

Prep Roundup

Mustangs finish off regular season with victory

East Oregonian

STANFIELD — The Heppner Mustangs ended their season on a winning note Tuesday by sweeping the Stanfield Tigers on the road to finish 7-1 in league play. The 3-0 (5-9, 25-12, 25-16) win put Heppner in a two-way tie with Culver for first place and gives the Mustangs (17-7 overall, 7-1 CBC) a first-round bye at the district tournament as they look to grab one of the two playoff spots from the CBC.

They were led by a handful of players. Sophomore Jacee Currin finished the night with four aces and five kills. Senior Morgan Correa led the team with 11 kills. Fellow senior Sophie

Grant also had a team high, and notched 17 assists. Freshman Sydney Wilson had a strong defensive performance and tallied 16 digs.

Heppner will play in the district tournament on Saturday in Pilot Rock. Stanfield's (2-20, 0-8) season comes to an end.

PILOT ROCK 3, WESTON-MCEWEN 0 — At Pilot Rock, the Weston-McEwen TigerScots' late-season slide continued with a three-set loss on the road to Pilot Rock on Tuesday night, 26-24, 25-21, 25-19.

"(Pilot Rock) just came out and executed well, played with more intensity and got us tonight," Weston-McEwen coach Shawn

White said.

Bryce Thul had a solid game for Weston-McEwen (15-12 overall, 3-5 CBC) with 17 assists and nine kills, while Ellie Scheibner had 11 assists and six digs. Also having a solid game was Hailey Weaver (nine kills, four blocks), Alyssa Finifrock (seven kills), Tyree Burke (one kill, five blocks), and Chelsea Quampets (13 digs).

Statistics for the Rockets (14-9, 3-5) were not available, but coach Elaine Howland said the game was a "complete team effort" on Pilot Rock's senior night.

"We were prepared mentally, and strategically for a battle tonight," Howland said. "I am proud

of our girls for keeping it together. This is a team I have been waiting to see all season long. We have seen flashes, but tonight they played smart and tough and are peaking at the right time."

Both teams will now play in the district tournament on Saturday at Noon in Pilot Rock.

LA GRANDE 3, MAC-HI 0 — At La Grande, the Mac-Hi Pioneers finished off their season with a loss to La Grande on Tuesday, falling 25-4, 25-9, 25-11.

Team leaders included Jessica Ruvulcaba with six digs and three aces, Abby Richwine with two blocks, and Britany Wells with one

kill.

"The ladies fought, but struggled tonight with passing," Mac-Hi coach Amanda Nelson said. "We are looking forward to next year."

Mac-Hi's season ends with a 1-13 overall record and a 0-6 mark in Greater Oregon League.

BOYS SOCCER THE DALLES 4, PENDLETON 1 — At Pendleton, the Buckaroos remained winless on its home field after falling to The Dalles 4-1 on Tuesday afternoon.

Pendleton (1-9-1 overall, 0-4-1 CRC) next plays at Baker on Thursday.

GIRLS SOCCER

HOOD RIVER VALLEY 1, HERMISTON 0

— At Hood River, Hermiston's goal-scoring issues continued as the Bulldogs were shut out for the eighth game this season with a 1-0 loss to Hood River Valley.

Hermiston (5-6-2 overall, 2-1-2 CRC) finishes up the regular season next Tuesday at home against Pendleton.

THE DALLES 2, PENDLETON 1 — At The Dalles, the Pendleton Buckaroos snapped a four-game goalless drought but still came up short in a loss to The Dalles.

Pendleton (1-9-1 overall, 0-5 CRC) next hosts Baker on Thursday at 6 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL: Davies tallied 18 kills for Bucks, Streeter had 12 for Bulldogs

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did that." "It's kind of a perfect send-out," Hermiston coach Amy Dyck added. "We're a very young team, they're a very seasoned team and that situation was textbook young versus old, being able to battle and stay focused to finish off a set is difficult and comes with a lot of experience ... It's awesome for (Pendleton) to show that because for us, that kind of sets the tone for what we want to be like in the future."

Davies continued her strong season with another huge game up front for the Buckaroos (14-5 overall, 7-2 Columbia River Conference) as she registered 18 kills and two blocks. She had a quiet first set but came on strong as the match went along with 10 kills combined in the final two sets.

"It feels great when everything goes right," Davies said. "It's something we call Buckaroo volleyball and when everything is going right and going our way it's a lot of fun for us to have that confidence boost the rest of the way."

