

BUCKAROOS: Wolotira makes 14 key saves

Continued from 1B

The first half was played pretty evenly as it was evident that both teams were still working out the kinks of their playing structure. The Mustangs outshot the Buckaroos in the first half, but as the halftime buzzer sounded the scoreboard still read 0-0.

The Buckaroos did have a couple prime scoring chances in the first half, including one where Sawyer Powell missed high with a straight-on shot from a distance. But the miss that really hurt came halfway through the half, when Jose Rodriguez chased a ball towards the goal, shrugged off contact from the Milwaukee goalkeeper and clanked the ball off the near post.

But in the second half, the offensive chances dried up. Pendleton lost its structure and couldn't possess the ball like it needed to work into legitimate scoring opportunities.

"We really want to work when we don't have the ball rather than when we have the ball and those things came about when guys trusted teammates and gave the ball to that teammate and worked way into open space," Talbot said of the chances. "If we can reward the guy that works off the ball, good things are going to happen for us and that was really the difference, we were able to do that a few times early and second half it just wasn't there."

Milwaukee finally broke the game's scoring drought in the fifth minute of the second half, when forward Antonio Cuevas slipped behind the Buckaroo defense and beat goalkeeper Andrew Wolotira for a 1-0 Mustang lead.

Even though Wolotira ended the game with four goals allowed, he was the standout player for the Buckaroos with 14 saves (unofficially) and single-handedly kept his team within striking distance for roughly 65 minutes.

"If we don't have Andrew in there we probably lose this game by double digits," Talbot said. "He definitely saved our butt. I felt defensively our guys did what they needed to do in large part because he does an excellent job getting those guys talking."

A few saves drew some cheers from the small crowd, including a sliding save with 22 minutes remaining in the second half on a 1-on-1 chance from a Mustang and a diving, one-handed stop just a few minutes later.

Wolotira said afterward that those situations is where all the hours of



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pendleton's Aiden Henderson runs past Milwaukee's Daniel Aranda in the Bucks' 4-0 loss to the Mustangs on Thursday in Pendleton.

practice really come into play.

"I just know I have to cut off angles and it's mainly reflex now and instinct," he said. "I can't stand back and wait have to come out and cut off angles for shots."

But Wolotira could only do so much. Milwaukee struck again with 16:54 left to play when Obermars Martinez ripped a booming shot from 30 yards out to make it a 2-0 Mustang lead.

Milwaukee scored twice more in the last six minutes of play to pad its lead.

"We just need to come together more as a team because the second half we lost playing as a team and lost some communication," Wolotira said. "We need to work a little more on possession and work more in practices and hopefully win next time out."

Pendleton will stay home to host La Grande on Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.

Contact Eric at esinger@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0839. Follow him on Twitter @ByEricSinger.

FOOTBALL: Pilot Rock makes 8-man debut

Continued from 1B

season on Friday night.

The Vikings are riding a two-game win streak in the series, after beating the Bobcats 21-13 last season in Umatilla. After narrowly missing out on a playoff spot with a 6-3 record last season, Umatilla wants to start a strong run in 2017 and Union presents a good first test.

The Bobcats went 4-4 overall in 2016 but made the playoffs where they fell to Toledo 54-14.

IRRIGON vs. AMITY, 7 p.m. (at Hood River) — The Knights and Warriors met for the first time in the 2016 season opener at The Dalles and this year they meet again, this time at Hood River.

Amity came out on top 26-13 in that last meeting, and then finished off a 6-3 season with a postseason berth. Irrigon was young in 2016 and finished 2-7, but the Knights return eight starters and want to get off to a better start this year.

GRANT UNION at WESTON-MCEWEN, 7 p.m. — Once Blue Mountain Conference foes, the TigerScots and Prospectors have met Week 1 in each of the past three seasons and they do it again this season in Athena.

The Prospectors have won two straight in the series, most recently a dominant 26-0 victory over the TigerScots last year in John Day.

