

Prep Basketball

Umatilla girls beat Nyssa, win district title

East Oregonian

UMATILLA — With a 17-point win over Nyssa Friday night, the Umatilla girls basketball team are district champions.

Despite having no scorers in double figures and only shooting 37 percent from the field, Umatilla beat the Nyssa Bulldogs 38-21 in Umatilla to claim the district championship.

The win — which avenges Umatilla’s last loss — a 50-37 decision in Nyssa Jan. 30 — gives the Vikings its 20th win of the season, is the Vikings’ fourth straight win and 11 in their last 12 games.

Judy Contreras led the Vikings (20-5, 8-1) with eight points, and Aleesha Watson grabbed five rebounded to go with her six points. Brenda Campos and Courtney Dohman each had four blocks, and Campos added three steals.

After the first quarter ended tied at 5-5, Umatilla scored 17 second-quarter points and held Nyssa to five, taking a 12-point lead it would never relent.

Umatilla is ranked eighth as of 9:30 p.m. Friday night.

NHS (17-9, 6-3)	5	5	2	9	—	21
UHS (20-5, 8-1)	5	17	8	8	—	38
NYSSA — M. Mitchell 6, C. Lancaster 4, B. Arrendondo 3, K. Hernandez 3, S. Hartley 2, S. Phillips 2, R. Hartley 1, B. Ramirez, O. Olivera, A. Trujillo, J. Martinez.						
UMATILLA — J. Contreras 8, S. Webb 7, A. Watson 6, C. Dohman 6, M. Paz 4,						

B. Campos 4, T. Coffey 3, J. Journot, G. Lemus.
3-pointers — NHS 1, UHS 0. Free throws — NHS 4-10, UHS 10-18. Fouls — NHS 17, UHS 15.

CONDON/WHEELER 49, HORIZON CHRISTIAN 28 — At Madras, behind another great performance from guard Emma Logan, the Knights took off in the second half and poured in 33 points to pull away from the Hawks in the district semifinals.

Logan led the way with 31 points and 20 rebounds, and the Knights (23-2) outrebounded the Hawks 50-29.

Brooke Dyer added eight points and Annika Rietmann chipped in six points and six rebounds before leaving in the third quarter with what coach Kevin Gramson classified as a minor injury.

He said the Horizon Christian (12-13) zone gave the Knights issues in the first half, but wasn’t the only reason for their slow start.

“There was also a case of some nerves,” said Condon-Wheeler coach Kevin Gramson. “We rushed some shots and missed a few short shots that normally would have fallen.”

The win guaranteed the Knights a spot in the state playoffs, and they could earn a first-round bye if they can repeat as the district champions. The Knights play Ione at 3 p.m. today.

HC (12-13) 2 4 13 9 — 28
C/W (23-2) 9 7 19 14 — 49
HORIZON CHRISTIAN — K. Wenz 10, P. Finn 7, C. Carter 6, J. Hicks 3, S. Hawk 2, H. Beemel, B. Renner, J. Marx.
CONDON/WHEELER — E. Logan 31, B. Dyer 8, A. Rietmann 6, A. Carnine 4, K. Reser, A. Terland, B. Jaeger, J. Homer, A. Ramsey, L. Aamodt.
3-pointers — HC 0, C/W 2. Free throws — HC 6-8, C/W 7-12. Fouls — HC 9, C/W 8.

NIXYAAWII 43, ECHO 40 — At Baker, the Nixy-aawii Golden Eagles used a big second half charge to fend off an upset attempt by the Echo Cougars in an Old Oregon League district semifinal game on Friday.

Echo (13-13) started the first half quick, grabbing a 21-13 lead on the Golden Eagles at halftime. However, Nixyaawii made some second half adjustments to get its offense going in the second half to eventually grab the win.

“Echo played really, really well,” said Nixyaawii coach Jeremy Maddern. “We were very fortunate to be able to pull this one out in the end.”

After shooting just 6-21 (28 percent) in the first half, Nixyaawii shot 11-25 (44 percent) in the second half, including a big 6-11 in the fourth quarter. Mary Stewart led Nixyaawii with 24 points on 10-18 shooting, while adding five rebounds, and Desiree Maddern finished with 13 points on 5-8 shooting.

Echo was led in scoring by Hannah McCarty with

13 points and added nine rebounds, while Erika Parks had 12 points and Kelsey Ranger had 10 points.

