

Boys Basketball

Knights secure regular season crown

East Oregonian

IRRIGON — The top-ranked Irrigon Knights clinched their third-consecutive Columbia Basin Conference regular season title with a 66-48 victory over fourth-ranked Heppner Friday.

Unlike the team’s first meeting, Irrigon (18-1, 7-0 CBC) took control from the tip, running out to a 37-28 first half lead. Behind strong scoring nights from Anthony Landeros and Fredy Vera, the lead continued to climb in the second half.

Landeros topped all scorers with 20 points, Vera added 18. Adrian Romero also reached double digits with 14 points. Landeros spread out four makes from deep over four quarters to keep the offense ticking.

Once again Heppner (14-4, 5-3 CRC) had success pounding inside with center Patrick Collins, but

were unable to sustain much from the perimeter. Collins finished with 18 points — 12 in the first half — but the guards only managed to score 23 for the game.

IRRIGON 66, HEEPNR 48						
HHS (14-3)	13	15	9	11	—	48
IHS (18-1)	20	17	13	16	—	66
HEPPNER — Patrick Collins 18, W. Putman 12, L. Grieb 7, R. Cutforth 5, C. Kindle 4, C. Hedman 2, J. Corbin.						
IRRIGON — Anthony Landeros 20, F. Vera 18, A. Romero 14, A. Timpy 6, N. Verley 2, R. Reynolds 2, H. White 2, Z. Rice 2.						

NIXYAAWII 70, ECHO 34 — At Echo, the Golden Eagles (14-6, 9-0 OOL) extended their winning streak to eight games with a 50-point outburst in the second half of an Old Oregon League game on Friday.

Hunter McKay and Hunter Melton each scored 14 points to lead Nixyaawii, and Fredy Campos added a game-high seven steals to go with nine points.

Echo (10-9, 6-4 OOL) was led by Michael Thompson’s double-double of 23 points and 13 rebounds.

NIXYAAWII 70, ECHO 34						
NCS (14-6)	9	11	24	26	—	70
EHS (10-9)	7	3	10	14	—	34
NIXYAAWII — Hunter McKay 14, Hunter Melton 14, I. Ashley 13, F. Campos 9, A. Corona 8, E. Bevis 6, T. Farrow 4, C. Case 2, W. Oatman, L. Lewis. 30-56 FG						
ECHO — Michael Thompson 23, C. Medrano 4, Z. Gehrke 3, B. Moffit 2, D. Tappo 2, H. Gehrke, J. Dorn. 14-42 FG						
3-point field goals — NCS 7-16, EHS 1-11. Free throws — NCS 3-6, EHS 5-8.						
Fouls — NCS 13, EHS 6. Fouled out — none. Technical fouls — Melton (NCS).						

STANFIELD 75, PILOT ROCK 43 — At Stanfield, the Tigers (15-4, 5-2 CBC) coasted to a Columbia Basin Conference win on Friday behind a balanced offense that featured 11 scorers.

Dylan Grogan paced Stanfield with 13 points, and the Tigers led 48-20 at half-time.

Pilot Rock (5-10, 1-5) was paced by Bryson Pierce and Justin Willingham with 11 points each.

STANFIELD 75, PILOT ROCK 43						
PRHS ()	10	10	16	7	—	43
SHS ()	26	22	16	11	—	75
PILOT ROCK — Bryson Pierce 11, Justin Willingham 11, R. Lankford 7, D. Fritz 4, D. Hasher 3, G. Warner 3, P. Roe 2, L. Thieme 1, J. Pierce 1.						
STANFIELD — Dylan Grogan 13, H. Braithwaite 10, M. Davchevski 9, T. Flores 9, S. Allan 8, R. Bailey 7, E. Lockwood 6, E. Galarza 5, T. Monkus 3, A. Montes 3, J. Carrillo 2.						
3-point field goals — PRHS 3, SHS 6.						
Free throws — PRHS 14-19, SHS 11-22.						
Fouls — PRHS 22, SHS 15. Fouled out — none.						

MITCHELL SPRAY 55, CONDON/WHEELER 44 — At Spray, Cade MacInnes scored 30 points but the Knights (4-15, 1-9 BSL) couldn’t get past the Loggers (9-9, 5-5) on Friday in Big Sky League action.

