

SOFTBALL: Morrison tallies home runs No. 8 and No. 9 in Tuesday's games

Continued from 1B just enough."

Morrison led off Pendleton's final at-bat with a solo home run, her second of the game, and the Bucks followed with a two-out, four-hit rally to take the lead and win 8-6 at Rocky Heights Elementary.

Morrison finished the game 3 for 4 with a double to go with her two cannon blasts over the left field fence. She has nine home runs on the season, four shy of the Pendleton single season record.

"I really don't expect to hit home runs," she said. "I usually just go up there looking for solid contact and the last one I actually thought was just going to hit the fence. I wasn't really expecting that one to go out. I was just looking for a line drive, something I could get

on base and get to second, that way the person behind me could score me."

Morrison's teammates were up to the task had she been on base.

After Hermiston relief pitcher Taylor Betz induced a pair of outs, Rylee Gentner revived the rally with a double. She then scored on a single by Lauren Richards for the go-ahead run. Kiersten Murphy followed with a single, and Madison Parker hit one as well to drive in Richards.

"It was fun and I think it showed how our team can work together," Morrison said of the back-and-forth game. "And everyone in the lineup can hit, and field and do their part to make sure we get the win."

Pendleton (18-4, 7-2 CRC) took the game's first lead with one run in each

the first and second inning, but fielding errors and a few timely hits by Hermiston (13-10, 4-5) kept the lead from ballooning out of control like it had when the teams met last Friday in Pendleton.

The Bucks won those two games by a combined 25-2 tally, but Hermiston didn't fall behind by more than two runs Tuesday and jumped into the lead with a four-run third inning.

Richards, who started and pitched the complete game for Pendleton, picked up six of her nine strikeouts the first time through the Hermiston order. But when the lineup recycled in the third inning the Bulldogs finally got something going.

Jamie Hinkley bunted her way on with two outs, Rebecca Englebrecht was hit by a pitch, and Ellery

Jones smacked a double to bring in Hinkley. Mikayla Kopacz then followed with a three-run home run for a 4-2 lead.

"It was really nice to actually get some runs on the board," Kopacz said. "Coming back from Friday I think we definitely improved. ... I think we just came out and played ball and laid it all out on the field."

"This was Hermiston softball, the team that showed up today," Hermiston coach Kate Greenough said. "We didn't show up on Friday and we didn't play the way that we know how to play. (Tuesday) we did a great job and did the little things right. In the end it just wasn't quite enough, but I couldn't have asked the kids to work harder. They have a lot of fight and they didn't stop, and I appreciate that."

Pendleton chipped away at the lead with a run in the fourth, then went up 5-4 in the fifth with Morrison's first home run and a Gentner bloop single to score Ellie Richards, who had also reached on a single.

The Bulldogs came right back with two in the bottom of the fifth and Englebrecht scored on a Pendleton error to tie it 5-5, then Jones scored on a double steal to put Hermiston back in the lead.

"They're a team that never gives up, even if they're down a run or two," Cary said. "Even in Pendleton, when we were up by several runs, they came out with energy and emotion, and they weren't going to give up, and we knew they weren't going to give up (Tuesday)."

The Bulldogs nearly answered Pendleton in the

seventh as well, but Kopacz's deep shot to center with a runner on came up short as Morrison tracked it down about five feet in front of the wall.

"I was like, 'Shoot! Could have been it, but, oh well,'" Kopacz said.

"I was actually expecting her to hit one near the fence," Morrison said. "When I saw it I was just thinking look for the fence and do my best to get a glove on it and make sure it stays in the field."

The Bucks and Bulldogs have one more game left in their season series on May 14, and three games left in league play.

	PHS	HHS	110120	3	—	8	12	5
			004020	0	—	6	5	3
	L. Richards and R. Gentner. J. Almaguer, T. Betz (5), J. Almaguer (7) and J. Hinkley, W — Richards. L — Betz.							
	2B — A. Morrison, R. Gentner (PHS); E. Jones (HHS). HR — A. Morrison 2 (PHS); M. Kopacz (HHS).							

