RUNNION — WELLS 7
5. NICHOLAS BLISS — EUREKA 6
6. HUNTER GALLEGOS — BOULDER CITY 5
7. VALERIE CHAPMAN — BOULDER CITY 4
8. TAYLOR HILL — HUMBOLDT 3
9. AUTUMN TAECKER — SP SPRINGS 2
10. BRAYTON BACKLUND — SP SPRINGS 1

STEER WRESTLING

1. STIX LEE — FALLON 20

TEAM ROPING

1. LOGAN LANCASTER — BATTLE MTN 30
2. CALEB EDMON — FALLON 30
3. STIX LEE — FALLON 20
4. PETE MORI — ELKO 20
5. HUNTLEY BYRD — HUMBOLDT 16.00
6. CRAY TERVORT — ELKO 16.00
7. CHARLEE SESTANOVICH — EUREKA 13
8. DALLIE GRIFFITH — MOAPA 12
9. DAXTON MELENDEZ — ELKO 12
10. WYLIN MCCLAIN — ELKO 12
11. KYLIE VELASCO — WELLS 12
12. SAWYER BLISS — WHITE PINE 12
13. CADE STEWARD — ALAMO 10
14. LANE BYRD — HUMBOLDT 10
15. CLAYTON HIIBE — FALLON 8
16. LUKE MATSON — ELKO 8
17. AIDEN BROWN — BOULDER CITY 7
18. FRANK BUCHANAN — EUREKA 7
19. HENRY BUCHANAN — EUREKA 7

TIE-DOWN ROPING

1. STIX LEE — FALLON 27
2. TRYAN DANNELLY — MOAPA 26
3. HENRY BUCHANAN — EUREKA 18
4. FRANK BUCHANAN — EUREKA 15
5. TUCKER NICOLL — WALKER RIVER 15
6. PETE MORI — ELKO 11
7. LOGAN LANCASTER — BATTLE MTN 9
8. WYATT LUSK — ELKO 9
9. EMMETT GORECKI — WELLS 7
10. CADE STEWARD — ALAMO 7
11. CLAYTON HIIBEL — FALLON 5
12. RYLAN SPROUL — MOAPA 4

TRAP SHOOT

1. LOGAN MARSHALL — HUMBOLDT 10
2. NICHOLAS BLISS — EUREKA 9
3. WYATT LUSK — ELKO 8
4. WYATT MCCOY — HUMBOLDT 7
5. COLTER RUNNION — WELLS 6
6. WYATT THOMAS — HUMBOLDT 5
7. LANE WHITAKER — ELKO 4
8. VALERIE CHAPMAN — BOULDER CITY 3
9. SAWYER BLISS — WHITE PINE 2
10. HUNTER GALLEGOS — BOULDER CITY 1

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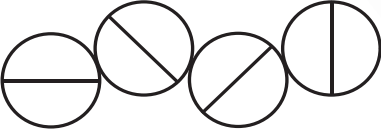
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"HOP"PENING

Lowry volleyball has tough weekend at South Tahoe tournament

Buckaroos start crossover play this weekend; home debut is Sept. 3, versus Incline

By Tony Erquiaga
Range Media

The Lowry High School volleyball team was in South Lake Tahoe this past weekend for a two-day tournament, finishing up its preseason schedule.

The Buckaroos played five matches over the two days and came back home without winning a set. Lowry lost 25-20, 25-16 to Reed, 25-17-25-22 to Dayton and 25-23, 25-21 to Pershing County in pool play on Friday.

Against Reed, Haxen Root and Josie Jenkins each had team-high three kills, with Raegan Terry adding two. Yarelli Ojendiz and Tessa Jenkins had two aces apiece, with Tessa Jenkins getting four digs. Josie Jenkins, Terry and Root each collected two digs. Tessa Jenkins and Root contributed four assists apiece.

In the match with Dayton, Josie Jenkins and Terry knocked down three kills each, with Root adding two.

Hadley Houston and Emma Deputy each added a block and Terry (14) and Emelia Mentaberry (7) paced the Buckaroos in digs.