Weston-McEwen fell just short of the postseason last year and returns numerous starters led by QB Brett Speed, RB Jacob Speed and lineman Weston Phillips. Grant Union went 6-4 last year and made the post-season, and lost just one senior to graduation.

ST. PAUL at HEPNER, 7 p.m. — Every year, the Mustangs graduate all-state talent yet seem to not miss a

beat.

Heppner is primed to do that again this season, led by all-state lineman Wyatt Steagall and all-league athletes Coby Dougherty and Beau Wolters and quarterback Kevin Smith. Heppner made it to its fourth straight 2A semifinal game in 2016 and wants to make it five this year.

The Mustangs welcome in the St. Paul Buckaroos, a program that has been just as consistent as the Mustangs over the past 20-plus years. Heppner got the better of the Buckaroos last year, squeaking out a 22-18 victory on the road. Heppner will be roaring and ready to go in front of its home crowd at Les Payne Field and sporting its brand-new Nike uniforms.

ELGIN at PILOT ROCK, 7 p.m. — Perhaps one of the most intriguing games of the week in Eastern Oregon will be in Pilot Rock on Friday, as the Rockets, under second-year coach Mike Baleztena, make their debut in 8-man football as a 2A independent.

And their first game presents a good first challenge, with an Elgin Huskies team that went 3-5 last year.

ECHO at ARLINGTON/CONDON, 7 p.m. — The last time Echo and Arlington met on the football field was 2013, when the Honkers sent the Cougars back home with an 80-40 defeat.

Both teams made the playoffs last year, with Arlington going 6-3 and Echo going 5-4. But the Honkers lost some talented seniors and the Cougars return several playmakers on offense and defense, including QB Devan Craig, RB Zack Gehrke and WR/DB Ty Mulder.

Coaches can report scores and statistics by calling 1-800-522-0255 or emailing sports@eastoregonian.com

SEAHAWKS: Drew nine penalties

Continued from 1B

is attempting to trade the veteran.

NOT VERY SHARP

Seattle drew nine penalties for 122 yards. Three of the penalties were personal fouls and two were for defensive pass interference.

Oakland had seven penalties for 60 yards.

SITTING OUT THE ANTHEM

Like they have done throughout the preseason, both Bennett and Marshawn Lynch sat during the playing of the national anthem before the game. Bennett sat on a bench on the Seattle sideline while center Justin Britt stood beside Bennett with his hand on his teammate's shoulder.

Second-year Seattle cornerback DeAndre Elliott suffered what appeared to be a serious right leg injury midway through the second quarter. Players



AP Photo/Eric Risberg

Seattle Seahawks' Cyril Grayson Jr. (13) runs in front of Oakland Raiders defensive back Marcus McWilson (28) during the first half of an NFL preseason football game in Oakland, Calif. on Thursday.

during the preseason.

INJURED SEAHAWK

Second-year Seattle cornerback DeAndre Elliott suffered what appeared to be a serious right leg injury midway through the second quarter. Players

from both teams came out to check on Elliott and the entire Seahawks squad surrounded him as he was loaded onto a cart. Elliott raised his right hand in a thumbs-up sign while being driven away.

PREPS: Helix picks up two more wins

Continued from 1B

"I thought we grew a lot tonight as the match went on," Weston-McEwen coach Shawn White said. "I was really pleased with our defensive improvement, it was by far the best defense this year and led to a lot of long rallies for us."

Leading the defensive charge was senior libero Chelsea Quempt and her team-high 39 digs, while junior Keree Graves had 10. Offensively, Alyssa Finifrock led the team with 11 kills, Maddi Muilenburg had seven and Hailey Weaver had six, while Bryce Thul had 19 assists, Ellie Scheibner had 11.

Finifrock also had a team-high four aces.

Weston-McEwen next heads to Heppner on Saturday for a tournament, with play starting at 8 a.m.