PREPS: HHS tennis wins

Continued from 1B

the game rested on his shoulders. And on the first pitch of the at-bat, West smacked a hard ground ball for a single to the left side of the infield, beating the throw as the go-ahead run scored from third. Hunter Sater closed out the win in the bottom of the inning.

The TigerScots (15-5, 6-1 SD7) had the benefit of a great start on the mound from Jimmy Patrick, striking out nine and allowing just two runs, six hits, and three walks over 5.2 innings. Sater pitched 1.1 no-hit, no-run innings with one strikeout for the win.

Next up for the TigerScots is a home doubleheader with Grant Union on Saturday with first-pitch set for 1 p.m.

	W-M	001100	1	—	3	7	4
	GUH	001010	0	—	2	6	1
	Patrick, Sater (6), Mckioa, Burch (5), W — Sater, L — Burch.						
	2B — Speed (W-M), Young (GUH).						

SHERMAN 5, HEPPNER 3 — At Heppner, the Mustangs tried to put together a late-inning rally but ultimately fell short of upsetting the Sherman Huskies on Tuesday afternoon.

Patrick Collins went a perfect 2-2 at the plate for the Mustangs (2-12, 1-6 SD6), helped by a solo home run he smashed in the fourth inning. C.J. Kindle went 3-4 with one run and one double from his lead-off spot in the Heppner lineup.

The Mustangs got two runs in the bottom of the seventh on a sacrifice fly from Jake Lindsay to score Kindle and then Wyatt Steagall reaching on a fielder's choice that scored Weston Putman before Tim Jaca was ruled out at second base to end the game.

Next up for Heppner is a doubleheader at Sherman on Saturday starting at 2 p.m.

	SHS	001400	0	—	5	6	2
	HHS <td>001000</td> <td>2</td> <th>—</th> <th>3</th> <th>8</th> <th>1</th>	001000	2	—	3	8	1
	Troutman, Putman, Litcher (4), W — Troutman, L — Putman.						
	2B — Winslow (SHS), Kindle (HHS), HR — Fields (SHS), Collins (HHS).						

MAC-HI 9, RIVERSIDE 3 — At Milton-Free-water, the Mac-Hi Pioneers put a halt to their six-game losing streak with a non-league win over the Riverside Pirates on Tuesday afternoon.

The Pioneers (4-13, 1-7 GOL) rode starting pitcher Bailey DeBord to the win, as DeBord struck out nine and allowed just one hit, three runs — all unearned — and three walks over seven innings.

Miguel Garcia led the Pioneers offense with two hits and two RBI, while Jesus Vela and Zach Crisman each added a hit and two RBI's apiece. Riverside's (1-17, 0-10 EOL) lone hit came from Derek Bingaman in the first inning.

	RHS	000003	0	—	3	1	5
	MHS <td>123201</td> <td>X</td> <th>—</th> <th>9</th> <th>6</th> <th>3</th>	123201	X	—	9	6	3
	Bingaman, Hegar (3), Sorensen (5), DeBord, W — DeBord, L — Bingaman.						
	3B — Hardesty (MHS).						

Tennis
PENDLETON 3, THE DALLES 3 — At Pendleton, the Pendleton Buckaroos boys tennis team played to a 3-3 tie with the Riverhawks, but earned the overall victory with a 8-6 victory in set wins. "The kids played pretty well," Pendleton coach Chris Holdman said. "The Dalles were down two players so we

were pretty evenly matched."

Pendleton won the top two singles matches as both Henry Holdman and Lincoln Johnson took easy wins, and then the third win in the No. 1 doubles with Silas Johnston and Peter Wallace.

Pendleton next heads to Hermiston on Friday for a 4 p.m. match.

	Singles	Henry Holdman (P) def. James Pashek 6-1, 6-1
		Lincoln Johnson (P) def. Ethan Martin 6-1, 6-2
		Joren Dexter (TD) def. Easton Phalen 3-6, 6-3, 11-9
		Stanton Schmitz (TD) def. Justin Eislund 6-2, 7-6
	Doubles	Silas Johnston/Peter Wallace def. Blake Kinelen/Devan Patel 6-0, 6-4
		Migal Vega/Kilian Strassheim def. Justin Sellers/Elton Harrison 2-6, 6-4, 10-7

HERMISTON 6, HOOD RIVER 2 — At Hood River, the Hermiston Bulldogs evened up the season match-up with the Hood River Eagles with a hard-fought win on Tuesday afternoon.