The defense was busy, with Ojendiz adding five digs. Josie Jenkins four and



Deputy and Root three apiece. Lowry finished with 17 kills in the match against Pershing County, with root leading the way with five and Tessa Jenkins four. Breylin Johnson, Terry and Deputy each had four kills.

Cael Morton had a team-high nine assists and Josie Jenkins and Ojendiz added eight and seven digs, respectfully. Mentaberry contributed five kills.

In the Buckaroos' first match on Saturday, they lost 25-18, 25-19 to league foe Spring Creek. Lowry ended the tournament with a 25-16, 25-19 loss to Eureka.

Lowry starts Northern 3A crossover play on Friday at Sparks at 6 p.m. and Saturday at Wooster, beginning at noon.

The Buckaroos home debut is Thursday, Sept. 3, against Incline at 6 p.m. and South Tahoe on Friday, Sept. 4, at noon.



Lowry Boys Soccer
The Lowry boys soccer team gathers before the start of its game in Truckee, played this past Saturday in California.

Lowry boys soccer team splits with North Tahoe, Truckee

Buckaroos home debit is Friday against Incline

By Tony Erquiaga
Range Media

The second trip to Lake Tahoe in as many weeks turned out to be a rollercoaster ride for the Lowry High School boys soccer team.

The Buckaroos began Northern 3A crossover play last Friday against North Tahoe and came away with an impressive 2-0 victory. David Beccera netted both goals for Lowry, with Chris Arriola and Jonathan Leon picking up one assist apiece.

Lowry moved on to Truckee on Saturday and suffered a 9-1 loss to the powerhouse Wolverines. The match was close at the end of the first 40 minutes, with Truckee leading 2-0.

The Wolverines blew the game open in the second half with seven goals. Lowry makes its home debut this weekend with two more Lake Tahoe teams. Incline visits for a 2:30 p.m. start on Friday and South Tahoe arrives Saturday for an 11:45 a.m. kick. Lowry stands at 2-3-1 on the season.

McDermitt round up —

Staff Report

The McDermitt High School football team made the long trip to Eureka this past Friday night to open its 2026 campaign.

The Vandals, one of the top teams in the Northern 1A, shut out the Bulldogs en route to a 54-0 win.

McDermitt is off this week and makes its home debut on Friday, Sept. 4, at noon against Carlin.



McDermitt volleyball team travels to Beatty

It was even a further trip for the McDermitt volleyball team, who played in a two-day tournament at Beatty High School in southern Nevada.

The Bulldogs won one of its four matches on Friday, beginning with a 25-15, 25-23 loss to Word of Life Christian Academy, a school located in Las Vegas. McDermitt dropped two more matches

on Friday, before finishing the day with a 25-16, 25-12.

On Saturday, McDermitt lost 25-15, 25-14 to host Beatty, eventually ending the tournament with win over a JV squad and a second win versus Carlin.

McDermitt begins Eastern 1A play on Thursday, Sept. 3, at 5 p.m. against Jackpot and Carlin on Friday at 11 a.m.

Lady Bucks drop matches to Truckee, North Tahoe

By Tony Erquiaga
Range Media

The young fall season is just a couple weeks ago and the Lowry High School girls soccer team is dealing with concussions and other injuries.

It's never a good time to have that happen to you, but the Buckaroos are playing through its toughest stretch of matches in the early part of the season.

Northern 3A crossover play started this past weekend in Winnemucca, with Lowry hosting perennial power Truckee. The Buckaroos had to bring up a couple JV players to fill spots on the depleted varsity roster.

Truckee netted three goals in the first half on its way to a 5-0 victory, as Lowry had trouble getting going on offense.

North Tahoe made its way to Humboldt County on Saturday morning and held on for a 3-2 win.

The Lakers held a comfortable lead, when Yareli Garcia and Ava Swensen netted goals to cut the gap to 3-2. The Buckaroos could not get any closer.

Lowry traveled to Incline on Tuesday for a crossover match with the Highlanders and results were not available at press



TONY ERQUIAGA • Range Media
Lowry's Maribel Uritz attempts to dribble past a Truckee defender.

time. Lowry is in South Tahoe on Friday to play the Vikings at 4:45 p.m. The Buckaroos are 0-5-1 on the year.