Mitchell/Spray led 40-35 entering the fourth quarter. Beau Edwards added 10 rebounds for Condon/Wheeler.

In other games Friday it was: Weston-McEwen 49, Culver 30; Dufur 60, Lone 27; Horizon Christian 58, Arlington 25.

BUCKAROOS: Pendleton moves into second place

Continued from 1B the subsequent 30 minutes of play.

“We were going ‘Oh, boy, here we go again,” Pendleton coach Brian Broadus said. “Thankfully the cooled off and only made five for the rest of the ball game.”

With the Eagles long range held in check, Pendleton closed the period on

a 17-3 run to grab a seven-point edge.

Pendleton did much of its damage in the paint behind the 6-foot-6 Wes Persinger. The senior center had a game-high 24 point and grabbed 11 rebounds.

Smith made just one field goal — a three-pointer — but hit 8 of 10 free throws.

In a tight game, Broadus

lauded his team’s ability to convert at the charity stripe. The Bucks shot 14 of 16 as a team.

Also improved from the first meeting was ball control. Hood River Valley’s frenetic pace forced 31 Pendleton turnover in game one, but the Bucks nearly cut that number in half, finishing with 16.

The win along with Hermiston’s victory over

The Dalles places the Buckaroos in second place in the CRC through four games.

PENDLETON 61, HOOD RIVER 58						
PEN (12-7)	19	19	9	14	—	61
HRV (10-8)	12	19	10	17	—	58
PENDLETON — S. Green 7, Q. Cockburn 4, K. Quinn 3, W. Persinger 24, Roe 4, Smith 11, Bradt 4, George 0, Hancock 0.						
HOOD RIVER VALLEY — Kuechmann 2, Clarke 2, Ziegner 11, Buckley 5, Ellsworth 9, Noteboom 11, Roberts 9, Hunter 8, Tegman 0, Stinzi 0, Walker 0.						
3-point field goals — PEN 3, HRV 8.						
Free throws — PEN 14-16, HRV 8-13.						
Fouls — PEN 19, HRV 13.						

PENDLETON: Hood River turns ball over 29 times

Continued from 1B

you don’t get to play everybody — tonight I didn’t have that and I was able to play everybody. It brings the team together and I really enjoy that.”

The reserves managed to outscore HRV 14-9 in the final period to seal the landslide triumph.

Bodmer classified Tuesday’s 57-54 loss to top-ranked Hermiston as the “best we’ve ever played”. Squeezing the same effort out for Friday provided just as a big of a challenge for the Bucks as the Bulldogs did on the hardcourt.

“I think Hermiston made us bring our A-game — we wanted to beat them — and I think tonight we knew we were going to win in a way,” Spertl said. “I don’t want to say Hood River’s not a good team, but it was a more of a ‘just get this game over with.’”

“We have kind of a history of playing to the level of everybody that we play,” Gomez said. It doesn’t surprise me that we played Hermiston the way we did or coming out the way we did tonight.”

There was still plenty of good.



Pendleton’s Darian Lindsey shoots the ball guarded by Hood River’s Marlie Bloomster and Ann Marie Goodman (24) in the Bucks’ 71-36 win against the Eagles on Friday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

trucking along and moving forward.”

Those wheels will get plenty of use over the 10 days. The Buckaroos begin a three-game road swing Tuesday versus The Dalles, head to Hermiston Friday and then to the Eagles home court the following Tuesday.

The second hardwood War on 84 will be especially significant. With both schools winning Friday, each has created necessary cushion at the league mid-way point.

“Some people I think thought we were going to get blown out by Hermiston just because in the past we have,” Bodmer said of the rivalry’s first leg. “But this year as a whole as a team we are much better and we came out really proved it.

“We know we can beat them next time.”

