

Pendleton's Erik Davis to coach in Les Schwab Bowl

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

Pendleton football coach Erik Davis will help coach the South at the 72nd annual Les Schwab Bowl in June.

"I got an email yesterday (Thursday) asking me to be part of the staff," Davis said. "I accepted. I'm excited. It's such an honor. Often times, it's a once-in-a-lifetime deal."

The game will be played June 15 at Hillsboro Stadium. The South and North teams will practice during the week leading up to the game at Pacific University in Forest Grove.

Throughout the week, the players will go into the community to perform service projects, including hospital visits and mentoring at-risk youths.

Davis said he does not know who else was chosen to coach, but believes he will be an assistant for the game, which combines the

top 5A and 6A players.

"The North is pretty much metro Portland, and the South is everyone else," Davis said.

Players for the game have not been chosen, but Davis has high hopes for a few of his players to join him.



Davis

"I would like to think we would get a couple," he said.

Davis guided the Bucks to a 10-2 season, which ended with a trip to the 5A state semifinals. It was the first time Pendleton had played that deep into the playoffs since 1977.

Pendleton dominated the Special District 1 all-league team, and had 11 players earn all-state honors, with four — center Everett Willard, running back Aiden Patterson, defensive lineman Beau Skinner and linebacker Kirk Liscom — named to the first team.

The Les Schwab Bowl began as the Oregon Shrine Game in 1948.

Boys: 'These guys trust each other'

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ones. They punched us in the mouth the first two quarters and we beat them in the third. It was a good second half for us."

With time running out, Arstein said there was no use calling a timeout to set up a play.

"He did a good job not throwing the ball away," Arstein said of Andreason. "He is a very smart kid. These guys trust each other, and that goes a long way."

Lions coach Bradyn Leyde gave credit to the Bulldogs.

"It definitely was coming down to who had the ball at the end," he said. "Ryne Andreason is a good player and he hit a tough shot in traffic. Credit to him. This was a good high school basketball game."

The Lions came out in the first quarter and took a 19-12 lead. Benavidez scored eight of his 13 points in the first, and Chavez added seven of his game-high 22.

Kennewick extended its lead to 26-15 in the second quarter before the Bulldogs staged a comeback.

Jordan Ramirez nailed a 3-pointer; Andrew James hit a pair of free throws; Cesar Ortiz added one free throw; and Ramirez stole the ball

BOX SCORE

Kennewick 19 17 15 12 — 63
Hermiston 12 19 19 14 — 64
KENNEWICK — Benavidez 13, Chavez 22, Simmons-Dump 8, Collier 4, Mayovsky 6, Pearson 2, Childs 6, Bai, McElroy 2.
HERMISTON — Andreason 20, Ortiz 11, James 8, Smith 7, Davis 2, Ramirez 15, Mendez 1.

and laid it off the glass to pull the Bulldogs within 26-23.

"They got a lot of easy baskets, some you would like to have back," Leyde said.

Chavez would hit a pair of 3s, and the teams traded baskets before the half as the Lions led 36-31.

"It was a rough start," Arstein said. "We didn't get any stops, we turned the ball over, and we weren't hitting our shots. Kennewick did a good job not giving us open looks."

Ramirez added 15 points for the Bulldogs, while Ortiz chipped in 11 and James eight.

"Jordan had energy in the second half and had some huge steals," Arstein said. "He was the X factor tonight. Cole (Smith) kept us in the game finding the open man and playing good defense."

Girls: Romero, Sydney Stefani lead Bulldogs

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the game with a basket, Kennewick's MeiLani McBee hit back-to-back 3-pointers, and Reilyn Davis added another as the Lions led 9-2 less than 3 minutes into the game.

The Bulldogs (5-8, 3-6) got a basket and two free throws from Mati Byrd to pull within 15-11, only to have Maya Thornton drain a 3 from the right baseline to extend the lead to 18-11 at the end of the quarter.

The Lions held the Bulldogs to six points in the second quarter, as they enjoyed a 29-17 lead at the half.

Kennewick's lead ballooned to 16 points in the third quarter, but the Bulldogs scored the final six points of the quarter — including five by Kendall Dowdy — to pull within 41-31 with one quarter to play.

Hermiston had cut the deficit to under 10 points with 5:12 to play, but point guard Jazlyn Romero fouled

BOX SCORE

Kennewick 18 11 12 17 — 58
Hermiston 11 6 14 8 — 39
KENNEWICK — Davis 5, Ai, Fiander 10, Thornton 10, McBee 11, Gebers 4, Stein 18.
HERMISTON — Young 5, Ray 4, Byrd 4, Stefani 7, Palzinski 2, Dowdy 5, Romero 7, Thomas 5.

out. She was soon followed by 6-4 post player Jordan Thomas.