TONY ERQUIAGA • Range Media
Lowry's Riley Ball makes a save during Friday's home match with Truckee.

Short-handed Battle Mountain volleyball team competes at White Pine Invitational

Longhorns at home for two Northern 2A matches

By Tony Erquiaga
Range Media



Just like it was for its counterparts 52 miles to the West, the Battle Mountain High School volleyball team fought through its share of struggles, playing with just six players at last weekend's White Pine Invitational in Ely.

The Longhorns went 0-6-1 over the busy two days.

"Overall, a great weekend for everyone involved," said BMHS coach Julia Ramriez. "We appreciate preseason for allowing us to play teams we don't usually see in our season and for receiving quality reps against the 1A and Southern 2A powerhouses. We have some sickness to fight through in the coming week, but we look forward to heading into our season."

It seemed like the Longhorns never left the floor on Friday, playing six of its seven matches.

Battle Mountain opened with a 25-23, 25-17 loss to Lund, with Kamilia Farias picking up four of the seven kills the team recorded. Rami McGrath had a team-high four digs, with Mirana Lomeli and Farias adding three each.

Next up, Owyhee defeated Battle Mountain 25-21, 25-15, as Farias knocked down six of the seven kills and contributed two aces. Keona Colver notched three digs and two blocks.

Battle Mountain picked up a tie against a JV team after that but lost in two sets to Lincoln County, West Wendover and White Pine.

Ella Mathues and Lomeli each had two aces versus Lincoln County and McGrath added block. Sofia Andrade, Farias and McGrath each had two digs.

Against West Wendover, Farias collected three kills, with one each from Andrade and Matheus. In addition, Farias had two aces and a block and Matheus added two blocks and two digs.

In the Friday finale against host White Pine, Andrade and Farias each had two kills and Colver added three digs.

Battle Mountain took on White Pine once again on Saturday morning and lost 25-11, 25-10. Colver had four kills and Matheus a block.

Battle Mountain returns home this weekend to start Northern 2A play, taking on Silver Stage on Friday at 5 p.m. Sierra Lutheran visits on Saturday for a noon start.





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PCHS soccer players share their skills with youth campers

The soccer team hosted Yerington on Tuesday, Aug. 25, for its season opener. Results were not available at press time. The Mustangs will host Dayton on Saturday, at 10 a.m.

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Lady Mustangs build confidence at South Tahoe Fall Classic

By Peggy Jones
Range Media

The Pershing County High School volleyball team used a busy weekend at the South Tahoe Fall Classic to work through early-season nerves, fine-tune their rotations and build confidence heading into the regular season.

The Mustangs went 1-4 over the two-day tournament, but PCHS coach Monica Halverson said the experience gave the team valuable opportunities to come together and prepare for the season ahead.

“This is our second year attending, and the Vikings put on a really good tournament with lots of teams that are competitive and that we don’t see during our preseason,” Halverson said. “I can’t emphasize how important preseason tournaments are for any program.”

Pershing County opened Friday with a 25-11, 25-8 loss to Dayton.

“First-game nerves always hit hard,” Halverson said.

The Mustangs showed improvement in their second match despite falling to Reed, 25-19, 25-14.

“This game was a night-and-day difference from the first,” Halverson said. “More communication, plays and energy. You could see the girls fighting for every point.”

That momentum carried into the third match, when Pershing County defeated Lowry in straight sets, 25-23 and 25-21.

“We came in and played Mustang volleyball,” Halverson said. “The girls’ faces of absolute accomplishment was exactly what was needed to carry over to Saturday.”



Photo by Marti Nolan
Khloe Montes and Jerzie Jones team up on serve receive.



The 2026-2027 Pershing County volleyball team huddles during their season opening tournament.

Photo by Marti Nolan

The victory gave the Mustangs a boost heading into the tournament’s second day, when they competed in the Silver bracket. Pershing County opened Saturday against Spring Creek, falling in two close sets, 25-22 and 25-21.

The Mustangs finished the tournament with a three-set battle against Debbie Smith. Pershing County dominated the opening set 25-8 before Debbie Smith came back to take the next two, 25-23 and 15-9.

