

TIGERS

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Camryn Collman, who led all scorers with 25 points, converted a layup to cap a mini 6-0 run and make it a seven-point game, and a 3-point play by Alexyss Chamberlain and a 3-pointer by Collman pulled La Grande within 62-56 in the final minute. The Tigers, though, turned the ball over inside of 20 seconds with a chance to draw closer — their 28th and final turnover of the game — and Heideman iced the win with two more free throws.

Ella Dunlap added 15 for the Tigers, who did hold a 28-22 rebounding advantage and shot 43% from the floor. La Grande was minus-12 in turnovers, though, after forcing just 16 by Hermiston.

Wright said his team is likely to commit a few as it transitions to playing a more up-tempo game, but said it's still an area to improve after the team averaged 21 a game a year ago and 23 in its opener last week.

“That’s something we gotta clean up. We can’t give good teams multiple opportunities on mistakes that we’re making,” he said.

Heideman led four Bulldogs in scoring with 15 points, Romero added 13 in spite of being on the bench for large stretches in foul trouble.

“They’ve had to do that the last couple of games. Jaz has been getting in a little bit of foul trouble lately, and we’ve had some awesome kids step into their role and be fearless,” Hermiston head coach Maloree Moss said. “Tonight, Mia (Hernandez) and Katelyn (and) Makaylee (Young) took on some big leadership which is awesome. They had to turn it on a little bit.”

Romero missed most of the second quarter after picking up her third foul 23 seconds into the period, then was back on the bench after getting her fourth barely a minute into the third.

Hermiston went on a run even with her missing time, responding to La Grande’s 8-0 run in the second quarter with a 12-2 spurt to end the half with a 32-21 lead on a Jayden Ray layup, and on the run early in the third. Romero hit the first 3 to start the rally, then went to the bench before Heideman caught fire.

“Luckily we have girls with big hearts and they know that when it’s time to grit up and do it, they’re going to do it, and they did that tonight, which is good,” Moss said.

The Bulldogs’ coach added her team was complacent with the lead, but also credited La Grande’s never-quit attitude.

“We started to pull away and then we got comfortable,” she said. “La Grande, I gotta give it to them. They never gave up, and that was awesome to see from their team.”

Hermiston, which only trailed in the early stages of the game, gave itself a major edge from the 3-point line with those nine treys. La Grande, conversely, hit just two.

“It seemed like (they made) a whole lot more than that, and that kept us on our heels some,” he said.

Tuesday TIGERS WIN IN BURNS

Collman had her second 25-point performance in as many days Tuesday as La Grande won on the road in Burns, 60-52.

Collman started and ended the game strong, scoring 10 points in the opening quarter to help La Grande take a 16-11 lead and finishing with 11 in the fourth.

Dunlap added 14 points, all in the first half, as the Tigers took a 32-27 lead at the half. La Grande pushed the margin to 45-38 after three quarters and held on.

La Grande (2-1 overall) is off until the Today’s Dentistry Elite Eight in Nampa, Idaho, Dec. 19.



Elgin’s Jayden Palmer led the Huskies Tuesday with 15 points in their win over Weston-McEwen.

Photo by Ronald Bond

ELGIN

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35-17.

The win provided an opportunity for Elgin to test its depth without its regular starting post, Tymra Anderson. Brian Evans said he was pleased with the effort of his team to fill in.

“Those younger posts stepping up picked up the slack where Tymra was missing,” he said, “(and) also Kaelin. She picked up slack where she hasn’t had to.”

Palmer agreed.

“They did a good job of stepping up, knowing exactly what to do and being aggressive and getting in there,” the senior guard said.

The outcome was a stark contrast to the teams’ meeting a year ago, a 46-26 win by the TigerScots.

It’s the latest in a solid

start to the season — one that includes a win over traditional 2A power Grant Union last week — that has Evans excited.

“It goes back to our work ethic in practice,” he said. “Like I told them before, we never want to go backwards. They’re taking it to heart, and it helps not losing one girl from last year. I have everybody I had (back). We’re really focusing on our defense and our man rotation this year, and they’re starting to feed off that and get the hang of it. I couldn’t be more excited.”

In addition to the Palmer sisters, Kaelin Evans reached double figures, finishing with 10 points.

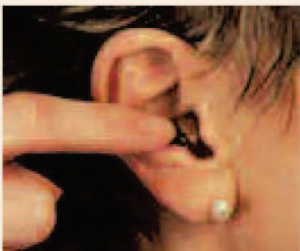
The TigerScots were led by Charli King, who had 12 points.

Elgin (3-0 overall) travels Friday to Pilot Rock.

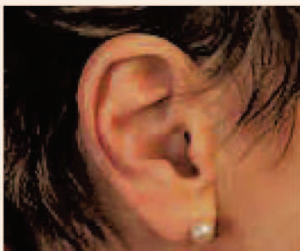
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