The Lions scored eight of their final points from the free-throw line, and Stein put an exclamation point on the win with a basket with 14 seconds left on the clock.

Romero and Sydney Stefani led the Bulldogs with seven points each.

"You can't say anything bad about that team," Rodriguez said of Kennewick. "They are good defensively, and their post is good, and will be for a long time. They have a little more experience than we do at some positions."

PREP ROUNDUP

Mac-Hi scores first victory over La Grande in almost 20 years

East Oregonian

The Pioneers scored their season's first Greater Oregon League victory after topping La Grande 50-37 on Friday.

Mac-Hi coach Jordan Poyner left a "very excited" coach after the game — it was their first win over La Grande in almost 20 years.

"What a game that was played tonight," he said. "The guys really came to play, and played hard."

Dareagan Stevens led the way for the Pioneers, pouring in a team-high 24 points.

Mac-Hi (9-6, 1-1 GOL) will travel to Prescott, Washington, for a non-league matchup on Tuesday.

Boys hoops

UNION 61, STANFIELD 59 — Hugo Hernandez hit a 3-pointer in the game's final seconds, but it wouldn't be enough to save Stanfield from their third Blue Mountain Conference loss.

As a team, the Tigers posted 51 rebounds, with 28 offensive, but shot just 9 of 21 at the line.

Hernandez led the team with 16 points and seven rebounds. Elias Esquivel had 12 points, 11 rebounds, and four assists, and Mario Sanchez added 11 points and nine rebounds.

Stanfield (4-11, 1-3 BMC) will host Enterprise on Saturday.

BURNS 55, UMATILLA 51 — Umatilla was turned away on the road for their first Eastern Oregon League loss on Friday.

The Vikings (12-3, 1-1) return home to face Nyssa on Jan. 18.

HEPPNER 68, ENTERPRISE 31 — The Mustangs remain unbeaten in the Blue Mountain Conference after shooting past the Outlaws for a home victory on Friday.

Trent Smith scored 19

points and hit 5 of 6 at the line to lead the way for Heppner. Justin McAninch added 10 points of his own.

Heppner (10-6, 4-0 BMC) will host Union on Saturday.

PILOT ROCK 52, WESTON-MCEWEN 41 — Pilot Rock scored a home victory for its first Blue Mountain Conference win on Friday.

Riley Waggoner and Christian Haskell had 11 points each for the Rockets. Stockton Hoffman led the TigerScots with 14, and Blair Rudolph had 12.

Pilot Rock (2-12, 1-4 BMC) hosts Riverside in a nonleague game on Tuesday. Weston-McEwen (4-11, 2-2 BMC) hosts Grant Union on Saturday.

NIXYAAWII 68, COVE 18 — Nixyaawii are now 3-0 in the Old Oregon League after a blowout on Cove's court.

The Golden Eagles held their host under 10 points per quarter, outscoring them 16-3 in the first, 18-2 in the second, 24-4 in the third, and 10-9 in the fourth to remain undefeated in the league.

Tyasin Burns scored a team-high 16 points for Nixyaawii (13-1, 3-0 OOL). They'll travel to Helix on Saturday.

MITCHELL/SPRAY 59, IONE 55 — The Eagles outscored the Cardinals 14-8 in the fourth quarter to hold on for a home win Friday night in Big Sky League play.

Ione (1-13, 0-7) got 25 points and 16 rebounds from Hunter Padberg. Johannes Emmerich led M/S with 20 points.

The Cardinals will host Horizon Christian in a league game Saturday.

IMBLER 44, HELIX 28 — The Grizzlies fell to 0-3 in Old Oregon League play after a home loss to the Panthers.

The Grizzlies (4-9, 0-3) will host league-leading Nixyaawii on Saturday.

SOUTH WASCO CO. 41, ECHO 31 — The Cougars were no match for the host Redsides in a Big Sky League matchup.

Echo (2-12, 1-5) will host Condon/Wheeler on Saturday.

Girls hoops

IMBLER 41, HELIX 37 — The Grizzlies dropped their third consecutive Old Oregon League match in a tight home game to the Panthers on Friday.

Helix took a 19-12 lead at the half, but a messy third quarter allowed Imbler to outscore the Grizzlies 16-3.

Annie Wood led Helix with 15 points, including three 3-pointers. Arianna Krol added nine points.

The Grizzlies (3-10, 0-3 OOL) will host Nixyaawii on Saturday.

NIXYAAWII 48, COVE 35 — The Golden Eagles won their first Old Oregon League game Friday with a road victory over the Leopards.