Halverson said the team worked through some difficult moments during the weekend, but she was encouraged by the way the players supported one another.

She particularly credited the team’s six seniors with stepping up and helping the Mustangs enter their final match with purpose.

The Class of 2027 includes Magdalena Ramirez, Arya Garland, Khloe Montes, Whitlee Diaz, Katelyn Elerick and Jerzie Jones.

Halverson singled out Jones for her performance throughout the tournament. Although she did not keep individual statistics because the tournament was preseason.

Halverson said Jones had the team’s most consistent games and showed significant improvement from last season.

“She is going to be an all-around player that will make things happen for us,” Halverson said.

“Even though we struggled in some areas this weekend, I see so much own-



Photo by Marti Nolan
Khloe Montes hits the ball with Cami Watson and Magdalena Ramirez moving towards her at the South Tahoe Tournament.

ership from each of the girls to make this season great,” Halverson said. “Team is very important, and they need each other to make that happen.”

The Mustangs begin league play on the road this week, traveling to Fallon to

face Oasis on Wednesday before taking on North Tahoe on Friday.

“Both of these opponents will be prepared to play tough, but we will be, too,” Halverson said.

Mountain West announces 2026 women’s volleyball preseason poll and accolades

Harris Named Preseason Player of the Year

Mountain West Release

LAS VEGAS – The Mountain West announced the 2026 women’s volleyball predicted order of finish, preseason team and preseason player of the year as voted on by the league’s 10 head coaches.

The 2026 season ushers in a new era of Mountain West volleyball with the additions of Hawaii, UC Davis and UTEP. The league enters the season with strong momentum, as four current members finished 2025 ranked among the top 100 in the NCAA RPI.

Mountain West newcomer UTEP is favored to win the 2026 MW regular-sea-

son title with four first-place votes and a total of 84 points.

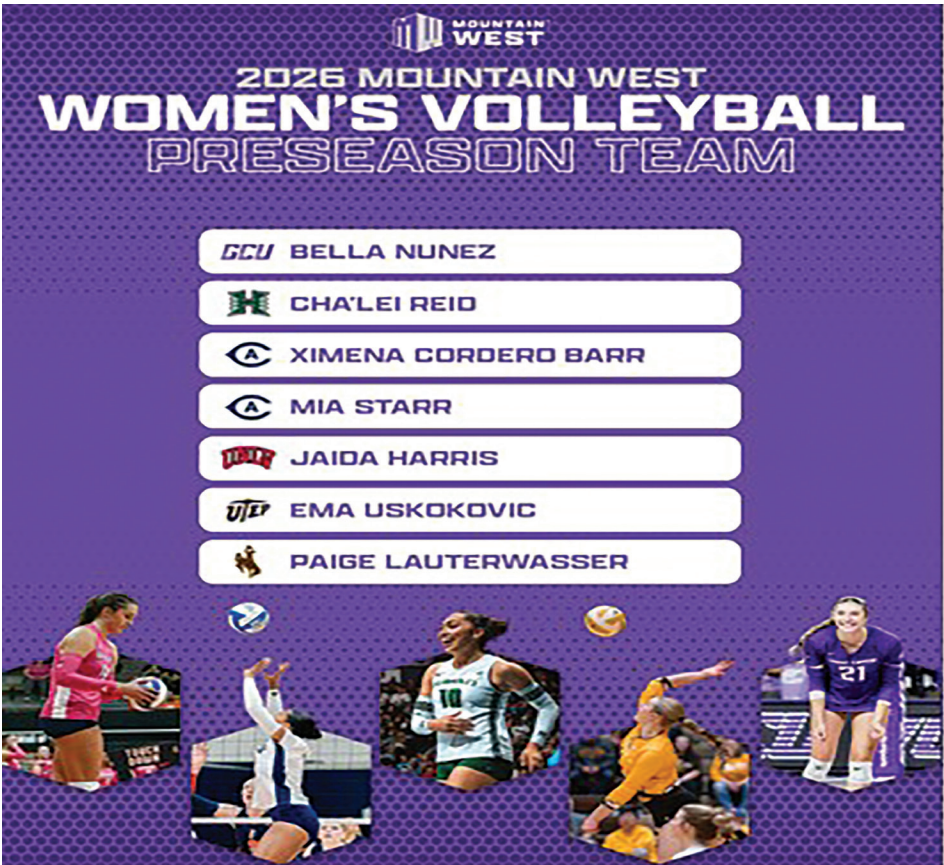
Under the direction of Benjamin Wallis, the Miners finished the 2025 season 25-5 overall and earned CUSA’s automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

Fellow newcomer UC Davis was picked to finish second with four first-place votes and 80 points.

