

T-WOLVES: Feel like win can spark hot streak

Continued from 1B

T-Wolves (12-11, 1-1 East) from their funk was by putting players out of position. The Chukars (7-10, 0-3 East) and their roster of 10 freshmen and just three sophomores represented a perfect chance to do that.

“This may sound ironic, but it was moving players out of their traditional position that made them have a little bit more focus and a little bit more energy, and just kind of being moved out of position in of itself was enough of a change,” Humphreys said.

“People are doing things they’re definitely not used to, and people are stepping up,” said sophomore libero Bailey Tillotson. “We tried a lot of different things tonight ... so it was good to mix it up, get it going again.”

Dominant nights have come far less frequently for the team than in seasons past, and when North Idaho ran them out of the gym with scores of 25-23, 25-15, 25-12 on Monday, it marked the latest in the season a Baty-coached squad had been at or below the .500 mark.

Since he took over the program in 2009, they’ve only had 11 or more losses twice — this season and 2011 when they went 29-13. The T-Wolves didn’t pick up their 11th loss of that season until Nov. 4.

Tillotson said it’s been a rockier start to the year than they expected, but things seem to be smoothing out.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Jordan Mix, of BMCC, plays the net Wednesday in McCrea Activity Center against the Treasure Valley CC Chukars.

“It’s definitely confusing at times of course, because we’ve tried so many different things, but I think it’s working well,” she said. “Of course, especially

us sophomores have some frustration about it because we know how well we can play, and we all know how good we can be, it’s just a matter of the little things,



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Miah Perez, of BMCC, smashes the ball through the raised arms of Treasure Valley’s Kelsi Wilson (13) Wednesday in McCrea Activity Center.

mental game, all of that. We’re learning, slowly but surely.”

Buckner said Wednesday’s performance is a good one to build on.

“We have definitely had our ups and downs but I think through our downs we’ve learned a lot,” she said, “and so we’re finally starting to figure things out and hopefully tonight was one of those things that we just take it and run with it for the rest of the season.”

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MARINERS:

Continued from 1B

prevented the go-ahead run from scoring in the 10th with a diving grab of Kevin Pillar’s one-out liner with a runner on third.

The Blue Jays escaped a bases-loaded jam in the 11th. Aaron Loup relieved with one out and walked Kyle Seager and pinch-hitter Franklin Gutierrez. After Leony Martin fouled out to first, Ryan Tepera relieved and advanced both runners with a wild pitch on his first pitch. Mike Zunino then walked to load the bases, but Freeman grounded out to first to end the inning.

Both starting pitchers were outstanding. Seattle’s Felix Hernandez who was tagged for six runs in 4 1/3 innings in his last start, allowed two hits in seven innings, striking out four and walking three in a 112-pitch outing.

The Blue Jays threatened in the fourth when Josh Donaldson doubled to open and advanced on Encarnacion’s hard ground out to second that bounced off Hernandez’s leg. Hernandez then retired Bautista and Russell Martin on consecutive ground outs to third.

UP NEXT:

Mariners: Seattle is running out of time. The Mariners followed an eight-game winning streak by losing four out of five. Only one of their three remaining series is against a team ahead of them (Houston) in the wild card race. After a day off, the Mariners open a three-game series at Minnesota. LHP James Paxton (4-7, 3.88 ERA) starts the Friday opener. “The math is not good,” manager Scott Servais said. “We’re going to need some help and some other teams to help us along the way.”

EOU FOOTBALL: Will face tough test against Orediggers run defense

Continued from 1B

down, but that’s who I am, and that’s probably what I’ll do again. I went for it twice, and that’s the belief level I have in our offense, and I’ll put our defense on the field at any point in time, it doesn’t matter to me.”

The Mountaineers get another chance to prove themselves against a top-25 opponent this week when No. 10 Montana Tech (2-1, 2-1) comes to Community Stadium on Saturday for a 1 p.m. kickoff.

The Orediggers lead the Frontier in scoring offense (35.7 points per game) and

are first in overall defense giving up just 291 yards and 16.3 points on average.

Montana Tech handed Rocky Mountain (2-2, 2-1) its first conference loss in a 48-12 romp last week, and quarterback Quinn McQueary is right up there with EOU’s Zach Bartlow as two of the best passers in the league.