HELIX WINS TWICE

HELIX — Helix topped both Stanfield and Mac-Hi with 3-0 victories in a tri-match on Thursday night, giving the Grizzlies five shutout victories on the season.

Against Stanfield (0-1), Helix (5-1) won 25-8, 25-21, 25-15 and then beat Mac-Hi 25-12, 25-15, 25-15. Sadie Wilson had a big night for the Grizzlies with 14 combined kills and seven serving aces picked up against Mac-Hi (0-2). Char-mayne Bennett was also a standout performer from the serving line, coach Dianna Melton said.

Helix competed without senior hitter Kailey Mize, who was out with an ankle injury but libero Kyleen Stahancyk was back and that was a huge boost to the Grizzlies, Melton added.

Helix now has a week off until they host Riverside on Thursday evening.

IRRIGON 3, HERMISTON (JV) 1

IRRIGON — The Knights remain unbeaten in 2017 after beating the Hermiston junior varsity by a 3-1 score on Thursday night.

Irrigon (3-0) took the first set 25-8 and then dropped the next set 25-16, but finished off the Bulldogs 25-14 and 26-24.

"Our team battled, I am very proud of the performance of each and every girl," Irrigon coach Lisa Connell said.

The Knights next play on Tuesday when they travel to Heppner.

Coaches can report scores by calling 1-800-522-0255 or emailing sports@eastoregonian.com.

SCOREBOARD

Local slate

PREP FOOTBALL

Friday	Hermiston at Union (WA), 4:30 p.m.	La Grande at Pendleton, 7 p.m.	Mac-Hi at Dayton-Waitsburg (WA), 7 p.m.	Umatilla at Union, 7 p.m.	Irrigon vs. Amity (at Hood River), 7 p.m.	Grant Union at Weston-McEwen, 7 p.m.	Stanfield at Enterprise, ccd.	St. Paul at Heppner, 7 p.m.	Elgin at Pilot Rock, 7 p.m.	Echo vs. Arlington (at Condon), 7 p.m.
Friday	Pendleton, Hermiston at Mountain View Invite, 8 a.m.	Imbler at Pilot Rock, 4 p.m.	Stanfield at Echo, 4 p.m.	Umatilla at Union, 5:30 p.m.	Saturday	Weston-McEwen, Pilot Rock at Heppner Tournament, 9 a.m.				

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Friday	Pendleton, Hermiston at Mountain View Invite, 8 a.m.
Friday	Imbler at Pilot Rock, 4 p.m.
Saturday	Oregon Episcopal at Umatilla, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday	Oregon Episcopal at Riverside, 1 p.m.

PREP BOYS SOCCER

Friday	La Grande at Hermiston, 4:30 p.m.	Oregon Episcopal at Umatilla, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday	Oregon Episcopal at Riverside, 1 p.m.	

PREP GIRLS SOCCER

Friday	Mac-Hi at Walla Walla (WA), 4 p.m.	
Saturday	Umatilla at Pendleton, Noon	Riverside at Stevenson (WA), 1 p.m.

PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday	Hermiston, Umatilla, Heppner at Ultimook Nike Invitational, 8 a.m.
-----------------	--

Baseball

MLB

American League East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	76	58	.567	—

New York	70	62	.530	5
Baltimore	68	66	.507	8
Tampa Bay	67	68	.496	9½
Toronto	62	72	.463	14

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	76	56	.576	—
Minnesota	70	63	.526	6½
Kansas City	65	67	.492	11
Detroit	58	74	.439	18
Chicago	52	80	.394	24

West Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Houston	80	53	.602	—
Los Angeles	69	65	.515	11½
Texas	66	67	.496	14
Seattle	66	68	.493	14½
Oakland	58	75	.436	22

Thursday's Games

Houston 5, Texas 1	Minnesota 5, Chicago White Sox 4
Toronto 11, Baltimore 8	N.Y. Yankees 6, Boston 2