Grand Canyon collected the final two first-place votes and 70 points to earn the third spot. Wyoming was fourth with 69 points, followed closely by Hawaii in fifth with 67 points.

Rounding out the poll UNLV (53 points), San José State (40 points), Air Force (36 points), Nevada (26 points) and New Mexico (25 points), respectively.

The top four teams in the league stand-



ings at the end of the season will compete in the 2026 Old Trapper MW Women’s Volleyball Championship presented by the Palms Casino Resort. The Conference tournament is set to begin Nov. 24 and conclude Nov. 25.

The winner will earn the league’s automatic berth to the NCAA tournament in December.

MW women’s volleyball has established a legacy of national success, earning 44 NCAA Tournament bids, nine Sweet 16 appearances and an Elite Eight berth since the Conference’s founding in 1999.

UNLV junior Jaida Harris was named the 2026 MW Preseason Player of the Year. The Las Vegas native was named the 2025 MW Newcomer of the Year and

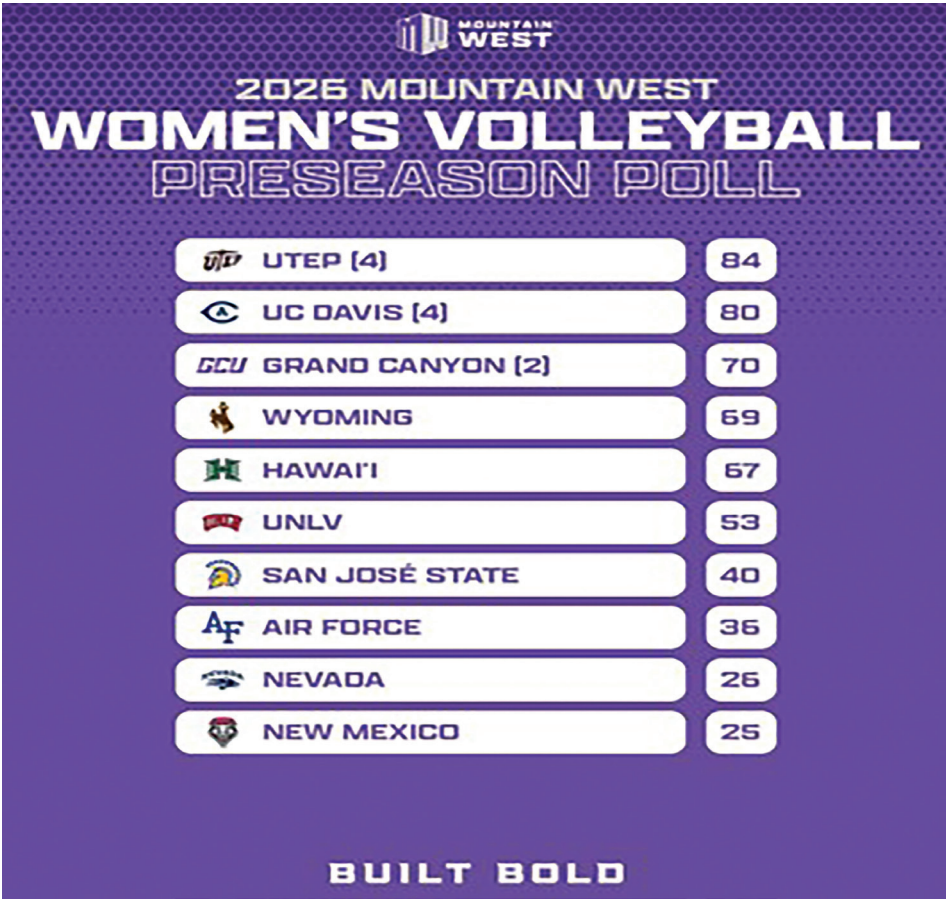
earned All-MW team honors.