Pendleton set the tone to start the second set with a blistering fast start, working into a 16-2 lead as Hermiston looked all out of sorts.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Pendleton's Lauren Richards bumps the ball away from the net during Tuesday's game against Hermiston at Warberg Court as teammate Kallan McGlothlan waits to assist.

The Bulldogs did put together a short run at the end of the set, scoring five straight points to make it a 22-11 game, but that was as close as Hermiston could get.

Though that Bulldogs' run may have sparked a bit of a momentum shift as Hermiston was the one that came out swinging in the third set. Pendleton earned the first three points but it was the Bulldogs

that went on a 10-1 run to jump in front. Hermiston's led by as much as eight in the set and looked well on its way to a set win with a 20-13 lead.

"I'm not sure what's happening with the switch-on, switch-off, switch-on, off again," Pendleton coach Amanda Lapp said of the team's dip. "We're going to try to work on that tomorrow. They have

to work for it, they always have to work for it."

And just like the first set, Pendleton wasn't ready to give in. The Buckaroos picked up a few consecutive points and went on a run, cutting Hermiston's lead to just one point at 23-22. However this time, Hermiston was able to hold off the charge as a kill from Emma Combes and an ace from Masie Hancock gave the Bulldogs the win.

"That's a good thing about having a young team is short-term memories," Dyck said. "After a set like the first, we don't get too down on it, and we're able to change a couple of things, change our mindset and go and show them what we can do. I think that shows the growth that we've had over the year."

Junior Sophia Streeter led Hermiston up front with 12 kills and three blocks, while Combes had five kills. Hancock added eight aces and eight digs as the Bulldogs wrapped up their 2017 season.

Pendleton came back strong in the fourth set and did not allow Hermiston a chance to get going, as Davies registered four kills within the first 10 points and Pendleton coasted to the win.

"It was great to see them work

hard for it and get in and everybody go to the grind for it," Lapp said. "It really warms me to see them really putting forth all their hard work for the last four years and just this season, it's really coming to fruition on the court."

On senior night, each of Pendleton's seniors contributed to the win. Behind Davies, Gentner had seven kills and four digs, Jaiden Lemberger had four kills and one dig, Kaci Graber was 100 percent serving with one ace, Kallan McGlothlan had four kills and one block, Kourtney Garnett was 100 percent serving with one dig, Lauren Richards had an ace, one kill and two digs, and Talia Lunny was 100 percent serving.

"I'm really upset that it was senior night," Davies said. "Volleyball is my favorite sport and to know that this was one of our last home games, I'm upset, but happy that we came out with a win. I wouldn't have wanted it any other way with my team."

UP NEXT Pendleton will play its regular season finale on Thursday at Baker.

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

Hermiston's Emilio Leal chases down the ball trailed by Hood River's Damian Charco in the Bulldogs' 1-1 tie with the Eagles on Tuesday in Hermiston.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

HERMISTON: Finish off regular season next week at Kennison Field against Pendleton

Continued from 1B

Chavarria knotted things up.

There was still a lot of soccer left to be played, and plenty of moments for the Bulldogs to retake the lead. Some of their best chances at a goal, however, were met with hesitation.

"It's something we've been working on all season — getting the ball off our foot a little quicker, especially in the attacking third," Harshberger said. "It kind of bit us a little bit tonight, but we still had some really good opportunities and I would almost argue more better opportunities than Hood River."

The fast pace of play and

pressure took a toll, and near the end it looked as if it began to wear on some. But Hermiston never stopped fighting, which ultimately ended in the ejection of Mejia. The captain was shown his second yellow card with a little under five minutes left to play, and had to leave the game and leave Hermiston down to only 10 players.

The Bulldogs made one final push without one of its leaders, and just missed the goal with two minutes left of play.

Although the outcome of Tuesday night was the same as the previous between the Bulldogs and Eagles, Harshberger finds solace in the fact that Hermiston played a complete game, and it

doesn't stop there.

"This sets the tone for how we end the season, this is our farewell tour of the OSAA," he said. "We lost our chance at the district title tonight, but there's still more to play for — there's so much more to play for this season. That's the focus."

Hermiston will host Pendleton for its final regular season game of the year, and the final match up between the two rivals. Ten seniors will be honored before the 7 p.m. kickoff.

Contact Alexis at amansanarez@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4542. Follow her on Twitter @almansanarez.

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