





5A COLUMBIA RIVER CONFERENCE

The Columbia River Conference crown has stayed put in Pendleton for the past two seasons, and the Buckaroos would like to make it a third straight year. The Hermiston Bulldogs finished second in the CRC a year ago and are a team to watch out for. The Bucks and Dawgs should battle it out for the league's automatic playoff spot, leaving the other to head to the play-in round.

Projected Finish

-  Pendleton Buckaroos
-  Hermiston Bulldogs
-  Hood River Valley Eagles
-  The Dalles Riverhawks

(Rankings based on coach and media votes)

2015-16 Final Standings

CRC	Conf.	Overall
 Pendleton	8-1	15-8
 Hermiston	5-4	13-13
 Hood River	3-6	4-19
 The Dalles	2-7	5-19

Returning All-League

- 1st team**
- Caden Smith, Senior, Pendleton
 - Chance Flores, Senior, Hermiston
 - Dakota Murr, Junior, The Dalles

Pendleton Buckaroos

Head coach: Kyle Tedder, 2nd year

Assistant coaches: Chuck West, Mitch Morioka.

Returning starters: Caden Smith (CRC POY), G, sr.; Johnny Stuvland, F, sr.

Other returners: Wyatt Morris, G, sr.; Ryan Russell, G, jr.; Shaw Jerome, G, jr.; Jake Szumski, F, sr.

Newcomers: Kyle Curtis, G, sr.; Damon Thomas, G, sr.; Stephan Machado, G, sr.; Tyler Newsom, G, so.; Richard Scott, C, jr.

On offense: The Buckaroos offense runs through senior guard Caden Smith, relying on quick ball movement to set up open shot attempts.



On defense: Pendleton

has enough versatility with its roster to switch in-and-out of various defensive sets throughout a game, though the Bucks are a primarily man-to-man defensive team.

2015-16 finish: 15-8, 8-1 CRC (The Buckaroos won their second league title in a row but lost in the first round of the state playoffs 64-49 to Springfield.)



As the CRC's defending Player of the Year, Pendleton senior Caden Smith hopes to guide his young Buckaroo squad back to the postseason in 2016-17.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

2016-17 Schedule

Nov. 30	vs. Baker	W 87-47
Dec. 3	vs. Clarkston (WA)	L 50-40
Dec. 6	vs. Southridge (WA)	7 p.m.
Dec. 9	vs. Walla Walla (WA)	7 p.m.
Dec. 12	vs. Lewiston (ID)	7 p.m.
Dec. 16/17/18	at Wilsonville Invite	TBD
Dec. 28	vs. Dallas	Noon
Jan. 3	at Sunnyside (WA)	7 p.m.
Jan. 7	vs. Redmond	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 10	at La Grande	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 13	at Sunset	7:15 p.m.
Jan. 17	at Baker	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 20	vs. Hood River*	7 p.m.
Jan. 24	vs. La Grande	7 p.m.
Jan. 27	at The Dalles*	7 p.m.
Jan. 31	vs. Hermiston*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 3	at Hood River*	7 p.m.
Feb. 7	vs. The Dalles*	7 p.m.
Feb. 9	at Hermiston*	5:45 p.m.
Feb. 14	vs. Hood River*	7 p.m.
Feb. 17	at The Dalles*	7 p.m.
Feb. 21	vs. Hermiston*	5:45 p.m.

*denotes league game

Hermiston Bulldogs

Head coach: Casey Arstein, 1st year

Assistant coaches: Oliver Browning, 1st year; Shann West, 1st year; Rylie Smith, 1st year; Taylor Smith, 3rd year.

Returning starters: Chance Flores (All-CRC 1st team), G, sr.; Andrew James, G, so.

Other returners: Hunter Walls, G, sr.

Newcomers: Xavier Rambo (transfer from Irrigon), G, sr.; Kody Moss, sr.; Brok Palmer, sr.

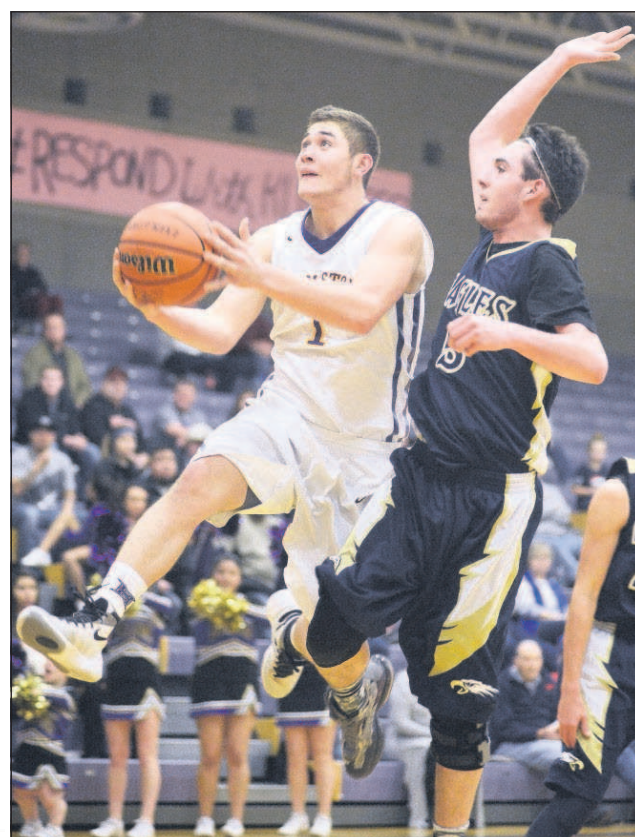
On offense: The Bulldogs run the motion offense which emphasizes patience and smart passing to spread out a defense and get the ball to the open shooter.



On defense: The Bulldogs will have a complete arsenal of defensive schemes to dial up depending on their opponents' strength.

Arstein's expectations: "To compete, have discipline and commitment to the basketball program."

2015-16 finish: 13-13, 5-4 CRC (The Bulldogs finished second in league play and earned a state playoff game with a 55-42 win over La Salle in the play-in round. Their season ended in the first round with an 87-45 loss at Wilsonville.)



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Senior guard Chance Flores is one of just three returning lettermen for Hermiston in 2016-17.

2016-17 Schedule

Nov. 30	vs. Walla Walla (WA)	W 57-48
Dec. 2	vs. Wilson (at Aloha)	W 76-70
Dec. 3	at Aloha	W 51-44
Dec. 6	at Hanford (WA)	7 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Chiawana (WA)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 10	vs. Kamiakin (WA)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 13	at St. Helens	7:15 p.m.
Dec. 17	vs. Hillsboro	5 p.m.
Dec. 20/21	at Crescent Valley Tournament	TBD
Dec. 23	at Kittitas (WA)	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 3	vs. Davis (WA)	7 p.m.
Jan. 14	vs. La Grande	7 p.m.
Jan. 20	at The Dalles*	7 p.m.
Jan. 26	vs. Hood River*	7 p.m.
Jan. 31	at Pendleton*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 3	vs. The Dalles*	7 p.m.
Feb. 7	at Hood River*	7 p.m.
Feb. 9	vs. Pendleton*	7 p.m.
Feb. 14	at The Dalles*	7 p.m.
Feb. 17	vs. Hood River*	7 p.m.
Feb. 21	at Pendleton*	7 p.m.

*denotes league game

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