

DAWGS BACK ON TRACK

BOYS HOOPS



Hermiston
71

Walla Walla
57

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

Cesar Ortiz has struggled shooting the deep ball the past few games, but Tuesday night the Hermiston senior was back on target.

Ortiz scored a game-high 25 points, including five 3-pointers, as the Bulldogs posted a 71-57 Mid-Columbia Conference victory over Walla Walla at the Dawg House.

“He did a good job of picking his shots,” said Hermiston coach Casey Arstein, whose team ended a two-game skid. “He was passing the ball, but when he was open guys found him and he knocked down his shots. Everyone is going to have their night.”

The Bulldogs (9-3 overall, 5-3 MCC) are tied with Kamiakin for third in the MCC standings after the first half of the season. Richland is 8-0, while Chiawana is 6-2.

Hermiston jumped out to a 25-13 lead after the first quarter, getting eight points from Ortiz and six from Andrew James.

The Bulldogs extended their lead to 37-24 at the half, then had a lull in the third quarter, getting outscored 18-13 as the Blue Devils (7-5, 4-4) pulled within 50-42.

“In the first half, we had energy,” Arstein said. “In the third, they made a run and got within one, but we stayed calm and executed. It took us a bit in the fourth to get going.”

With 5:37 to play in the game, Hermiston’s lead was 52-47, but a 19-10 burst to end the game sealed the win.

“I thought they played hard,” Arstein said of his

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Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Adrian Mendez (34), of Hermiston, puts up a shot during Tuesday’s game against Walla Walla at the Dawg House.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Hermiston’s Jazlyn Romero (22) passes off to a teammate during Tuesday’s game against Walla Walla.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Jordan Thomas, of Hermiston, looks for an outlet as Walla Walla’s Hannah Gilmore presses on Tuesday at the Dawg House.

GIRLS HOOPS



Hermiston
41

Walla Walla
28

Girls end 3-game slide with win over Wa-Hi

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

After dropping its past three games, Hermiston got back on the winning track Tuesday night.

Jordan Thomas scored a game-high 18 points, and Jazlyn Romero added 11 as the Bulldogs cruised past Walla Walla 41-28 in Mid-Columbia Conference action at the Dawg House.

“We are right in the middle of the season and any win is an accomplishment,” Hermiston coach Juan Rodriguez said. “I thought the mentality was there to finish the game. When they made a run, we handled it and got a basket when we need it.”

Romero hit a pair of 3-pointers as the Bulldogs (5-7 overall, 3-5 MCC) took a 13-4 lead.

The Blue Devils (3-8, 3-5), who have lost six games in a row, slowed Hermiston down in the second quarter, allowing just seven points. The Blue Devils then took off on a 14-11 run in the third quarter, keyed by a five points by Monica Miller and four by Mia Huxoll.

“They were undersized and we struggled to get the ball to Jordan at times, and that hurt us,” Rodriguez said.

Hermiston outscored Wa-Hi 10-5 in the fourth to seal the win.

The Bulldogs did struggle

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Walla Walla 13 11 18 15 — 57
Hermiston 25 12 13 21 — 71
WALLA WALLA — Ashbeck 5, Cornia 10, Hamada 18, Sullivan 17, Coram 7.
HERMISTON — Andreason 9, Ortiz 25, James 15, Davis 2, Madrigal 2, Ramirez 9, Mendez 9.

Pendleton shakes off La Grande for home win

BOYS HOOPS



Pendleton
71

La Grande
57

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

When things were tense, senior Tyler Newsom dug Pendleton out of an offensive rut to drive them to a home win over La Grande on Tuesday.

The Bucks turned away the Tigers 71-57 in their last nonleague contest before starting the Intermountain

Conference this Friday. “We played very poorly on the defensive end the whole game,” said Newsom, who led the Bucks with 28 points. “Our offense basically won the game for us.”

Pendleton stumbled through the first quarter, letting the Tigers tie them four times, and giving up the lead once with just 0:10 left on the clock. It wasn’t until junior guard

Kason Broncheau scored one point at the line and a basket at the buzzer that the Bucks were able to pull ahead again.

The Bucks rallied to outscore La Grande 21-11 in the second quarter to stay up front for good. Newsom chipped in 11 points for the quarter, including a six-point streak to keep Pendleton alive.

But La Grande had some keen

shooters on their roster — 9 of their 11 points in the second quarter were 3-pointers from junior guard Kaleb Myer and senior guard Braden Bell.

“(Myer and Bell) shot really well,” said Pendleton coach Zach Dong. “They were good off the bounce, got in the lane, and beat us off the dribble.”

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SPORTS SHORTS

Snow cancels downhill training, delays Vonn’s return

ST. ANTON, Austria (AP) — **Lindsey Vonn’s** return to the World Cup slopes has been delayed by a day after organizers called off Thursday’s first downhill training because of weather conditions. The international ski federation says it canceled the session “due to heavy snowfall.”

Another downhill training on the 2.1-kilometer Karl Schranz course is scheduled for Friday, followed by the race on Saturday and a super-G on Sunday.

Vonn is planning to make her return from a knee injury, resuming her quest for the all-time record for World Cup wins. It will be her first races of the season after sitting out six speed events.

The women’s World Cup record holder needs five more victories to break the overall record of 86 wins, set by Swedish great Ingemar Stenmark in the 1980s.