Hermiston's lone losses of the match came at the No. 3 and No. 4 singles matches, while they swept the doubles matches in some tough action.

The Bulldogs next face Pendleton at home on Friday, and can clinch the CRC title with a win over the Buckaroos with a 4 p.m. start.

	Singles	Jacob Snell (H) def. Ferrick 6-2, 6-3
		A. Prewitt (H) def. Shepherd 6-2, 6-4
		Sora (HR) def. V. Whitesell 6-3, 6-4
		Rodriguez (HR) def. Hayden Cissna 5-7, 7-6, 10-7
	Doubles	Cameron Meade/Race Latham (H) def. Humann/Bogard 6-3, 6-2
		Stefano Peiris/Skyler Grigg (H) def. Sandoval/Finstad 6-4, 4-6, 10-6
		Thomas McCullough/R. Wicks (H) def. Harter/Harter 6-2, 7-6
		Jose Sanchez/Matt Eckhardt (H) def. Harsawal/Rajani 6-7, 7-6, 10-7

HERMISTON 5, HOOD RIVER 3 — At Hermiston, the Bulldog girls tennis team earned a solid district victory over the Hood River Eagles on Tuesday afternoon.

The Bulldogs split the singles matches with Hood River as Hermiston's No. 1 player Katelyn Millard and No. 2 player Jaycee Ternes each earned close victories, before dropping the No. 3 and No. 4 matches. Hermiston then dominated in doubles action, picking up wins in the top three matches before dropping the fourth match.

Hermiston next plays at Pendleton on Friday afternoon at 4 p.m.

	Singles	Millard (H) def. Garrido 7-6, 4-6, 6-1
		Ternes (H) def. Newcombe 6-4, 6-3
		Paulus (HR) def. McAllister 6-3, 6-3
		Joseph (HR) def. Moore 6-4, 6-4
	Doubles	McMahon/Markwick (H) def. Sennes/Cambers 6-4, 6-0
		Peterson/Hill (H) def. Flores/Flores 6-1, 6-2
		Wadekamper/Middleton (H) def. Badillo/Olives 6-2, 6-4
		Oswald/Gree (HR) def. Stewart/Brecken 6-4, 6-2

WESTON-MCEWEN 6, HELIX 2, STANFIELD 1 — At Athena, the Weston-McEwen TigerScots dominated the competition against the Helix Grizzlies and Stanfield Tigers on Tuesday afternoon.

Weston-McEwen dropped only two matches on the day, in the No. 1 boys singles with Kellen Fairchild falling to Helix's Erik Jones, and then in the No. 1 boys doubles match.

	Boys Singles	Erik Jones (H) def. Kellen Fairchild (W) 8-3
		Robbie Davison (W) def. Allan Holden (H) 6-4
	Girls Singles	Emmaline Irvine (W) def. Mecaia Espey (H) 6-3
		Kyrista Calvert (W) def. Amanda Carillo (S) 6-1
		Hannah McIntyre (W) def. Natalie Cornejo (S) 7-6
		Lynne Roberts (H) def. Yakima Guzman (S) 9-7
	Boys Doubles	Froese/Shafter (W) def. Sanchez/Montes (S) 8-0
	Girls Doubles	Chavez/Chavez (S) def. Swafford/Bagdon (W) 8-1
		Kidd/Taylor (W) def. Rojas/Cornejo (S) 6-1

BASEBALL: Root throws complete game shutout

Continued from 1B

Hermiston's (13-8, 4-3 CRC) only run did not come until the sixth inning as the two teams were deadlocked in a pitchers duel through the first five-plus frames. Pendleton starter Wyatt Morris had allowed just two hits and one walk up to that point, but gave up a lead-off single to R.J. Robles to start the sixth.

Then after back-to-back outs, Sexton stepped to the plate with the go-ahead run at second base. Facing a 3-1 count, Sexton swung at a fastball and sent a flyball to centerfield where Pendleton's Kai Quinn appeared to have settled under it for the third out. However, Quinn had backtracked too far and the ball fell in for a hit, scoring Robles for the winning run.

