

2A COLUMBIA BASIN CONFERENCE

Returning four starters in any season is a good sign a team is ready to compete for a league title. When they're the caliber of players coming back to the hardwood for the Weston-McEwen TigerScots, those sights get set even higher. Getting through the CBC district tournament will be tough once again, though, and Pilot Rock finished just one point behind the TigerScots in the preseason coaches poll. Culver, Stanfield and Heppner also were separated by just one point each, which means coaches expect it to come down to the wire again.

Projected Finish

- Weston-McEwen
- Pilot Rock Rockets
- Culver Bulldogs
- Stanfield Tigers
- Heppner Mustangs

(Rankings based on coach and media votes)

2015-16 Final Standings

CBC	Conf.	Ovr.
Irrigon*	5-5	11-13
W.-McEwen*	10-0	15-10
Pilot Rock	7-3	16-9
Culver	4-6	12-11
Stanfield	4-6	10-13
Heppner	0-10	2-19

*-made postseason

Returning All-League

Heppner — Jacee Currin, so., 2nd team
Stanfield — None
Weston-McEwen — Chelsea Quaempts, jr., Player of the Year; Sarah Finifrock, sr., 2nd team; Ashley Hill, sr., Honorable mention; Bailey Hillmick, sr., Honorable mention
Pilot Rock — Bekah Roe, sr., 1st team; Kayla Deiswt, jr., 2nd team; Jacey Wilson, sr., 2nd team
Culver — Irma Retano, so., 2nd team

Weston-McEwen

Head coach: Eric Jensen, 1st year
Assistant coaches: Robert Hill, 1st year; Joy Hearn, 1st year

Returning starters: Chelsea Quaempts (CBC POY), G, jr.; Sarah Finifrock (All-CBC 2nd team), C, sr.; Ashley Hill (All-CBC HM), F, sr.; Bailey Hillmick (All-CBC HM), F, sr.

Other returners: Ali Schroeder, G, sr.; Sara von Borstel, G, sr.; Alyssa Finifrock, C, jr.; Maddi Muilenburg, F, jr.; Katie Vescio, G, so.

Newcomers: Rena Penney, W, sr.; Amie Coffman, G, so.; Lyvia Powers, C, jr.; Jordyn Lambert, F, so.

On offense: The TigerScots will use various offenses but will employ a standard motion look as their base.

On defense: Running from a base zone, the TigerScots will also switch to man-to-man and full-court press.

Jensen's expectations: The first-year coach is setting the team's sights high with a berth in the state tournament as their primary goal.

2015-16 finish: 15-10, 10-0 CBC (The TigerScots were second at the district tournament, then lost in the first round of the state playoffs 40-26 at Lost River.)

2016-17 Schedule

Dec. 30	vs. DeSales (WA)	L 45-42
Dec. 2	at Ione	W 58-21
Dec. 3	vs. Irrigon	4 p.m.
Dec. 6	at Irrigon	3 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Kennedy	6 p.m.
Dec. 10	at Kennedy Classic	TBD
Dec. 13	at Riverside	6 p.m.
Dec. 17	at Imbler	4 p.m.
Dec. 19	vs. Mac-Hi	5 p.m.
Dec. 21	vs. Enterprise	5 p.m.
Dec. 22	vs. Imbler	6 p.m.
Dec. 29-30	at Pendleton Tourney	TBD
Jan. 3	vs. Irrigon	6 p.m.
Jan. 6	at Enterprise	6 p.m.
Jan. 10	at Umatilla	6 p.m.
Jan. 14	vs. Heppner*	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 20	at Pilot Rock*	6 p.m.
Jan. 21	vs. Stanfield*	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 27	vs. Culver*	6 p.m.
Feb. 3	at Heppner*	6 p.m.
Feb. 4	vs. Pilot Rock*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 10	at Stanfield*	6 p.m.
Feb. 11	at Culver*	2:30 p.m.

*-denotes league game



Chelsea Quaempts, of Weston-McEwen, keeps the dribble going after falling to the hardwood as the Rockets' Bekah Roe looks on during a Columbia Basin Conference game in Athena during the 2015-16 season.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Pilot Rock

Head coach: Butch Wilson, 6th year
Assistant coach: Dan Deist, 6th year

Returning starters: Bekah Roe (All-CBC 1st team), G, sr.; Rachel Willingham, G, sr.; Jacey Wilson (All-CBC 2nd team), F, sr.; Kayla Deist (All-CBC 2nd team), F, jr.; Sara Weinke, F, jr.; Rhyanne Oates, G, jr.

Other returners: Grace Austin, F, so.; Kaitelyn Evans, F, so.; Bre Baleztena, G, so.

Newcomers: Marissa Sutherland, G, jr.; Ayana Aguilar, G, fr.; Brielle Howland, G, fr.

On offense: The Rockets' strength is its frontcourt so Wilson said the offense will be running through the low post as much as possible.

On defense: The Rockets will make team shoot over their posts on defense and will run primarily zone.

Wilson's expectations: "We plan to compete for one of the two state spots to come out of the CBC."

2015-16 finish: 16-9, 7-3 CBC (The Rockets lost in the first round of the district tournament 35-30 to Irrigon.)