Harris recorded a .218 hitting percentage and logged 370 total kills. She also registered 215 digs, 52 total blocks, 38 service aces and 18 assists.

Harris is joined on the 2026 Mountain West Preseason Team by Grand Canyon’s Bella Nunez, Hawaii’s Cha’lei Reid, UC Davis’ Ximena Cordero Barrand Mia Starr, UTEP’s Ema Uskokovic and Wyoming’s Paige Lauterwasser.

The 2026 Mountain West women’s volleyball season begins Friday, August 28.

The league continues to challenge itself against elite competition, with 19 matches against Autonomous 4 opponents in 2026, facing eight AVCA Top 25 teams, including No. 1 Nebraska. MW programs have combined for 24 wins over A4 foes since 2021.



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Fernley girls soccer blanks Debbie Smith Academy

By Robert Perea
Range Media

Behind three goals by junior Bronwynn Garrett, the Fernley High School girls soccer team shut out Debbie Smith Academy 7-0 last Thursday.

Garrett also had an assist as Dophir Mossner, Lillianna Perez and McKayla Marsh scored one goal each, while Tillie Gillespie and Angel Pochop each had two assists.

Lillian Munger made six saves in goal, while Angie Rosas Rodriguez made two saves.

This week the Vaqueros are scheduled to play at Sparks at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, and host Incline at 4:45 p.m. next Tuesday, Sept. 1 and South Tahoe at 4:45 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 3.

Cosmic Baseball takes over Greater Nevada Field in Reno

Cosmic Baseball returned to Reno on August 20–22, at Greater Nevada Field, featuring the Cosmic Chili Peppers and Glow Mojis in a neon-fueled, black-light baseball spectacle. Cosmic Baseball is the world’s first UV-reactive baseball experience, played entirely under black lights with glowing bats, balls, and uniforms. The Reno stop delivered a mix of baseball action, music, and high-energy entertainment.

Joe Plummer, Range Media



Las Vegas Raiders announce \$25 million game-changing gift to Intermountain Health to help build Nevada’s first stand-alone children’s hospital

Led by Raiders owners Mark Davis, Egon Durban, and Michael Meldman, this marks the largest philanthropic commitment in franchise history

Las Vegas Raiders Release

LAS VEGAS — The Las Vegas Raiders and Intermountain Health today announced a \$25 million gift to help build Nevada’s first stand-alone children’s hospital.

The gift was led by Raiders owners Mark Davis, Egon Durban, and Michael Meldman — each of whom contributed \$5 million toward the development — and the Raiders, which committed the additional \$10 million.

“The Las Vegas Raiders are making our largest philanthropic commitment in franchise history because we are dedicated to building a healthier future for kids in Nevada,” said Mark Davis, owner of the Las Vegas Raiders. “We want this gift to remind children and families that they have our team backing them and that the support of the entire Raider Nation is in their corner.”

The hospital, located at the UNLV Harry Reid Research and Technology Park, will be the first of its kind in Nevada, anchoring a new future for kids and families across the state and delivering comprehensive, high-acuity pediatric care.

The 828,000 square-foot standalone children’s hospital will be located on a 33-acre campus and feature 180 patient beds, with room to grow.

It will provide advanced emergency services designed specifically for children and a full spectrum outpatient center alongside inpatient and specialty care.

“The Raiders are committed to excellence, and this gift is a generational investment that will keep families closer, strengthen our community, and give every kid every chance to thrive,” said Mitch Cloward, Intermountain Health region president.

In recognition of this landmark gift, Intermountain Health Nevada Children’s Hospital’s physical therapy and rehabilitation space, along with its bistro — spaces designed for healing and recovery, will be named in the Raiders’ honor.

The future Las Vegas Raiders Bistro, located adjacent to the hospital’s main lobby, will provide nourishment, comfort, and a moment of respite for families.