"It's just one of those things ... (Kai) thought it was hit a bit harder than it

was," Pendleton coach T.J. Haguewood said of the play. "Then the wind just kind of killed it at the end. It was tough."

Hermiston coach Lance Hawkins said he was ecstatic once the ball fell in but wasn't surprised to see his team catch the break.

"When teams work hard it seems like good things happen, and the breaks just kind of fell our way today," he said. "That's the way baseball is, sometimes you're at the good end and sometimes you're at the bad end and I'll take the good end for today."

On the Bulldogs end of the pitching duel, Chase Root threw yet another quality start for the Bulldogs allowing just four hits, two walks and one hit-by-pitch to go with five strikeouts through seven innings.

"Honestly I didn't really have my best stuff today but

my defense is what won us that game," Root said. "We had a couple of errors but other than that they were solid and you can't ask for anything more than that."

Root stranded seven Buckaroo baserunners in the game and escaped a few jams along the way. Pendleton had a prime scoring opportunity in the fifth inning with runners on first-and-second with only one out but fell victim to some miscommunication on the basepaths that left them scoreless yet again.

Quinn had shot a laser hit into the right-centerfield gap that appeared to be deep enough to score a run, but Pendleton's Daniel Naughton got caught looking for the ball to fall in on second base, while Jack Peterson and Quinn were both running hard and trying to advance.

The late read for

Naughton forced Haguewood to hold him at third base and Peterson got caught between second and third as Quinn sprinted into second base for what he thought was a double. Peterson was tagged out, and then the Bucks threat ended on the very next batter on a fly out by Devon Roe.

Haguewood was frustrated with the way the inning turned out, saying it all goes back to preparation.

"We preach about pre-reads on where outfielders are playing, so it wasn't a very good execution on our part," Haguewood said.

Pendleton will host Hood River on Friday at 4:30 p.m., and Hermiston will travel to The Dalles for a 4:30 p.m. first pitch.

	PHS	000	000	0	—	0	4	0
	HHS <td>000 <td>001</td> <td>X</td> <th>—</th> <th>1</th> <th>4</th> <th>2</th> </td>	000 <td>001</td> <td>X</td> <th>—</th> <th>1</th> <th>4</th> <th>2</th>	001	X	—	1	4	2
	Morris and Cockburn. Root and Gritz. W — Root, L — Morris.							

BLAZERS: Portland outscored 34-12 in fourth quarter

Continued from 1B The champions erased an early 17-point deficit.

Damian Lillard's 3 to beat the third-quarter buzzer put Portland ahead 87-76 entering the final 12 minutes — Golden State's largest deficit going into the fourth all playoffs.

For most of the night, the energized Blazers did everything the defending champions typically do on their impenetrable home court: making the zippy pass, setting the tone on the defensive end, crashing the

boards, answering any threat with a big basket.

Lillard had 25 points and six assists, and CJ McCollum added 22 points as Portland hit 13 3-pointers.

Shaun Livingston scored 14 points for his fifth double-digit performance during these playoffs filling in for Curry. Little-used Festus Ezeli contributed eight points and six rebounds down the stretch.

Thompson, coming off a career playoff-high 37 points in Sunday's 118-106 Game 1 win, shot 7 for 20 with five

3-pointers. Iguodala made all five of his first-half shots for 11 of his 15 points to go with five rebounds and four assists, helping Golden State get back within 59-51 at the break.

Ezeli's alley-oop dunk with 10:11 to play pulled the Warriors within 87-82 and he scored again as Golden State stayed within 91-84. Green stuffed Mason Plumlee in the closing minutes before an emphatic two-handed slam moments later.

The Blazers switched up defenders to swarm Thompson, from Allen

Crabbe to Al-Farouq Aminu.

Portland made the extra pass and drove for three first-quarter dunks, all in the final 4:34. The Blazers shot 66.7 percent to take a 34-21 lead — quite the opposite of when they trailed 37-17 after the first period two days earlier in a 118-106 loss.

Blazers coach Terry Stotts called for a better start against the defending champions after falling behind 37-17 after the opening period Game 1, and the Blazers thoroughly dominated the first half.

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