PENDLETON 71,						
HOOD RIVER VALLEY 36						
HRV (5-14)	13	10	4	9	—	36
PEN (13-6)	21	19	17	14	—	71
HOOD RIVER VALLEY — K. Davidson 2, J. Mattson 7, A. Goodman 0, A. White 0, J. Laura 2, K. Wells 13, M. Lara 0, B. Weekly 4, M. Bloomster 8.						
PENDLETON — D. Clem 3, S. Greb 3, D. Lindsay 11, F. Dick 2, H. Thompson 0, H. Greb 9, K. Spertl 5, K. Williams 8, L. Taylor 8, M. Bodmer 15, C. Hoffman 2, K. McGlothlin 5.						
3-point field goals — HRV 1, PEN 5.						
Free throws — HRV 15-19, PEN 20-28.						
Fouls — HRV 22, PEN 19. Fouled out — L. Taylor (PEN)						

BULLDOGS: Defense limits Conklin to one

Continued from 1B

Guard Sara Ramirez added eight points.

Another key to the quick start was the team’s aggressive defense on 5-foot-11 Riverhawks wing Katie Conklin.

Conklin had 11 points in the teams’ last meeting, but was held to one on Friday. “We came out aggressive, we came out sharp,” Hoffert said of his team’s fifth-straight win. “Our defense was solid in the first half and did a great job of shutting down Conklin. She really hurt us last time and we wanted to make sure we didn’t let her do that again.”

Lori Cimmiyotti led The Dalles (9-9, 1-3) with 13 points.

Hermiston will host Hood River Valley on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

HERMISTON 55, THE DALLES 30						
HHS (16-3)	17	13	12	13	—	55
TDHS (9-9)	2	6	13	9	—	30
HERMISTON — Jansen Edmiston 18, T. Headings 14, S. Ramirez 8, A. Drotzmann 6, K. Padilla 7, R. Andreason 2, S. Moore, S. Gilbert, M. Foley, M. Juul, Gutierrez.						
THE DALLES — Lori Cimmiyotti 13, K. Hoylman 2, I. Telles 3, J. Bonham 1, B. McCall 8, K. Conklin 1, K. Jesch 2, M. Goslin, J. Thomasian.						
3-point field goals — HHS 7, TDHS 1. Free throws — HHS 12-21, TDHS 5-12. Fouls — HHS 17, TDHS 19. Fouled out — Telles (TD).						

HERMISTON: Riverhawks go on big run

Continued from 1B

ton about his “attack angles” and was happy with the senior’s aggressive play early, something that has to happen against an aggressive, physical defense like The Dalles employs.

Hermiston was hot from the floor, too, and made seven of its first nine shots en route to a 20-10 lead after the first quarter. Hermiston extended its lead in the second quarter behind more solid shooting and good ball security. Hermiston coughed it up just five times in the first half, with three coming in the second period.

After Chance Flores’ 3-pointer with 3:39 on the clock, Hermiston led by 20, its biggest lead of the game.

“When you’re up by 20, put ‘em away. Don’t give ‘em life,” McElligott said. “We did the worst thing we could do and gave ‘em life in the third quarter and brought ‘em off the table.”

With that newfound life, The Dalles, kept pressing on and created what McElligott called the ugliest half of basketball he’s seen all year.

The Riverhawks went on a 16-7 run throughout



Hermiston’s Landon Gammell (23) looks to get a pass through traffic as The Dalles’ Tanner Byers (5), among others, clog the lane Friday night at The Dawghouse.

Sam Barbee photo

the entirety of the third quarter and cut Hermiston’s lead to single digits for the first time since the first quarter after a Devin Wilson layup barely a minute into the final period. Hermiston then started turning the ball over, wasting four critical fourth-quarter possessions as The Dalles mounted its comeback.

The Riverhawks cut the lead to as few as six points after Wilson hit a 3 with 1:07 left, but Hermiston didn’t miss a free throw in

HERMISTON 58, THE DALLES 49									
TDHS (2-17)	10	5	16	18	—	49			
HHS (16-12)	20	17	5	16	—	58			
THE DALLES — D. Murr 2, C. Noonan 2, G. Harris 0, T. Byers 2, A. Esiquio 11, C. Conlee 4, S. Starrsheim 0, R. Kohl 0, D. Wilson 9, S. Douthit 15, E. Flores 0, C. Walker 4, I. Piza 0.									
HERMISTON — C. Flores 5, J. Ruiz 0, L. Crafton 14, A. Nailion 6, T. McCollough 0, D. Zimmerman 3, C. Knutz 15, L. Gammell 4, C. Lloyd 4, C. Smith 7, V. Ena 0.									
3-point field goals — The Dalles 2, Hermiston 4. Free throws — The Dalles 3-4, Hermiston 18-22. Fouls — The Dalles 17, Hermiston 8. Fouled out — D. Wilson (TDHS).									

