

BULLDOGS: Riverhawks don't go quietly

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two RBI and five runs scored from her lead-off spot in the batting order.

“She was lights out (Saturday),” Greenough said. “You can’t ask for a better lead-off batter because nobody knows what she’s going to do. She has all the confidence in the world right now and is exceeding our expectations.”

Hinkley also caught all 14 innings as well for three different pitchers. Julissa Almaguer started on the hill in Game 1 and lasted six innings while allowing seven runs on nine hits with one strikeout to pick up the win.

“She was hitting her spots everywhere,” Hinkley said. “She was throwing good change-ups and getting ahead a lot.”

Breanna Naylor relieved Almaguer in the seventh inning and gave up one run on two hits, but was able to get a key strikeout with the tying run at the plate to end the game.

Senior Taylor Betz went the distance in Game 2, allowing nine hits and four runs with one strikeout.

In Game 1, The Dalles (11-5, 0-2) responded with



Hermiston's Julissa Almaguer delivers a pitch during the second inning of Hermiston's 10-8 win over The Dalles on Saturday in Hermiston.

Staff photo by Eric Singer

three runs between the second and third innings to tie the game at 3-3. But Hermiston's offense came back to score in the bottom of the third with back-to-back hits from Hinkley and Rebecca Engelbrecht to put runners on second and third base, and Mikayla Kopacz followed with a sacrifice fly to centerfield to score Hinkley and give the Bulldogs back a 4-3 lead — one they would never relinquish.

Hermiston eventually pushed its lead to the widest

margin at 9-3 before The Dalles took advantage of a tiring Almaguer on the mound in the sixth inning. The Riverhawks strung together six hits in the sixth — all singles — including three infield hits to push across four runs to cut the deficit to 9-7.

Hermiston added one more run in the sixth inning as Hinkley came around to score on a passed ball, narrowly evading the tag of the Riverhawks catcher to push the lead back to 10-7.

The Riverhawks threatened again in the seventh inning, adding one more run before the Bulldogs put the cap on the win.

In Game 2, Hermiston controlled the game for most of the way, opening up a 5-1 lead heading into the fifth inning. But once again, The Dalles put together three runs in its turn of the inning to cut the lead to 5-4 and put the Bulldogs on alert.

And as quickly as The Dalles came back, the Bulldogs again pulled away behind a two-run home run off the bat of Engelbrecht to pad the lead back to the final 7-4 score. Engelbrecht finished the day 4 for 8 with four runs scored and five RBI.

Hermiston hits the road today for a rematch at The Dalles with first pitch at 4:30 p.m.

Game 1									
TDS	021	004	1	—	8	11	4		
HHS	302	311	X	—	10	11	6		
M. Bradford and Helyer. Almaguer, Naylor (7), and Hinkley. W — Almaguer, L — M. Bradford.									
Game 2									
TDS	000	103	0	—	4	9	2		
HHS	401	002	X	—	7	10	2		
Watson and Helyer. Betz and Hinkley. W — Betz, L — Watson.									
2B — Watson, Weir (TDS). Jones (HHS). 3B — K. Bradford (TDS). HR — Engelbrecht (HHS).									

Hermiston's Tyler Sexton delivers a pitch during the third inning of Saturday's 2-0 win over The Dalles on Saturday in Hermiston.

Staff photo by Eric Singer



HERMISTON: Coach Hawkins pleased with resilience

Continued from 1B

Hermiston had great scoring opportunities in both the third and fourth innings, but were not able to cash in on either. In the third, Daniel Gossler ripped a one-out single past the third baseman and into left field and then stole both second and third base, but was left stranded when a strikeout and a groundout ended the inning.

Then in the fourth inning, Hayden Edmiston crushed a one-out triple deep into left field and was also stranded on a strikeout and then a groundout to end the inning.

The Dalles' (7-7, 1-1 CRC) offense was kept out of any real scoring chances

until the fifth inning, when it cranked out three straight hits to load the bases with two outs. However, Sexton was able to escape the jam by getting a strikeout with an off-speed pitch to end the jam.

Hermiston head coach Lance Hawkins said he was really happy to see the Bulldogs rebound in Game 2 to be able to earn the split.

“It’s so tough to come right back after a tough loss,” Hawkins said. “You see it all the time ... a team loses the first game in a tough fashion and then usually the second game results in a blowout, but there’s no letup in this team.”

In the first game, it was

The Dalles that came through with the clutch at-bats ripping two hits and drawing two walks all with two outs in the fifth inning. Hermiston starter R.J. Robles loaded the bases in that inning, and then his 1-1 pitch got a little too much of the plate and the Riverhawk’s Colin Noonan crushed it for a two-RBI single which proved to be the winning runs.

Robles, who was coming off of a perfect game in his last start, took the loss in the game as he clearly did not have his best stuff. The senior lefty walked eight batters, but also had 10 strikeouts. After the game, Hawkins said Robles was feeling a little under the

weather, which contributed to the inconsistent outing. Hermiston’s only hits in the game were a first-inning single off the bat of Chase Root and then an RBI double by Sexton in the fourth inning to give the Bulldogs a 1-0 lead.

Hermiston will hit the road today for a re-match at The Dalles with first pitch set for 4:30 p.m.

Game 1									
TDS	000	020	0	—	2	4	0		
HHS	000	100	0	—	1	2	0		
Ortega and Klint. Robles and Gritz. W — Ortega, L — Robles.									
Game 2									
TDS	000	000	0	—	0	7	1		
HHS	200	000	X	—	2	4	0		
Walker and Klint. Sexton and Gritz. W — Sexton, L — Walker.									
2B — Sexton (HHS). 3B — Edmiston (HHS).									

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