

Hermiston holds off Chiawana

BOYS: Andreason drops in 29 for Hermiston in victory

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

The Hermiston Bulldogs knew they did not have the presence inside to go one-on-one with Chiawana’s 6-foot-8 Matthew Kroner on Tuesday night.

Instead, they used their speed, deadly outside shooting, and 29 points from Ryne Andreason to beat the Riverhawks 67-33 in a Mid-Columbia Conference showdown at the Dawg House to improve to 4-0 on the season.

“We knew coming in they were athletic and they had some shooters,” Hermiston coach Casey Arstein said. “Kobe (Young) is a smooth player, and Kroner was keeping them in it in the third quarter. It felt like we were down.”

But the Bulldogs weren’t. In fact they never trailed in the game, from Andreason’s first basket of the game to his final two free throws with 8 seconds left on the clock.

“That was a tough matchup for us,” Andreason said. “We aren’t the biggest team. We had to work to stop Kroner. In the first half, we kept him out of the paint and didn’t give him any easy looks.”

Kroner still finished with 25 points, but he missed two key free throws with 48 seconds remaining and his team trailing 63-58.

The Bulldogs (2-0 MCC) enjoyed a 17-11 lead after the first quarter, and seemed to have a comfy 41-26 lead at the half, with Andreason scoring 19 points and Ortiz 10.

The third quarter was a whole other story.

The Riverhawks (3-2 overall, 1-1 MCC) outscored the Bulldogs 19-8, including 12 points by Kroner, and 3-pointers by Young and Connor Mendez to pull within 49-45.

Andreason went down with an ankle injury at 3:45 of the third and did not re-enter the game until the fourth quarter.

“When Ryne got hurt, it was tough,” Arstein said. “It was tough to take him off the court. Sergio (Madrigal) and Cole (Smith) stepped up and hit some shots.”

A basket by Seth Schmidt to open the fourth quarter had the

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Cole Smith (12), of Hermiston, goes up for a shot during Tuesday’s game against the Chiawana Riverhawks at the Dawg House.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

GIRLS: Bulldogs fall to 0-2 in MCC with loss to Chiawana

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

Jordan Thomas was excited to play her first game on Tuesday night.

Hermiston’s 6-foot-4 post player had suffered a concussion and missed the first three games of the season.

Thomas had four points and kept Chiawana quiet inside before she left the game early in second quarter after feeling nauseous.

The Riverhawks took advantage, outscoring the Bulldogs 19-6 in the second half to cruise to a 44-24 Mid-Columbia Conference win at the Dawg House.

“That deflated the girls,” Hermiston coach Juan Rodriguez said of Thomas leaving the game. “They were excited she could play. The energy she brought, and a couple of buckets kept us in it. When they realized she wasn’t coming back, it stung a little bit.”

Hermiston led 11-10 after the first quarter, getting a 3-pointer by Kendall Dowdy at the buzzer.

Macey Morales drilled a 3-pointer and Alyssa Agundis scored early in the second as Chiawana took a 15-11 lead.

It was then that Thomas left the game.

The Bulldogs (1-3 overall, 0-2 MCC) got 3-pointers from Sydney Stefani and Kaylee Young, and a free throw from Mati Byrd, but that would be it.

In the third, a lone free throw by Jayden Ray was it for Hermiston, as Chiawana went on a 12-point run, fueled by five points by 6-foot-senior Clare Eubanks, who finished the night with a game-high 14 points.

“We’re not making the improvements we should have by now,” Rodriguez said. “Chiawana will expose your weaknesses. Our next four games are really important. They are all winnable.”

Stefani led the Bulldogs with six points, while Thomas had four.

Hermiston will host Pasco at 5:45 p.m. on Friday.

BOX SCORE
Chiawana 10 15 12 7 — 44
Hermiston 11 7 1 5 — 24
CHIAWANA: Morales 6, Agendas 2, Cartwright 2, Pink 5, Hirai 3, Bunker 3, Burton 2, Guzman 2, Eubanks 14, K.Thorne 5.
HERMISTON: Young 3, Ray 1, Byrd 1, Stefanie 6, Palzinski 3, Dowdy 3, Romero 3, Thomas 4.

Pendleton boys defeat Lewiston on the road

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

The Pendleton boys basketball team hit the road to Idaho and recorded a win against Lewiston, 63-54.

The Bucks dominated the first quarter, posting 23 points, which “set the tone for the rest of the game,” said head coach Zach Dong.

“(Lewiston) was a load. They’re a talented team with tall

players. We had trouble rebounding against them, but we shot well,” he said.

Lewiston outscored Pendleton in the second quarter 13-10 and matched them 13-13 in the third.

Lewiston came within six points of Pendleton as the third quarter closed, but the Bucks rallied for a 10-point lead in the fourth and outscored them 17-14 to put the game just out of reach.

Tyler Newsom led with 30 points for the night. Kason

Broncheau followed with 12.

Pendleton (5-1) return home to host Putnam on Friday.

Girls

Pendleton may have lost 47-37 to Lewiston, Idaho, on Tuesday, but if you ask coach Kevin Porter, the Bucks were still victorious.

“We played our best game of the year, because we played the best team we’ve met so far, in my opinion,” Porter said. “I told my team that the scoreboard doesn’t always tell the true story of the

game. You can win or lose and still have a victory.”

Pendleton led 28-24 at the half and were still ahead 36-34 by the end of quarter three, but Lewiston “made a run” in the fourth quarter, holding the Bucks to just one point while they posted 13 to end the game.

“We got some really good looks at the net, but we just didn’t make them,” Porter said.

The Bucks forced Lewiston to score over half of their points

at the line in the fourth quarter — 7 of their 13 points were free throws.

Muriel Hoisington and Natalie Neveau led Pendleton with seven points each. Ellie Nirschl and Josie Wilson had five.

“I get to go home a happy coach,” Porter said. “We played a full 32 minutes and took home a good game.”

Pendleton (2-5) will return home to play St. Helens on Thursday, Dec. 20.

SPORTS SHORTS

Kick returns down 20 percent in 1st year of fair catch rule

(AP) — Kickoff returns are down about 20 percent in the first year of a new NCAA rule that gives the receiving team possession at its 25-yard line if a fair catch is made anywhere between the goal line and 25.

According to NCAA figures provided to The Associated Press on Monday, kick return men in the Football Bowl Subdivision made fair catches on about 1 out of every 10 kickoffs they

received between the goal line and 25.

The rule was implemented to enhance player safety. Kick returns have been shown to have a higher injury rate compared with other types of plays because of the likelihood of high-speed player collisions.

Of the 9,079 kickoffs in the regular season, 41.2 percent (3,740) were returned. That’s down from 51.2 percent at this point last season.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1965 — Chicago’s Gale Sayers scores six touchdowns with 336 combined yards to lead the Bears to a 61-20 rout of the San Francisco 49ers. The six TDs give Sayers an NFL-record 21 for the season. Sayers’ first touchdown is a reception, the next four rushing and the final, an 85-yard punt return.

1971 — Bobby Hull of the Chicago Black Hawks scores his 1,000th point with an assist in the first period of a 5-3 victory over the Minnesota North Stars.

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