



5A COLUMBIA RIVER CONFERENCE


The CRC has belonged to the Pendleton Buckaroos for each of the past five seasons and it doesn't appear that things will change in 2017. The Buckaroos return six all-league players from one season ago, including Pitcher of the Year Lauren Richards and have some talented newcomers stepping in to fill some gaps. Hood River is expected to take a big step this season as it returns four all-league players, while Hermiston has a chance to make some noise with four all-league returners led by infielder Ellery Jones and pitcher Julissa Almaguer. The Dalles lost four all-league players to graduation, including ace pitcher Kathryn Bradford and are expected to take a step back in 2017.

Projected Finish

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

(Rankings based on coach and media votes)

2016 Final Standings

| CRC | Conf. | Ovr. |
|---|-------|-------|
|  Pendleton | 10-2 | 24-5 |
|  The Dalles | 6-6 | 19-10 |
|  Hermiston | 5-7 | 14-13 |
|  Hood River | 3-9 | 10-15 |

Returning all-league

Pendleton — Lauren Richards, jr.; Kalan McGlothan, jr.; Maddie Parker, sr.; Rylee Gentner, jr.; Payton Hergert, sr.; Tatum Fell, sr.
Hermiston — Ellery Jones, sr.; Julissa Almaguer, jr.; Sydney Stefani, soph.; Amanda Barron, jr.
Hood River — Hannah McNerney, jr.; Zoe Munn, jr.; Haylee Baker, soph.; Janessa Castenada.
The Dalles — Kailin Hoylman, sr.; Sierra Watson, sr.; Kathryn Bradford, jr.; Emma Weir, jr.

Pendleton Buckaroos

The Buckaroos have made it to at least the state semifinals for the last three seasons and will have a shot to go even further in 2017 as they return an ace in the circle and several key pieces of their batting order and defense.



HEAD COACH: Tim Cary, 13th year
ASSISTANT COACHES: Jeff Hamilton, Jim Newland, John Fowler, Josh Grass, Kristan Garton, Randy Crawford
RETURNING STARTERS: Madison Parker, sr., LF; Tatum Fell, sr., CF; Payton Hergert, sr., SS; Lauren Richards, jr., P/1B; Rylee Gentner, jr., 2B; Kalan McGlothan, jr., 3B; Kila Solomon, so., C
OTHER RETURNERS: Alexi Brehaut, jr., P/1B; Kirah McGlothan, so., UT; Aspen Garton, so.,
IMPACT NEWCOMER: Elli Nirschl, so., UT
SEASON GOALS:

Continuing to understand the value of great work ethic, a great attitude, and the value of being a good teammate are the foundation for another successful season.

CARY'S KEY TO THE SEASON: "The key to our season is a willingness to be unselfish and work together as a team. We expect to go out and compete with our best effort in every game. We feel that we are talented enough to win every game, but we also understand that it takes great work ethic, great attitude, and a willingness to be an unselfish teammate."
BIGGEST STRENGTHS: Experienced pitching and lots of returners in the field gives the Bucks a chance to be one of the better defensive teams in the state, but Cary said the team's biggest strength is its desire to compete and win.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pendleton's Lauren Richards throws during a 2016 game. Richards heads into her junior season as Pendleton's ace in the pitching circle.

2017 Schedule

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| March 14 | vs Hanford | 4 p.m. |
| March 17 | vs Hillsboro | 4 p.m. |
| March 18 | vs St. Helens | Noon |
| March 21 | vs La Grande | 4:30 p.m. |
| March 23 | vs Southridge (WA) | 4 p.m. |
| March 25 | vs Walla Walla (WA) (2) | Noon/1:30 p.m. |
| March 27-28 | at Putnam Tourney | TBA |
| March 29 | at Milwaukie | Noon |
| April 6 | at La Grande | 4 p.m. |
| April 11 | at Mac-Hi | 6 p.m. |
| April 15 | vs The Dalles (2)* | Noon/2 p.m. |
| April 18 | at The Dalles* | 4 p.m. |
| April 22 | vs Hood River (2)* | Noon/1:30 p.m. |
| April 24 | at Hood River* | 4 p.m. |
| April 28 | at Hermiston (2)* | 3/4:30 p.m. |
| May 2 | vs Hermiston* | 4:30 p.m. |
| May 5 | at The Dalles* | 4 p.m. |
| May 9 | at Hood River* | 4:30 p.m. |
| May 12 | vs Hermiston* | 4:30 p.m. |

*-denotes league game

Hermiston Bulldogs



In this 2016 file photo, Hermiston's Ellery Jones awaits a throw as a Pendleton base runner approaches during a 2016 game. Jones will anchor Hermiston's lineup in 2017 as one of two returning regulars.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney



Staff photo by Eric Singer

Hermiston's Julissa Almaguer pitches during the Bulldogs' home opener against St. Helens on Mar. 17, 2017. Almaguer will be Hermiston's ace in the circle this season in her third year on the varsity team.

HEAD COACH: Kate Greenough, 2nd year
ASSISTANT COACHES: Kristen Dunten, Sarah Rood.
RETURNING STARTERS: INF Ellery Jones, sr.; OF Amanda Barron, jr.; P Julissa Almaguer, jr.
OTHER RETURNERS: OF Sydney Stefani, soph.
IMPACT NEWCOMERS: P Janelle Almaguer, fr.; INF Ashley Cameron; INF Kalei Smith; OF Daisy Maddox; OF Baylee Metcalf; C Bailee Noland.