Girls Basketball

Eagles, Tigers win OT thrillers

East Oregonian

ECHO — The Nixyaawii girls basketball team got a shot of confidence headed into the last week of the regular season.

The Golden Eagles led on for a 53-48 overtime win against the Echo Cougars on Friday in Old Oregon League play.

It was the first time in recent memory that Nixyaawii (14-6, 6-3 OOL) had topped the Cougars (16-4, 8-2).

“It’s huge. We have seniors on this team that have never beaten Echo and I think just for our psyche heading into districts it was good to know we can beat this team, because they’ve really dominated this rivalry the last three or four years,” said Nixyaawii coach Jeremy Maddern.

Charlotte Barkley scored 18 points to lead Nixyaawii, which took the team’s largest lead with the final margin.

“It basically went back and forth the whole fourth quarter,” Maddern said. “No team got ahead more than three points.”

Nixyaawii poured in 20 points in the third quarter to erase a 25-13 halftime deficit, but Kelsey Ranger connected on a free throw near the end of regulation to force overtime.

Nixyaawii opened the extra frame with a three-pointer and never trailed.

Desiree Maddern added 14 points and 12 rebounds for thrird-place Nixyaawii.

First-place Echo (16-4, 8-2) was led by Elizabeth McCarty’s 22 points, 12 rebounds and eight steals. Ranger finished with 15 points.

NIXYAAWII 53, ECHO 48, OT									
NCS (14-6)	5	8	20	9	11	—	53		
EHS (16-4)	16	9	6	11	6	—	48		
NIXYAAWII — Charlotte Barkley 18, D. Maddern 14, R. Sampson 7, K. Melton 6, S. Fitzpatrick 4, T. Oatman 4, A. Farrow, E. Looney. 16-55 FG.									
ECHO — Elizabeth McCarty 22, K. Ranger 15, T. Swaggart 4, D. Tarvin 2, B. Srofe 2, L. Wiggins 2, E. Parks 1, L. Cox, H. Reese. 15-49 FG.									
3-point field goals — NCS 5-20, EHS 1-14. Free throws — NCS 16-23, EHS 1-14. Fouls — NCS 25, EHS 22. Fouled out — Fitzpatrick, Melton (NCS), Swaggart (EHS).									

STANFIELD 54, PILOT ROCK 49 (OT) — At Stanfield, the Tigers (9-11, 4-4 CBC) closed a 10-point gap in the fourth quarter and then held Pilot Rock to one point in overtime for a thrilling Columbia Basin Conference upset on Friday.

Yazzmin Chavez led Stanfield with 15 points and Bailey Watson added 12.

Bekah Roe led Pilot Rock (10-6, 6-1) with 15 points and Madison Dave chipped in 14.

STANFIELD 54, PILOT ROCK 49									
PRHS (10-6)	17	7	14	10	1	—	49		
SHS (9-11)	3	16	9	20	6	—	54		
STANFIELD — Yazzmin Chavez 15, B. Watson 12, C. Curiel 9, M. Griffin 4, N. Esquivel 4, G. Chavez 4, B. Braithwaite 2, C. Connell 2, C. Hopper 2, M. Banderas.									
PILOT ROCK — Bekah Roe 15, M. Dave 14, B. Weinke 8, T. Ostrom 5, J. Wilson 5, K. Deist 2, S. Weinke.									
3-point field goals — SHS 2, PRHS 3. Free throws — SHS 16-32, PRHS 8-21. Fouls — SHS 14, PRHS 23. Fouled out — none.									

POWDER VALLEY 46, HELIX 25 — At Helix, a good defensive effort was spoiled by inconsistency on the offensive end of the floor by the Grizzlies (8-11, 3-6 OOL) on Friday in Old Oregon League action.

Savannah Stephens led all scores with 14 points for the Badgers (11-8, 7-3), which led 29-10 at halftime.

Mounties extend streaks