

Sports



Quincy High School senior Aidan Heikes took first in the pole vault by three feet over the second place athlete at the Best in the Basin track and field meet on March 24.

Photos by REBECCA PETTINGILL/COLUMBIA BASIN HERALD

Track and field teams compete to determine best in the Basin

By REBECCA PETTINGILL
Staff Writer

QUINCY — Quincy High School was home to the Best in the Basin track and field meet on March 24.

The event saw five teams from the Columbia Basin, Ephrata High School, Quincy High School, Royal High School, Othello High School and Wahluke High School compete for victory.

The question remains, who is the best in the Basin? According to team scores, it is Ephrata. Ephrata led the team scores at

376.5 points combined for the girls and boys classifications by more than 100 points compared to the runner-up, Quincy with 133.5 points.

At the end of the event, the teams had the following results:

For the girls, Ephrata took first with 187.5 points, then Royal with 76, Quincy had 49, Wahluke 46.5 and Othello 9.

In the boys category, Ephrata led with 189 points, Quincy followed with 84.5, Wahluke took thirds with 42.5, Royal had 33 and Othello 6.

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Quincy High School junior Joceline Schaapman gets her running start for the triple jump during the Best in the Basin meet at Quincy High School on March 24. She took first in the 300 meter hurdles and triple jump at that meet.

Othello softball off to a fast start

Huskies shut out Vikings in doubleheader

By CHERYL SCHWEIZER
Staff Writer

SELAH — The Othello High School softball team continued its early-season undefeated streak with a sweep of Selah High School in a doubleheader Saturday in Selah.

The Huskies won 12-8 in the first game and 15-4 in the second game.

Head coach Rudy Ochoa II said the Huskies are now 7-0, 2-0 in the Central Washington Athletic Conference.

Makiah Galindo was the winning pitcher in the first game, striking out six Selah hitters, giving up 10 hits and five bases on balls. Othello took a 6-1 lead after two innings; Selah cut it to 6-3 after three innings, but Othello scored runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings, enough to withstand four Selah runs in the sixth.

Camryn McDonald got four hits in four

at-bats, with two doubles. Hailee Guzman went three-for-five with a triple and two doubles. Maya Valdez and Nariah Benavidez each got two hits, including a double. Persayis Garza also got two hits.

Othello's 10-run fifth inning sealed the win in the second game. Selah scored four runs in the first inning to take a 4-2 lead, but Othello came back with one run in the second inning and two in the third to go ahead 5-4. The Huskies' 10-run fifth inning finished the game.

Lovee Franco was the winning pitcher, giving up four hits and getting three strikeouts. She gave up three bases on balls. At the plate, she hit two doubles.

Maya Valdez had three hits, two of them home runs, in four at-bats. Miccaela Valdez had two doubles, and McDonald also hit two doubles. Janelly Verduzco also got two hits.

Jordan Spence, Sean Durzi send LA Kings past Kraken, 4-2

By GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — Jordan Spence scored his first NHL goal and captain Anze Kopitar had a goal and an assist in the Los Angeles Kings' 4-2 victory over the Seattle Kraken on

Saturday night.

Gabriel Vilardi scored his first goal in five months and Sean Durzi ended a 29-game goal drought for the Kings in their second win over the expansion Kraken this season.

Cal Petersen made 23 saves as Los Angeles solidified its hold on second place in the Pacific Division by earning at least a point for the ninth time in 12 games. The Kings have little collective playoff experience outside the four core veterans remaining from their Stanley Cup championship teams, but coach Todd McLellan sees these late-season games as valuable experience in games that count.

"It's called progress," McLellan said. "We're moving forward, so there is satisfaction in that, but it doesn't end. We've still got to grow and move the needle forward. I kept hearing the term 'meaningful games' later in the year. ... We're (getting) that right now, and it's a great thing for our team. This is the playoffs for us, and we've shown signs of growth during it, and it's going to have to continue for whatever we have left."

Daniel Sprong scored in his second straight game since joining Seattle, and Philipp Grubauer stopped 23 shots for the Kraken during their debut in downtown Los Angeles. Morgan Geekie tacked on another goal with four seconds to play.

"That's a hell of a team over there," Seattle coach Dave Hakstol said. "They're a big, heavy team. They're hard to play against. They don't allow any inside ice very easily, so you've got to work for your possession, and I thought we did that. I thought we worked our butts off for most of this hockey game. I want to go back and look at it, but I felt like we gave up too much off the rush."

With defenseman Drew Doughty still sidelined by an upper-body injury, Spence and Durzi stepped up to provide unexpected offense from the blue line.

Spence scored late in the second period of his ninth NHL game when his long shot from the point snaked through a crowd and got past Grubauer without hitting anybody.

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