2017 Schedule

| | | |
|----------|----------------------|-----------|
| Mar. 14 | at Ridgeview | L 14-3 |
| Mar. 17 | vs St. Helens | W 16-2 |
| Mar. 18 | vs Hillsboro | L 4-2 |
| Mar. 22 | vs Bend | 4 p.m. |
| Mar. 24 | at Pasco (WA) | 4 p.m. |
| Mar. 27 | vs Gresham# | 4 p.m. |
| Mar. 28 | vs TBD# | TBD |
| Apr. 5 | at Sherwood | 5 p.m. |
| Apr. 8 | vs Central Cath. (2) | 1 p.m. |
| Apr. 11 | vs La Grande (2) | 3/5 p.m. |
| Apr. 15 | at Hood River (2)* | Noon |
| Apr. 18 | vs Hood River* | 4:30 p.m. |
| Apr. 22 | at The Dalles (2)* | Noon |
| April 25 | vs The Dalles* | 4:30 p.m. |
| April 28 | vs Pendleton (2)* | 3 p.m. |
| May 2 | at Pendleton* | 4:30 p.m. |
| May 5 | vs Hood River* | 4:30 p.m. |

*-denotes league game
 #-denotes Spring Break Challenge at Happy Valley.



Mac-Hi Pioneers

The Pioneers have appeared in the last four straight 4A state championships, winning two, and have no intention of ending that streak this season.



HEAD COACH: Nicole Christian, 8th year
ASSISTANT COACHES: Bob Christian, Kathryn Rodighiero, Bailey Bennett, Andrea Roeder, Kortnie Walter.
RETURNING STARTERS: Mallory Copeland, sr., P/C; Sydney Richwine, sr., 1B; Micha Fortune, sr., 3B; Kaitlyn Slusarenko, sr., OF; Rachael Lyon, jr., SS; Sydney Earls, so., P
OTHER RETURNERS: Brooke Smiley, sr., DH
IMPACT NEWCOMERS: Brittany Potts, jr., 2B; Faith Kelley, jr., 2B; Becca Jones, jr., OF; McKenna Yensen, jr., OF; Britney Wells, so., OF; Graci Bullock, fr., P/OF; Ashlyn Marly, fr., C/OF
SEASON GOALS: The Pioneers know there are teams ready to write them off, but aren't buying into any rebuilding talk and are set on returning to another state championship.
CHRISTIAN'S KEY TO THE SEASON: "I have a lot of talent and puzzle pieces I need to fit together to get us back to the state title game. I expect it to be a little rocky at first as we are getting used

to filling in spots of key players lost and new players battling for starting roles. I'm excited to see who steps up and rises to the challenge."
BIGGEST STRENGTHS: A strong youth system continues to supply the Pioneers with capable athletes, and a strong sense of community keeps the Pioneers grounded. Speed, hitting and strong player leadership will guide them on the field.

2017 Schedule

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------|----------|
| Mar. 16 | at Weston-McEwen | W 20-17 |
| Mar. 25 | vs (at Yamhill-Carlton) | TBD |
| Mar. 25 | at Yamhill-Carlton | TBD |
| Mar. 27 | vs Gladstone# | Noon |
| Mar. 27 | vs Elmira # | 4 p.m. |
| Mar. 28 | vs Milwaukie # | Noon |
| Mar. 28 | vs South Salem # | 4 p.m. |
| Mar. 31 | vs Stayton | 4 p.m. |
| Mar. 31 | vs Junction City | 6 p.m. |
| April 1 | vs Estacada | 4 p.m. |
| April 8 | at Ontario (2)* | Noon |
| April 11 | vs Pendleton | 6 p.m. |
| April 15 | vs La Grande (2)* | Noon |
| April 18 | vs Walla Walla (WA) | TBD |
| April 20 | at Baker (2)* | 3/5 p.m. |
| April 29 | vs Ontario (2)* | Noon |
| May 6 | at La Grande (2)* | Noon |
| May 12 | vs Baker (2)* | 3/5 p.m. |





*-denotes league game
 #-denotes Spring Break Tournament at Canby

4A GREATER OREGON LEAGUE

Returning All-League Players

Mac-Hi — Mallory Copeland, sr. (POY); Micha Fortune, sr.; Rachael Lyon, soph.; Sydney Richwine, sr.; Kaitlyn Slusarenko, sr.
Ontario — Alexis Navarette, soph.; Erin Turner, sr.; Abby Turner, sr.; Sydney Sather, sr.
La Grande — Lexee Gomes, soph.; Breann Givens, sr.; Mady Bell, jr.; Delaney Lester, jr.; Alaina Carson, soph.; Kara Gooderham, soph.
Baker — Jordan Rudolph, sr.; Morgan Plumbtree, sr.; Gussie Cook, soph.

2017 Projected Finish

-  Mac-Hi Pioneers
-  Ontario Tigers
-  La Grande Tigers
-  Baker/Powder Valley Bulldogs

2016 Final Standings

| GOL | Conf. | Ovr. |
|---|-------|-------|
|  Mac-Hi | 12-0 | 25-6 |
|  Ontario | 5-7 | 16-11 |
|  La Grande | 5-7 | 9-14 |
| Baker | 2-10 | 11-14 |


Proud of Our Athletes!

YOUTH IS OUR FUTURE!

ELMER'S IRRIGATION, INC.
 "Proudly serving and investing in the future of our communities"
 80527 Hwy 395 N., Hermiston • 541-567-5572



"It isn't what you do, but how you do it."
 John Wooden



CHEVROLET

SHERRELL CHEVROLET
 2258 N. First Hwy 395 Hermiston OR

IRRIGATION SPECIALISTS
 WHEN EVERY DROP

Irrigation Specialists has served the Oregon and Washington markets since 1970 - over 40 years of quality service and support.

We are a full service irrigation dealership. Whether you are a farmer, landscaper, irrigation district or homeowner we have the right products and services for you.







www.irrspec.com
 541-567-6370 • 81156 N. Hwy 395 • Hermiston, OR

