

Dawgs slip past Suns

Hermiston slips past Southridge 61-54, moves to 7-0

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

Southridge gave Hermiston a bit of a scare Tuesday night, but the Bulldogs put together a solid fourth quarter to run their record to 7-0.

Ryne Andreason scored 21 points, and Jordan Ramirez added 14 as the Bulldogs went on a 19-12 run in the fourth quarter for a 61-54 Mid-Columbia Conference victory over the Suns at the Dawg House.

“That is one of the sloppiest games we have played in two years,” Hermiston coach Casey Arstein said. “That has to be fixed. They hit some shots that put us in a tight spot, but somehow we came out with the W.”

The Bulldogs (7-0, 4-0 MCC) led by two at the half, and were tied with the Suns 42-42 heading into the fourth quarter.

Southridge (1-7, 0-5) led 46-45 early in the fourth after back-to-back baskets by Tristan Smith and Kody Bruton.

A basket by Andreason with 5:31 left to play put the Bulldogs back on top for good.

With 2:59 left on the clock, Andreason nailed a 3-pointer from the right wing, and Cole Smith added a 3-pointer from the right baseline a minute later for a 55-48 lead.

Ramirez stole the ball and converted the layup to give Hermiston a 57-48 lead before Simeon Howard scored on a short jumper to make it 57-50.

The Bulldogs went on a 6-2 run the last 27 seconds of the game as Adrian Mendez picked up a loose ball and scored, Andreason reeled in a long inbound pass and laid the ball off the glass, and Smith added a basket with 3 seconds remaining.

“We had some guys step up

See Dawgs, Page B2



Hermiston's Andrew James splits Southridge defenders Kody Bruton, left, and Simeon Howard in the Bulldogs' 61-54 win over the Suns on Tuesday in Hermiston.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Hermiston girls pick up first MCC victory, 67-35

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

It was a long time coming, but the Hermiston girls picked up their first Mid-Columbia Conference win Tuesday night.

The Bulldogs used a 41-17 run in the second half to pull away and beat Southridge 67-35 at the Dawg House.

“Having a win streak is nice,” Hermiston coach Juan Rodriguez said. “We still aren’t playing to our potential, but winning makes everything fun.”

The Bulldogs (3-4, 1-3 MCC) trailed 10-6 after the first quarter, but got their act together in the second behind six points from Jayden Ray and five from

Jazlyn Romero for a 26-17 lead at the half.

Kendall Dowdy scored seven of her nine points in the second half, and Ray had six as Hermiston got scoring from all but one player on the night.

“We need our role players to do these things,” Rodriguez said. “Teams are going to take away Jordan (Thomas) and Jaz away. They need to know what to do.”

Of Hermiston’s 19 points in the third quarter, nine came off 3-pointers from Dowdy, Sydney Seavert and Katelyn Heideman.

Rodriguez shuffled his lineup Tuesday and liked what he saw.

“We have a lot of sophomores on varsity, and I gave them some

JV minutes today and some on Saturday (against Davis),” he said. “They need time, experience and confidence, and that translated tonight.”

Ray led the Bulldogs with 12 points, while Dowdy and Thomas each had nine.

Emmee Ball had a game-high 15 points for the Suns (3-5, 0-5), with Americus Griffiths adding eight.

Hermiston will play at Hanford on Friday night.

SOUTHBRIDGE 10 7 11 6 — 35
HERMISTON 6 20 19 22 — 67
Southridge — Ball 15, Brisebois 3, Tucker 3, Connors 2, Griffiths 8, Suitonu 2, Crum 2.
Hermiston — Heideman 3, West 5, Young 7, Feigum 2, Ray 12, Stefanie 4, Palzinski 4, Seavert 4, Dowdy 9, Romero 7, Thomas 9.



Hermiston's Kaylee Young drives past Southridge's Abril Mendez in the Bulldogs' 67-35 win over the Suns on Tuesday in Hermiston.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

COLLEGE BASKETBALL



Ducks down Bulldogs

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

EUGENE — Sabrina Ionescu scored 29 points, including all 17 of her free throws, and No. 7 Oregon handed No. 4 Mississippi State its first loss this season, 82-74 on Tuesday night.

The Bulldogs (10-1) had won 46 regular-season nonconference games, but couldn’t catch up once the Ducks (9-1) started to pull away in the fourth quarter, boosted by their home fans. Maite Cazorla added 20 points for the Ducks.

Anriel Howard led Mississippi State with a career-high 30 points. Oregon held senior Teaira McCowan to five points, but she had 11 rebounds.

Oregon went up 64-57 on Ruthy Hebard’s short jumper with 7:47 left. Cazorla added a layup for the Ducks before Bre’ Amber Scott’s 3-pointer for Mississippi State.

A driving layup from Cazorla made it 76-65 and got the crowd at Matthew Knight Arena on its feet. Jazzmun Holmes’ layup got the Bulldogs within 80-74 with 1:23 left, but Howard fouled out a short time later.

The Ducks went into the game leading the nation with an average of 92.4 points a game, while the Bulldogs were a close second at 92.3.

Oregon’s lone loss came on Dec. 9 at Michigan State. The team’s only other game against a ranked opponent was back on Nov. 1, when they downed then-No. 18 Syracuse 75-73.

McCowan, Mississippi State’s leading scorer, whose eight double-doubles this season lead the nation, was defended well by Hebard from the start.

McCowan was handed an unsportsmanlike conduct call after an elbow on Hebard, and Ionescu made both shots to put the Ducks up 28-17 midway through the second quarter. Ionescu’s 3-pointer and Cazorla’s layup stretched the lead to 37-31.

A technical foul was called on Oregon coach Kelly Graves with 0.8 seconds left in the half, and Mississippi State made both shots, then added a free throw to take a 40-39 lead into the break. Howard led all scorers with 14 points at the break for the Bulldogs.

Mississippi State pushed the lead to 51-44 in the

See Ducks, Page B2

SPORTS SHORTS

Twins to retire Mauer’s No 7 jersey next season

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — The Minnesota Twins will retire Joe Mauer’s No. 7 jersey next season, making a swift move to honor the homegrown player and six-time All-Star who recently retired after a 15-year major league career.

The Twins surprised Mauer with the announcement on Tuesday, while his accomplishments were celebrated at an all-student assembly at his alma mater Cretin-Derham Hall High School.

“I enjoyed putting the uniform on every day and being able to put on the Twins uniform, being at home, meant more to

me than you’ll know,” Mauer said. “When I take my kids to a game and see No. 7 up there, it’ll probably put a smile on my face every time I see it.”

Mauer will become the eighth former Twins player or manager with a retired number, joining Harmon Killebrew (3), Rod Carew (29), Tony Oliva (6), Kent Hrbek (14), Kirby Puckett (34), Bert Blyleven (28) and Tom Kelly (10). Jackie Robinson (42) has had his number retired by all major league teams.

Oliva, Hrbek, Blyleven and Kelly entered the gym during the ceremony.

AP Photo/Charles Krupa, File

