

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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Daisy Jeness (24), of Pendleton, puts up a shot during Friday's league game against Hood River.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

## BOYS HOOPS

### Andreason hits game-winner to lead Dawgs past Kennewick

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian

The Hermiston boys basketball team likes to keep its fans on the edge of their seats.

Friday night was no different as the Bulldogs trailed most of the game and needed a last-second shot by Ryne Andreason to slip past Kennewick 64-63 in Mid-Columbia Conference action at the Dawg House.

"I wouldn't mind a game where we came out, established a lead and I could get some other guys in," Hermiston coach Casey Arstein said. "A win is a win. You have to protect your house. This league is tough."

The win gave the Bulldogs (10-3, 6-3 MCC) two wins over the Lions (7-6, 3-6) this season, which is key for seeding to the 3A regionals. Hermiston has one game left against Southridge and Kamiakin. Both are must wins if the Bulldogs hope to secure the top seed.

Hermiston trailed 51-50 heading into the fourth quarter, but a basket and two free throws by Andreason gave the Bulldogs their first lead of the game at 58-55.

The Lions would come back to tie the score at 58-58, and led 63-60 on a 3-pointer by Blaine Chavez and a basket by Kobe Simmons-Dumo with 41 seconds remaining.

Andreason scored to pull his team within 63-62, and the Lions had a chance to extend their lead with 13 seconds left as Ayoni Benavides went to the free-throw line for a one-and-one opportunity.

Benavidez missed the front end, and the Bulldogs got the rebound.

With less than 10 seconds on the clock, Hermiston brought the ball down the court and passed the ball around. Anderson ended up with the ball, and he drove into the key.

He looked for an open teammate, but when he found no one open, he used an underhand scoop and put the ball in the basket with 1.6 seconds remaining.

The Lions were able to inbound the ball, but could not get off a shot.

"I got lucky," said Andreason, who finished with 20 points. "These conference games, we have to make sure we win these

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## GIRLS HOOPS

### Lions fend off Hermiston for MCC win

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian

The final score might not show it, but the Hermiston girls made Kennewick earn its win Friday night.

The Bulldogs were within seven points of the Lions three times in the fourth quarter, but Kennewick scored the final 12 points of the game for a 58-39 Mid-Columbia Conference win at the Dawg House.

"My frustration all season, was I was waiting for that energy and excitement to play," Hermiston coach Juan Rodriguez said of his team. "That atmosphere in that stretch is why you play high school basketball. I was happy with that aspect. We need to make sure we are playing 32 minutes that way."

The Lions (10-3 overall), who got a game-high 18 points from 6-foot-2 freshman Alexis Stein, improved to 7-2 in league play with the win.

After Hermiston's Jayden Ray opened

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## Pendleton girls end skid

Bucks down Eagles for first IMC victory

By BRETT KANE  
East Oregonian

A home win Friday for the Pendleton girls was a victory for more reasons than one.

When the Bucks charged past Hood River Valley 46-29, they opened their first season in the Intermountain Conference on a high note. It also ended a four-game skid, and got Pendleton's full roster time on the court.

"We wanted to leave 1-0," said coach Kevin Porter. "And at the same time, we're trying to plan for the future. We got a lot of kids, including three from JV, some varsity exposure."

Things didn't exactly start off so strong, though; the ball went into the basket just four times in the first quarter — three times for Pendleton and once for Hood River.

"No one could hit anything," Porter said. "We were right next to 'slow start' in the dictionary."

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Josie Wilson, of Pendleton, prepares to launch the basketball during Friday's league game against Hood River.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

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