This will be a space where caregivers and parents navigating the complexities of having a child in the hospital can pause. Whether gathering strength for the next

conversation, sharing a quiet meal, or seeking a moment of normalcy, families will find support here.

“Sports remind us that we do our best when we have the right team around us,” said Michael Meldman. “Families deserve to feel supported every step of the way. In addition to the experts at Intermountain Health, the Raiders family stands with our community’s kids.”

The Las Vegas Raiders Inpatient Rehab Gym will help children heal, grow stronger, and regain confidence through movement and play. Purposefully created to be both innovative and whimsical, the space will feature advanced therapeutic equipment alongside playful design elements. Here, therapy will feel empowering and fun, while supporting physical recovery, nurturing resilience, independence, and joy. The Raiders’ commitment to children’s health helps make every developmental milestone possible.

“When we invest in children, we invest in everything that comes next — their education, their opportunities, and their future,” said Sandra Douglass Morgan, president of the Las Vegas Raiders. “We want Nevada’s kids to know that their home team is cheering them on.”

The Nevada Campaign for Kids will strengthen, address, and extend pediatric care for children across the region. Led by co-chairs Bill and Wendy Hornbuckle, this visionary effort will be accomplished through building a broad coalition of philanthropic, clinical, and community partners committed to exceptional care for children.

The Raiders monumental gift will help make that vision possible by expanding access to exceptional pediatric care and creating a hospital experience designed around the needs of children and families.

“This incredible gift honoring Raider Nation is among the largest contributed through an NFL franchise and serves as a pacesetter prelude to the region’s most impactful and galvanizing healthcare campaign for children ever,” said David Flood, president of Intermountain Foundation and chief development officer at Intermountain Health. “This great organization loves these communities, this state, their players and personnel, and of course, their incredible fans. From our very first conversations with the Raiders leaders, this gift was envisioned as a lasting investment in families for generations to come. We are honored, and hopeful, that many will soon be inspired to follow.”

Intermountain Health has been the official healthcare partner of the Las Vegas Raiders since 2019. Construction is expected to start on the hospital in the coming months, with an anticipated opening date in 2030.

Las Vegas Stadium Authority weighs a \$158M Allegiant Stadium north entrance

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The Las Vegas Stadium Authority is considering and almost certainly will approve a \$158 million upgrade to the north entrance at Allegiant Stadium, with \$75 million coming from a taxpayer fund and the rest from the Las Vegas Raiders.

No action was taken on the agenda item Thursday at the Stadium Authority meeting, but instead a vote could occur Sept. 2.

Construction isn’t expected to begin until after the Raiders’ season ends with the goal of it being completed in late 2028 or sometime before the 2029 Super Bowl at Allegiant.

“Those are not aspirational goals,” Raiders President Sandra Douglass Morgan told the Stadium Authority. “They’re based on some educated conversations that our tech and design teams have had.”

Funds would go to the 65,000-seat stadium that opened in 2020 at a cost of \$2 billion to add pedestrian and event decks, a plaza and transportation enhancements. The public money will come from surplus room tax revenue.

Steve Hill, president and CEO of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, said that while Stadium Authority owns the stadium, the Raiders are responsible for its upkeep.

“We want to make sure the stadium

remains a world-class venue,” Hill said. “We want to make sure Allegiant Stadium is well-funded from both a private standpoint as well as a public standpoint.”

Many fans walk over a nearby bridge from the Las Vegas Strip to attend Raiders games and other events. The new entry would create a more direct path to the venue by remaining on an elevated walkway.

“The north side of the building has become one of the more pressure points in the guest experience,” Douglass Morgan said. “That infrastructure is stretched to capacity.”

The stadium was constructed with \$750 million in public money, with backers saying it not only would house Raiders games, but also be the home to UNLV football, major sporting events and concerts.

Allegiant Stadium hosted the Super Bowl in 2024. This season’s college football national championship game is set for Allegiant, and the Final Four is scheduled for 2028.

“When the Raiders came to Las Vegas (from Oakland, California), this was never about (just) bringing an NFL team to Nevada,” Douglass Morgan said. “It was a long-term commitment to this community and the state.”