

EAST OREGONIAN

SPORTS

WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 20-21, 2016



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1B



Staff photo by E.J. Harris
Hermiston's Maddy Juul fights for a rebound contested by Hood River's Marlie Bloomster and Kassidy Davidson (20) in the Bulldogs' 87-38 win against the Eagles on Friday in Hermiston.

HERMISTON

Dawgs lead rout with D

Strong first-quarter defense again lifts Hermiston

By SAM BARBEE
East Oregonian

Kynzee Padilla doesn't usually score the most points, and her contributions to the Hermiston girls basketball team largely go unnoticed.

Girls Hoops



Hood River
38



Hermiston
87

But the junior forward is crucial to the Bulldogs' success, as was the case in Friday's 87-38 win over the Hood River Valley Eagles in the penultimate Columbia River Conference game of the season. Friday's win was Hermiston's

fourth straight by 40 points or more. Padilla only scored two points, but her work on the glass and on the defensive end Friday night — and the season as a whole — have been a very important part of Hermiston's sixth straight CRC title.

"Kynzee Padilla has probably had seven of her best games in our last seven," Hermiston coach Steve Hoffert said. "If you watch her defensively, she's been a very solid person for our last seven

See DAWGS/4B

State Swimming

Bucks advance four finals

Two relays, two individual races set up for exciting championships

East Oregonian

GRESHAM — The Pendleton Buckaroos boys swim team kept rolling right along on Friday afternoon with strong showings at the OSAA 5A State Championship Prelims.

The Buckaroos earned trips to the state finals on Saturday with their 200-yard medley relay team and 200 freestyle relay team, as well as junior Jon Jennings earning a trip to the finals in both the 50- and 100-yard freestyle races.

Jennings — who is also on both relay teams — finished in first place in both freestyle prelims, with times of 21.80 in the 50 and 48.18 in the 100.

The medley relay team of Jennings, Dylan Clemons, T.J. O'Hanlon, and Lukas Johnson finished in fifth place with a time of 1:45.29

See SWIMMING/4B

District Wrestling

Hermiston dominating District 4 brackets

Pendleton in 7th after first day

By SAM BARBEE
East Oregonian

BEND — The Hermiston wrestling team took 26 guys to Bend for the district tournament, and 22 of them are still alive.

As a team, the Bulldogs (210 points) lead the 5A Special District 4 tournament by 37.5 points over second place Redmond (172.5). Bend is a distant third with 122 points. Pendleton is in seventh with 65 points, just half a point behind Summit.

Top-ranked 195-pounder Sam Colbray got a bye in his first round and earned a pin in his second match to ease into the semis. He joins 14 other Bulldogs in the semifinals. Hermiston is doubling up at five weight classes, and have guys in both semifinals in those five classes.

At 106 pounds, Robert Rodriguez and Isaiah Aguilar both won twice Friday and are in the semis. Devin

See WRESTLING/3B

PENDLETON

Buckaroos repeat in CRC

Pendleton beats The Dalles to earn league crown

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

For the second year in a row, the Pendleton Buckaroos are Columbia River Conference champions.

Pendleton dominated league foe The Dalles 88-43 on Friday night to officially clinch the league championship, something that first-year coach Kyle Tedder has been dreaming about since the day practices began.

"It's unbelievable," he said with a beaming smile, "but I'm more happy for these kids than anything. They've put in their time and scored all the points, not me, and I'm just proud to be a part of it."

Pendleton (14-7, 7-1 CRC) breezed through most of the conference to reach the point behind its trio of Caden Smith, Daniel Adams and James Bradt, who have led the Bucks offensive charge. Friday night's game was no different as the trio combined for 62 of the Bucks' 88 points.

Bradt — one of the seven seniors honored before the game — led the way with 24 points and 13 rebounds. He was labeled by Tedder as 'Mr. Dependable' before the season, and his performance in the game and all season showed why.

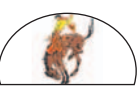
"He works his butt off and he is our rock and tonight to see it all come to fruition, I'm so proud of him," Tedder said. "He had a career night and I'm so happy for him, he

See BUCKAROOS/3B

Boys Hoops



The Dalles
43



Pendleton
83



James Bradt (24), of Pendleton, is fouled by The Dalles' Bryce Belanger (5) during Friday's Columbia River Conference game at Warberg Court.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

PENDLETON

Finals match-ups set in CBC

Heppner to meet Irrigon in boys title game, Weston-McEwen to go against Irrigon in girls

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

The Heppner boys basketball team secured its seat in the state playoffs on Friday.

If the Mustangs continue to play like they did in dispatching Weston-McEwen 59-30, they won't be giving it up anytime soon.

On a day when senior post Patrick Collins was fifth on the team in scoring, Heppner displayed the type of depth that will make it a force at the state level.

C.J. Kindle had 14 of his game-high 21 points in the first half and his drive with 3:09 left in the second quarter pushed Heppner's lead to double digits, where it would remain the rest of the game.

Kevin Murray and Weston Putman added baskets as Heppner (19-3) closed the first half on a 7-0 run, with Putman's coming after an offensive rebound with

two seconds left to make it 32-17.

"We've got a lot of athletes around the floor and a lot of teams focus on Patrick inside," said Heppner coach Jeremy Rosenbalm. "So that opens things up for everybody else and we're able to attack with a number of different guys. If we can play like that then we're going to be tough."

Putman finished with a double-double with 10 points and 11 rebounds, and Logan Grieb added 14 points. The Mustangs shot 20-48 (41.7 percent) from the field.

Collins played just five minutes in the first half despite having just two fouls, and was limited to three points and two rebounds in 16 total minutes.

Weston-McEwen (10-12) coach Brian Pickard said if you'd read him that stat line before the game he'd be expecting to coach in today's championship.

"That's what we wanted to have happen, that's the guy we were worried about because the first time we played he had 27 (points) and 15 (rebounds) or something like that against us,"

he said. "We were going to try to go at him and get him in foul trouble. And even though he got in foul trouble and didn't play, we just couldn't keep their guards

See CBC/2B



Staff photo by E.J. Harris
Heppner's Weston Putman goes up for a rebound against Weston-McEwen's Jimmy Patrick (15) and Ethan Reger in the Mustangs' 59-30 win against the TigerScots on Friday in Pendleton.

Boys Hoops



WMHS
30



Heppner
59