Nixyaawii advances to play North Powder today at 6:30 p.m. in Baker for the district championship.

EHS (13-13) 10 11 5 14 — 40
NCS (22-2) 4 9 11 19 — 43
ECHO — H. McCarty 13, E. Parks 12, K. Ranger 10, T. Swaggart 3, D. Tarvin 2, L. Cox.

NIXYAAWII — M. Stewart 24, D. Maddern 13, S. Fitzpatrick 2, S. Fuentes 2, K. Melton 2, T. Oatman, A. Farrow, E. Looney.
3-pointers — EHS 2, NCS 1. Free throws — EHS 10-18, NCS 8-10. Fouls — EHS 15, NCS 18. Fouled out — S. Fuentes (NCS).

IONE 47, ARLINGTON 33 — At Madras, the Ione Cardinals advanced to the Big Sky League district championship game with a win over Arlington on Friday afternoon.

No details were reported. Ione (15-8) will play Condon/Wheeler today at 3 p.m. in Madras.

POWDER VALLEY 37, HELIX 31 — At Baker, the Helix Grizzlies came up short in its district semifinal game against Powder Valley on Friday night.

No details were reported. Helix (16-9) will now play Echo tomorrow at 1 p.m. in Baker for third-place.

Boys Basketball

NYSSA 56, RIVERSIDE 40 — At Nyssa, the Pirates were surprised to find out Friday’s game time had been

moved up an hour from what they’d grown accustomed to this season and showed up just before the start of the Eastern Oregon League championship.

The hurried pregame routine didn’t appear to get the Pirates ready and Nyssa jumped out to a 20-9 lead after one quarter.

“That hurt a little bit because we played horrible in the first quarter,” said Riverside coach and athletic director Claire Costello.

Costello said things didn’t get better until after halftime, when the Pirates (11-12) actually outscored the Bulldogs (15-10) 22-19.

“We played so soft in the first half, and we’ve got to stop doing that,” Costello said.

Felipe Olvera did most of his scoring in the second half and finished with 14 to lead Riverside. Eon Castillo added 11 points and nine rebounds.

Andres Gonzalez led Nyssa with 18 points.

The Pirates will still have a state playoff game and will be on the road in the first round next weekend.

RHS (11-12) 9 9 11 11 — 40	NHS (15-10) 20 18 13 6 — 56
RIVERSIDE — F. Olvera 14, E. Castillo 11, M. Hegar 6, S. Navarro 4, R. Rosales 3, J. Carmona 2, N. Madrigal, D. Rodriguez, J. Garcia, F. Aparicio, A. Martinez.	NYSSA — A. Gonzalez 18, J. Simpson 12, A. Chavez 10, J. Fuentes 9, T. Coble 3, B. Thompson 2, R. Melendez 2.
3-pointers — RHS 4, NHS 5. Free throws — RHS 4-9, NHS 1-5. Fouls — RHS 7, NHS 11.	

CBC: Rambo, Vera lead Irrigon back to defend boys’ title

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from penetrating.” Pickard said it was frustrating because it was something they’d worked on all week in practice.

“You’ve got to give (Heppner) credit, they came out ready to play and took it to us,” he said. “They were way more physical than we were and I think that showed. They were the aggressors and a we just kind of sat back and took it.”

The Mustangs were the aggressors on the defensive end of the floor as well, and held the TigerScots to 13-of-46 (28.3 percent) shooting.

Rosenbalm said the game plan coming in was to limit TigerScots junior Shaw Broncheau, who scored 16 points when Weston-McEwen beat Heppner 53-51 on Feb. 5.

With Caden Hedman and Kaden Clark providing defensive cover, Broncheau was held to four points on 1-of-5 shooting, although he did lead the TigerScots with five assists.

“Before I even got into the locker room after the game the team was congratulating those two because they know that Caden and Kaden were huge defensively for us,” Rosenbalm said.

“They stopped him pretty well,” said Kindle. “That was our main focus, to keep him out of the lane and they did an excellent job tonight.”

Every Mustang could be proud of their defensive effort, too, after holding the TigerScots to 21.7 percent shooting in the second half and allowing no more than six points to any player.

“Our main focus was defense this week,” Kindle said. “Every day we were doing almost all defensive drills just to get prepared for this moment.”