Friday's Games

N.Y. Mets at Houston, p.pd.	Cleveland (Carrasco 13-6) at Detroit (Boyd 5-3), 10:10 a.m., 1st game
Boston (Fister 3-7) at N.Y. Yankees (Gray 8-8), 4:05 p.m.	Toronto (Biagini 3-9) at Baltimore (Gausman 10-9), 4:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Clevinger 7-5) at Detroit (Farmer 3-1), 4:10 p.m., 2nd game	L.A. Angels (Skaggs 1-4) at Texas (Hamels 9-2), 5:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Hammel 6-10) at Minnesota (See 1-1), 5:10 p.m.	Tampa Bay (Shel 2-6) at Chicago White Sox (Lopez 0-1), 5:10 p.m.
Oakland (Manaea 9-8) at Seattle (Leake 7-12), 7:10 p.m.	

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Washington	81	52	.609	—
Miami	66	67	.496	15
Atlanta	59	73	.447	21½
New York	58	75	.436	23
Philadelphia	50	83	.376	31

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Chicago	73	60	.549	—
Milwaukee	70	64	.522	3½
St. Louis	67	66	.504	6
Pittsburgh	63	71	.470	10½
Cincinnati	57	77	.425	16½

West Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Los Angeles	91	41	.689	—
Arizona	76	58	.567	16
Colorado	72	61	.541	19
San Diego	59	74	.444	32½

San Francisco	53	83	.390	40
---------------	----	----	------	----

Thursday's Games

Cincinnati 7, N.Y. Mets 2	Arizona 9, L.A. Dodgers 1
Philadelphia 3, Miami 2	Chicago Cubs 6, Atlanta 2
Milwaukee 6, Washington 3	St. Louis 5, San Francisco 2

Friday's Games

N.Y. Mets at Houston, p.pd.	Atlanta (Foltynewicz 10-10) at Chicago Cubs (Lackey 10-10), 11:20 a.m.
Philadelphia (Pivetta 5-9) at Miami (Straily 8-8), 4:10 p.m.	Cincinnati (Castillo 2-7) at Pittsburgh (Cole 11-8), 4:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Pivetta 5-9) at Miami (Straily 8-8), 4:10 p.m.	Washington (Roark 11-8) at Milwaukee (Nelson 10-6), 5:10 p.m.
Arizona (Walker 7-7) at Colorado (Freeland 11-8), 5:40 p.m.	L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 15-2) at San Diego (Lamet 7-5), 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Flaherty 0-0) at San Francisco (Cueto 6-7), 7:15 p.m.	

Wild Card Standings AMERICAN LEAGUE

W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	71	62	.538	+1
Minnesota	70	63	.526	—
Los Angeles	69	65	.515	1½
Baltimore	68	66	.507	2½
Tampa Bay	67	68	.496	4
Texas	66	67	.496	4
Seattle	66	68	.493	4
Kansas City	65	67	.492	4½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

W	L	Pct	GB	
Arizona	76	58	.567	+3½
Colorado	72	61	.541	—
Milwaukee	70	64	.522	2½
St. Louis	67	66	.504	5
Miami	66	67	.496	6

MILB

NORTHWEST LEAGUE

W	L	Pct	GB	
Spokane	21	14	.600	—
Tri-City	20	15	.571	1
x-Vancouver	19	16	.542	2
Everett	18	17	.514	3

South Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Hillsboro	18	17	.514	—
Boise	16	19	.457	2
Eugene	16	19	.457	2
Salem-Keizer	12	23	.343	6

Thursday's Games

No games scheduled

Friday's Games

Hillsboro at Boise, 6:15 p.m.	Everett at Spokane, 6:30 p.m.
Eugene at Salem-Keizer, 6:35 p.m.	Vancouver at Tri-City, 7:15 p.m.

Soccer

MLS

Saturday's Games
Chicago at Montreal, 4 p.m.
Orlando City at New England, 4 p.m.
New York at FC Dallas, 6 p.m.
Colorado at Los Angeles, 8 p.m.

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Connecticut	21	11	.656	—