

BOARDMAN

Football coach resigns after altercation with player

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**
East Oregonian

Riverside High School assistant football coach Neil Livingston has resigned following an altercation Oct. 12 with a student athlete.

Livingston, who was in his third year coaching at the school, reportedly knocked a 17-year-old player to the ground during practice, according to witnesses. However, Livingston said the incident happened after he put up his hands to avoid being hit from behind while standing on the field during a play.

Livingston was not charged with a crime, but had been placed on leave while the school district conducted its own investigation.

Morrow County Superintendent Dirk Dirksen did not comment on the district's investigation. Livingston said he just wants to put the situation behind him.

"In the end, I just felt this was the best decision for me," he said.

Riverside's football season came to an end Friday with a double-overtime win over Nyssa. Dirksen said the assistant coach's position will be advertised.

Prep Roundup

TigerScots win, set up rematch with Culver

Ione volleyball, Mac-Hi boys soccer also advance with playoff victories

East Oregonian

REEDSPORT — The Weston-McEwen TigerScots kept their season alive on Saturday, advancing in the OSAA state playoffs following a 3-0 win over Reedsport.

The No. 10 seed TigerScots (22-9) won with scores of 25-18 and 26-24 before blowing out the No. 7 seed Braves (14-11) in the third set 25-8 to clinch the victory.

In that second set, the TigerScots actually trailed 23-17 before staging a big comeback to take the set and gain momentum into the third set.

"This team is special because they just keep playing," said TigerScots coach Shawn White. "They stayed focused and made play after play to get back in and win it."

The TigerScots then fed off of that momentum to blow out Reedsport in the third set.

"We quit making errors," said White. "We came back and got the momentum shift and quit giving away points to the other team."

Weston-McEwen's offensive

attack was very balanced in the match, as four players registered at least five kills. Sarah Finifrock led the team with nine kills and two aces and Sara von Borstel wasn't far behind with seven kills and also nine digs.

Elsewhere, Ali Schroeder contributed 24 assists, seven digs and three aces, Alyssa Finifrock smacked six kills and recorded seven blocks, and Mati Aby earned five aces and 15 digs.

Next up for the TigerScots is a very familiar opponent, as they will play Columbia Basin Conference foe Culver on Thursday at 10 a.m. at Ridgeview High School in Redmond in the quarterfinals of the OSAA tournament.

Weston-McEwen played Culver twice during the regular season — losing both matches 3-0.

"They've got a very experienced and talented team, and we've always been trying to catch up," said White. "Another four days of practice to get better, we just need to execute when we get out on the court."

Volleyball

IONE 3, ELKTON 0 — At Ione, the No. 7 seed Ione Cardinals defeated the No. 10 seed Elkton Elks in three sets on Saturday.

The Cardinals (21-6) won in pretty convincing fashion, putting

away the Elks (19-7) with scores of 25-16, 25-19 and 25-7.

"Their intensity was great as a team from start to finish," said Ione coach Brandi Orem.

Rachel Holland led the Cardinals on offense with 13 kills and seven blocks, while Jessie Flynn added six kills and two blocks of her own.

Orem said amidst the offensive power, her teams' consistency from the serving line was a big key to their victory. The Cardinals were successful on 69 of 72 serve attempts for a 96 percent success rate.

The win advances Ione into the Quarterfinals of the state playoffs, where they will next face the No. 2 seeded North Douglas Warriors (22-6) on Thursday. North Douglas defeated its opponent No. 15 seed Lowell 3-0 as well on Saturday.

The game will be played at Ridgeview high school in Redmond and is slated to start at 3:15 p.m.

CRANE 3, HELIX 2 — At Crane, the No. 11 Helix Grizzlies gave everything they had but could not overtake the No. 6 Crane (18-5) losing 3-2.

Helix (19-6) won the first out of the gates 25-22, but Crane (18-5) fought back to take the next two sets 25-17 and 25-23. The Grizzlies came back in the fourth set

to win again 25-22, before Crane took the decisive fifth set in a close 15-12 fashion.

No details were reported.

The Grizzlies' season ends with a 19-6 overall record and second place finish in the Old Oregon League behind Powder Valley with a 10-2 record.

Boys Soccer

MAC-HI 1, PHOENIX 0 — At Milton-Freewater, the Mac-Hi Pioneers defeated Phoenix 1-0 in an OSAA state play-in game on Saturday.

Eighty minutes of regulation and two overtime periods were not enough to decide a winner, as the Pioneers earned the victory with a 5-4 advantage in penalty kicks.

No details were reported.

The No. 15 seed Mac-Hi (6-6-2) will advance into the first round of the OSAA state playoffs and will next play on Tuesday when they travel to No. 2 seed Sisters.

Girls Soccer

BANKS 2, MAC-HI 1 — At Milton-Freewater, the Mac-Hi Pioneers fell to the Banks Braves 2-1 in an OSAA state play-in game.

No details were reported.

The Pioneers end their season with a 8-3-3 overall record and a second place finish in the Greater Oregon League.

HERMISTON

Hermiston girls silenced by Putnam, end season with confounding performance

By **ERIC SINGER**
East Oregonian

It just wasn't Hermiston's day.

That's what Bulldogs' coach Danielle Turner reiterated several times, fighting back a few tears, following the Hermiston Bulldogs' 1-0 state play-in loss to the Putnam Kingsmen on a soggy Saturday afternoon.

"I honestly thought we would come out with a little more intensity than we did," said a somber Turner. "We've kind of been on a high the last two games. Came out and shut out Hood River, put

Pendleton away, etc. I don't know what it was, just not our day I guess."

On paper, Hermiston (4-7-6, 4-1-1 CRC) appeared to have the advantage in the game as Putnam held a 2-7-5 overall record coming into the game — but one of those ties came to the same Hermiston team back in Sept. 19.

But amongst that familiarity for either team played a real factor in the game.

"There was a couple players we knew that were pretty good for them, but each team is different every day regardless how many times

you play them," she said. "I told the girls that yeah we understand their strengths and weaknesses, but if we play our game, we're tough. Unfortunately I don't think we were on our best game today."

Just like the first game, the Bulldogs were held in check for the majority of the game by the stingy Putnam defense and Hermiston was limited to very few legitimate scoring opportunities.

Perhaps Hermiston's best

Soccer

Putnam
1

Hermiston
0

scoring chance came with 15 minutes left in the game when Lesley Risueno drilled a free kick from about 30 yards out towards the net, but it sailed just high of the goal.

"We just weren't on offensively," said Turner. "We weren't finding our combinations. When Hannah (Thompson) and our midfielders are working together and (Hannah's) on, it's pretty hard to stop. But like I said it was just an off day and unfortunately it

came at the wrong time."

The two teams played through the first 40 minutes at a stalemate, as rain fell intermittently throughout the half.

Then Putnam finally broke the 0-0 deadlock less than nine minutes into the second half, when Maleah Maier camped in front of the net and buried a header over top of Hermiston goalkeeper Kilie Harrison off of a perfect pass from the right corner for the 1-0 lead.

As much trouble as Hermiston had getting the offense going, its defense played a pretty solid game — save for the only goal against.

Goalkeeper Kilie Harrison made some key stops and the rest of Hermiston's back line were positioned well enough to keep the game close for all eighty minutes.

That unit's performance was the one positive that Turner and the Bulldog coaches took away from the game.

"Once again our defense stepped up for us, and they have all season," said Turner. "We have that core group all coming back next season so that'll be good for us."


The loss ends the season for the Bulldogs with a second-straight early exit in the postseason.



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