“They took it to another level tonight,” Rosenbalm said. “That’s what I’ve been pushing for, what I’ve been hounding them for. Because I know we can play like this but we haven’t yet this year. Tonight they took it to another level defensively, really that’s where the difference was.”

Kindle said he expects it to take a repeat performance to get past Irrigon in the today’s championship at 4 p.m. at Pendleton Convention Center. “It starts at tip-off. We’ve got to be prepared to go out and play a good defensive battle,” he said. “Any good team is going to win on the defensive side so we’ve got to focus up for (Saturday).”

W-M (10-12) 10 7 5 8 — 30	HHS (19-3) 17 15 11 16 — 59
WESTON-MCEWEN — E. Reger 6, J. Patrick 6, B. Speed 6, K. Scott 4, S. Broncheau 4, A. Finifrock 2, S. Mikesell 2, K. Rodriguez, P. Munk, X. Bailey, J. Speed, J. West. (13-46)	HEPPNER — C. Kindle 21, L. Grieb 14, W. Putman 10, C. Hedman 7, P. Collins 3, K. Clark 2, K. Murray 2, K. Currin, J. Lindsey, K. Smith, W. Steagall. (20-48)



Heppner’s C.J. Kindle shoots the ball over Weston-McEwen’s Shaw Broncheau in the Mustangs’ 59-30 win against the TigerScots on Friday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris



Heppner’s Caden Hedman drives past Weston-McEwen’s Brett Speed in the Mustangs’ 59-30 win against the TigerScots on Friday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

kids battled hard inside and they played like they wanted it more.”

Irrigon advances to play Heppner today at 4 p.m. at the Pendleton Convention Center for the conference title. The two teams split the regular season series, and Thompson says they will have to be on their best if they want to win.

“We have to do our best of controlling the game and the tempo,” he said. “(Heppner coach) Jeremy Rosenbalm is the coach of the year and will have something up his sleeve so we have to be ready.”

IHS (17-6) 19 9 12 14 — 54	SHS (16-6) 9 8 6 13 — 36
IRRIGON — X. Rambo 17, F. Vera 14, H. White 11, D. Vera 9, A. Rice 2, O. Vera 1.	STANFIELD — T. Monkus 11, D. Grogan 9, B. Woods 6, A. Flores 5, R. Bailey 5.
3-pointers — IHS 0, SHS 2. Free throws — IHS 16-19, SHS 12-15. Fouls — IHS 14, SHS 15. Fouled out — H. White (IHS).	

Girls Basketball

WESTON-MCEWEN 56, STANFIELD 33 — At Pendleton, the TigerScots opened the third quarter on an 11-1 run to seal their semifinals win over the Tigers on Friday.

The lead reached 27 points at its largest, which allowed the TigerScots (15-8) to breath easy when Stanfield (10-13) started hitting its three-pointers in the fourth quarter.

“Tuesday when I watched

Stanfield play, they came out at halftime and they took it right to Culver,” said TigerScots coach Amber Doremus. “We knew they had that energy after half and we wanted to make sure they didn’t get on a role right away, to make sure our energy was higher than theirs coming back out, and I think the girls did a great job of making that happen.”

Chelsea Quaempts had a double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds, and added five assists, to lead the TigerScots. Ammarae Broncheau chipped in 15 points and five steals.

The TigerScots harassed the Tigers into 18 first-half turnovers and jumped out to a 16-4 lead after one quarter in their third meeting of the season.

“We knew it’s really hard to beat a team three times so we just wanted to come out the hardest first, and we wanted to give the first hit out, and we did,” Broncheau said.

Neither team shot particularly well, with Weston-McEwen a tick better than Stanfield at 37.9 percent (22-58), but the TigerScots attempted 24 more shots than the Tigers thanks to superb offensive rebounding.

Weston-McEwen grabbed 23 offensive boards while outrebounding Stanfield 38-28.

“We started keeping stats on it and then we just quit because it was getting so bad,” said Stanfield coach Daniel Sharp. “They did a good job crashing the glass and we didn’t rebound well.”

“We need more chances than one, so it’s good that they work hard for those extra chances, and then go up strong with them,” Doremus said.

Sarah Finifrock added eight points and seven rebounds for the TigerScots, and Alyssa Finifrock grabbed all four of her rebounds on offense.

Yazzmin Chavez led Stanfield with 19 points but scored 11 in the fourth quarter when the game was out of reach. Brittin Braithwaite added seven points and five rebounds.