Both players average a Frontier-best 275 yards a game with McQueary holding a slight edge in passer efficiency (156.7 to 153.3). He completed passes to nine different receivers for 237 yards last week.

Bartlow is more of a threat to run in the league’s top-ranked rushing offense (178 ypg), but he and senior running back Alfred Gross will have to fight for every yard this week against the Orediggers and their second-ranked rushing defense (76.3 ypg).

Gross is coming off a career-best 150-yard outing and leads all Frontier backs with 91 yards a game while Bartlow is adding another 55.

“In-game adjustments are the most important thing based on what Montana Tech does,” said Camp, “but at the

same time you’re going to see a shotgun team, you’re going to see some inside zone, some stretch, and if the field allows we’ll go a little pin-pull-toss and we’ll try to throw the ball down the field if we can.”

Bartlow threw for 231 yards as the Mountaineers upset then-No. 15 Montana Tech 33-21 in their last meeting on Sept. 19, 2015 in La Grande. Orediggers defensive backs Andre Brown and Gunnar Kayser have shown a knack for getting their hands on the ball, which should make for some exciting match-ups

in the secondary as EOU receivers Calvin Connors and Skylar Williams are both averaging more than 22 yards per catch with two touchdowns each.

The Mountaineers have won four of the last five meetings between the teams, but the Orediggers hold a 14-13 advantage in the all-time series. Saturday’s winner could potentially come out of the game all alone in first place depending on the outcome of the Rocky Mountain at College of Idaho game.

“I think we match up well with them. We’ve had

the opportunity to play two top 25 teams already and we were successful against them,” said Camp, who is 15-18 all-time against top 25 teams. “It’s a huge game for us, it’s a huge game for them. We’re still sitting in first in the conference and, you know, there’s a lot to play for and I think that’s one of the most important things.”

The game will broadcast live on NewsTalk 103.1 FM.

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PIGSKIN PICKERS

Week 3

Overall: 12-8
Last Week: 5-5
Summit at Hermiston
Pendleton at Ridgeview
Union at WMHS
P. Christian at Umatilla
Stanford at UCLA
USC at Utah
Boise St. at Oregon St.
49ers at Seahawks
Raiders at Titans
Ravens at Jaguars



John Airolodi
12-8
5-5
Hermiston
Pendleton
WMHS
Umatilla
Stanford
Utah
Boise State
Seahawks
Titans
Ravens



Mike Appleton
11-9
5-5
Summit
Pendleton
Union
Umatilla
Stanford
USC
Boise State
Seahawks
Raiders
Jaguars



Clint Shoemake
11-9
4-6
Summit
Ridgeview
WMHS
P. Christian
Stanford
Utah
Boise State
Seahawks
Raiders
Jaguars



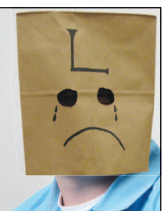
Ron Gibbs
11-9
5-5
Hermiston
Pendleton
WMHS
Umatilla
Stanford
Utah
Boise State
Seahawks
Titans
Ravens



Matt Entrup
10-10
3-7
Summit
Pendleton
WMHS
Umatilla
UCLA
Utah
Oregon State
49ers
Raiders
Jaguars



Kevin Fisher
10-10
4-6
Summit
Pendleton
WMHS
Umatilla
Stanford
Utah
Boise State
Seahawks
Titans
Ravens



Eric Singer
9-11
3-7
Summit
Pendleton
WMHS
Umatilla
Stanford
Utah
Boise State
Seahawks
Raiders
Ravens



Mario Ramirez*
9-11
3-7
Summit
Pendleton
WMHS
Umatilla
UCLA
Utah
Boise State
Seahawks
Raiders
Jaguars



Anna Aylett
8-12
3-7
Hermiston
Ridgeview
WMHS
Umatilla
Stanford
Utah
Boise State
Seahawks
Titans
Ravens



Mark Royal
8-12
4-6
Summit
Ridgeview
WMHS
Umatilla
Stanford
Utah
Boise State
Seahawks
Raiders
Ravens

* no picks submitted, selections made by coin flip

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