2016-17 Schedule

Dec. 2	vs. Echo	W 34-23
Dec. 3	vs. Monument/Dayville	W 54-27
Dec. 6	at Helix	3 p.m.
Dec. 8	at Umatilla Tourney	TBD
Dec. 9	at Umatilla Tourney	TBD
Dec. 10	at Umatilla Tourney	TBD
Dec. 13	vs. Nixyaawii	7 p.m.
Dec. 16	Pilot Rock Tourney	TBD
Dec. 17	Pilot Rock Tourney	TBD
Dec. 29	at Irrigon Invite	TBD
Dec. 30	at Irrigon Invite	TBD
Jan. 6	at Imbler	6 p.m.
Jan. 13	at Culver*	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 20	vs. Weston-McEwen*	6 p.m.
Jan. 21	at Heppner*	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 28	vs. Culver*	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 4	at Weston-McEwen*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 10	vs. Heppner*	6 p.m.

*-denotes league game

Heppner Mustangs



Head coach: Robert Wilson, 2nd year

Assistant coaches: Jennifer Byrnes, 1st year; Russ Nichols, 1st year

Returning starters: Morgan Correa, W, jr.; Jacee Currin (All-CBC 2nd team), PG, so.

Other returners: Kacie Gray, G, jr.; Madison Combe, P, so.; Jaiden Mahoney, PG/W, so.; Riane Dompier, P, sr.; Claire Grieb, F, so.

Newcomers: Emily Cecil, sr.; Jenna McCullough, F, so.; Dakota Durfey, P, so.; Tresslyn McCurry, F, fr.; Makayla Silvia, G, fr.; Nicole Prophet, P, fr.

On offense: Like most of the teams in the region, the Mustangs will be running a motion offense this season.

On defense: Heppner will switch between man-to-man and zone depending on the situation.

Wilson's expectations: "To continue to build off our progress from last year and grow as a team."

2015-16 finish: 2-19, 0-10 CBC (The Mustangs lost their last 16 games.)

2016-17 Schedule

Dec. 2	at Joseph	6 p.m.
Dec. 3	at Joseph Tourney	11 a.m.
Dec. 6	vs. Condon/Wheeler	7 p.m.
Dec. 9	vs. Toledo	6 p.m.
Dec. 10	vs. Crane	3 p.m.
Dec. 13	vs. Irrigon	6 p.m.
Dec. 16	vs. Imbler	6 p.m.
Dec. 17	at Grant Union	4 p.m.
Dec. 19	vs. Echo	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 20	vs. Western Mennonite	2:30 p.m.
Dec. 29	at Irrigon Invite	Noon
Dec. 30	at Irrigon Invite	Noon
Jan. 6	vs. Union	6 p.m.
Jan. 13	at Stanfield*	6 p.m.
Jan. 14	at Weston-McEwen*	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 20	vs. Culver*	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 21	vs. Pilot Rock*	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 28	vs. Stanfield*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 3	vs. Weston-McEwen*	6 p.m.
Feb. 4	at Culver*	4 p.m.
Feb. 10	at Pilot Rock*	6 p.m.

*-denotes league game

Stanfield Tigers

Head coach: Daniel Sharp, 3rd year

Returning starters: None

Other returners: Anna Lemmon, W, sr.; Natalia Esquivel, W, sr.; Brittin Braithwaite, P, sr.; Shyanne Connell, W, sr.; Amanda Carrillo, W, jr.

Newcomers: Jennifer Martinez, W, sr.; Jenny Garcia, W, sr.; Jessica Wallace, W, jr.; Katherine Soto, W, jr.; Allie Gtiffin, W, so.; Ciara Neasham, W, so.; Savannah Sharp, W, fr.

2015-16 finish: 10-13, 4-6 CBC (The Tigers' season ended with a 56-33 loss to Weston-McEwen in the first round at districts.)

2016-17 Schedule

Nov. 30	at Irrigon	L 10-56
Dec. 2	vs. Culver	L 31-45
Dec. 3	at Sherman	L 47-53
Dec. 8	vs. Grant Union (at Umatilla)	3:30 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Umatilla Tourney	TBD
Dec. 10	at Umatilla Tourney	TBD
Dec. 12	at Nixyaawii	6 p.m.
Dec. 16	vs. Riverside (Stanfield Tourney)	TBD
Dec. 17	vs. TBD (Stanfield Tourney)	TBD
Dec. 19	vs. Western Mennonite	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 20	at Toledo Tourney	TBD
Dec. 21	at Toledo Tourney	TBD
Jan. 3	vs. Umatilla	5:45 p.m.
Jan. 7	at Imbler	4 p.m.
Jan. 10	vs. Baker	6 p.m.
Jan. 13	vs. Heppner*	6 p.m.
Jan. 14	at Culver*	4 p.m.
Jan. 21	at Weston-McEwen*	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 24	vs. Sherman	7 p.m.
Jan. 27	vs. Pilot Rock*	6 p.m.
Jan. 28	at Heppner*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 3	vs. Culver*	6 p.m.
Feb. 10	vs. Weston-McEwen*	6 p.m.
Feb. 11	at Pilot Rock*	6 p.m.

*-denotes league game

GOOD LUCK TO IRRIGON KNIGHTS!

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