Last year’s district runner-up, the TigerScots are back in the district cham-

NIXYAAWII 66, ECHO 42 — At Baker, the Nixy-aawii Golden Eagles breezed its way into the Old Oregon League championship game with a win over Echo on Friday night.

The Golden Eagles (23-1) came at the Cougars with a balanced scoring attack as four players reached double figures in the game, as Hunter Melton finished with 16 points, Fredy Campos 15 points, Ira Ashley 14 points, and Hunter McKay 12 points.

With that attack, Nixy-aawii shot 31 percent (20-64) from the floor in the game and knocked in 11 3-pointers. Ashley was the teams’ leading rebounder with nine boards.

Echo (9-16) could not keep pace with the Golden Eagles’ offense, shooting 17-50 (34 percent) from the floor, and made four 3-pointers. The Cougars finished with 43 total rebounds, led by Michael Thompson with 12, while Christian Caldera finished with nine.

Nixyaawii will now play Joseph today at 8 p.m. in Baker.

EHS (9-16) 9 14 8 11 — 42	NCS (23-1) 12 29 14 11 — 66
ECHO — C. Chavez 9, T. Mulder 9, M. Thompson 6, C. Medrano 5, C. Caldera 4, D. Craig 3, B. Moffitt 3, Z. Gerkhe 2, H. Gerkhe 1, J. Dorn, N. Scott, B. Gibbs.	NIXYAAWII — H. Melton 16, F. Campos 15, I. Ashley 14, H. McKay 12, J. Quaempts 7, D. Barkley 2, W. Oatman, L. Lewis, T. Bushman, C. Case.
3-pointers — EHS 4, NCS 11. Free throws — EHS 4-11, NCS 15-23. Fouls — EHS 18, NCS 13.	

pionship today at 5:45 p.m. against Irrigon.

“We didn’t play too well last year so we want to make it up and we want to come out hard,” Broncheau said. “Just keep working like we have been and just keep the success going.”

W-M (15-8) 16 15 13 12 — 56	SHS (10-13) 4 10 3 16 — 33
WESTON-MCEWEN — A. Broncheau 15, C. Quaempts 15, A. Hill 10, S. Finifrock 8, A. Finifrock 5, B. Hillmick 2, J. Lambert 1, M. Mullenburg, S. von Borstel, A. Schroeder, M. Aby, K. Vescio. (22-58)	STANFIELD — Y. Chavez 19, B. Braithwaite 7, M. Banderas 4, C. Curiel 2, N. Esquivel 1, G. Chavez, B. Watson, A. Lemmon, M. Griffith, A. Carrillo, C. Hopper. (12-34)
3-pointers — W-M 3-8, SHS 5-13. Free throws — W-M 9-20, SHS 4-15. Fouls — W-M 14, SHS 18.	

IRRIGON 35, PILOT ROCK 30 — At Pendleton, the Irrigon Knights upset the Pilot Rock Rockets on Friday night in a CBC semifinal match-up.

Irrigon coach Mike Royer said that his team — who had lost to Pilot Rock by a combined three points in two previous games — came ready to play and he was not surprised with the outcome.

“We’ve played with (Pilot Rock) real close twice this season and the girls went in confident that they could win,” he said. “Both teams struggled offensively, but we played probably our best defensive fourth quarter of the season tonight.”

Jada Burns had a solid game for the Knights (10-12) with a team-high 14 points and adding in four assists, while Lilly Mills added 10 points. Taylor Davis had a solid game inside with six points, 10 rebounds, and two blocks.

Madison Dave led Pilot Rock (16-9) with 11 points and added seven rebounds.

Irrigon advances to play Weston-McEwen today at 5:45 p.m. at the Pendleton Convention Center.

IHS (10-12) 7 8 12 8 — 35	PRHS (16-9) 9 5 9 7 — 30
IRRIGON — J. Burns 14, L. Mills 10, T. Davis 6, B. Aguilera 3, N. Romero 2, A. Zacarias, K. McLoughlin, B. Rice.	PILOT ROCK — M. Dave 11, J. Wilson 7, R. Willingham 5, R. Oates 5, S. Weinke 2, B. Roe, K. Deist.
3-pointers — IHS 3, PRHS 1. Free throws — IHS 10-12, PRHS 5-7. Fouls — IHS 13, PRHS 14.	

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