Nixyaawii (8-6 overall, 1-2 OOL) will play at Helix on Saturday in an OOL matchup.

IONE 49, MITCHELL/SPRAY 14 — Even with two players down, the Cardinals cruised past Mitchell/Spray to remain undefeated in Big Sky League play.

Tresslyn McCurry and Marie Chretien were out because of illness and injury, but coach Nathan Heideman said the game was "still an easy win." He expects both players to return to the court next week.

Jessica Medina led the Cardinals with 16 points. Ione (11-2, 6-0 BSL) will host South Wasco County on Jan. 18.

BURNS 66, UMATILLA 40 — The Vikings dropped to 0-2 in Eastern Oregon League play after

the Hilanders turned them away on the road.

Umatilla (2-13, 0-2 EOL) will host Nyssa on Jan. 18.

HEPPNER 64, ENTERPRISE 61 (OT) — The Mustangs edged the Outlaws in overtime for a home victory Friday, and their third Blue Mountain Conference win.

Sydney Wilson posted a game-high 30 points for the Mustangs, and Jacee Currin had 13.

Heppner (11-5, 3-1 BMC) will host Union on Saturday.

SOUTH WASCO COUNTY 62, ECHO 35 — The Cougars dropped their second Big Sky League game on the road Friday night.

Echo (5-8, 3-2 BSL) will host Condon/Wheeler on Saturday.

PILOT ROCK 48, WESTON-MCEWEN 36 — The Rockets ended a three-game skid after an "amazing" home victory over the TigerScots.

"This game was way more complete for us than we've been seeing recently," Pilot Rock coach Dan Deist said. "I told the girls, 'You just gotta keep fighting.' This one helped to get them turned around again."

Grace Austin posted 18 points and 17 rebounds for the Rockets. Katie Vescio led the TigerScots with 21 points.

Pilot Rock (7-7, 1-4 BMC) will host Riverside in a nonleague game on Tuesday. Weston-McEwen (5-9, 0-4 BMC) plays Grant Union at home on Saturday.

UNION 59, STANFIELD 35 — Stanfield fell to 2-2 in the Blue Mountain Conference after a Friday road loss to Union.

Kendra Hart had a team-high 20 points for the Tigers (8-7, 2-2 BMC), who will host Enterprise in league play on Saturday.

Bucks: Newsom's 21 not enough against Hood River Valley

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The second quarter quickly heated up as the Bucks poured in 14 more points and left the Eagles scoreless for the first 4 1/2 minutes to stay up 20-8 at halftime. And it didn't stop there — Pendleton would take a 20-point lead five times in the second half to cruise to their first IMC victory.

"Once the nerves and adrenaline wore off, we started knocking down shots," Porter said.

Sophomore post Natalie Neveau revved things up for the Bucks in the second half with a traditional 3-point play for a 23-8 advantage, and grabbing an offensive rebound with 0:50 in the third quarter for one of Pendleton's 20-point advantages.

Neveau posted 15 points to lead Pendleton, and also chipped in 15 rebounds — 10 offensive and five from the Eagles.

"Natalie is the Energizer Bunny," Porter said. "She has a motor that never stops. She's a 5-foot-6 post that plays like she's 6-foot-6. She has a lot of energy and passion."

A 3-pointer from Eagles senior guard Dani Valle would pull Hood River within 15 points of Pendleton in the final four minutes, and sophomore guard Morgan Baker hit 2 of 2 at the line with 0:03 seconds left to reduce that deficit to 13. But the Bucks had claimed the game too early on.

"Tonight really helped us gain our composure," Neveau said. "We all started working together as a team, and everyone contributed. This will help us stay strong for the rest of the season."



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Four Pendleton players prepare to dash in different directions to get open for an inbound pass during Friday's league game against Hood River.

PENDLETON GIRLS' BOX SCORE

Pendleton	6	14	17	9	46
Hood River Valley	2	6	8	12	29

PENDLETON — Neveau 15, Bradt 8, Hoisington 5, Nirschl 5, Blake 4, Cooley 3, Wilson 2, Garcia 2, Taber 2
HOOD RIVER VALLEY — Idhe 11, Baker 7, Valle 6, Baker 3, McNerney 2

PENDLETON BOYS' BOX SCORE

Hood River Valley	12	16	29	20	77
Pendleton	12	26	14	15	67

HOOD RIVER VALLEY — Flores 25, Webster 20, Diaz 16, Hawk 11, Ellsworth 4, Siekkinen 1
PENDLETON — Newsom 21, Sams 16, O'Hanlon 10, Sweek 8, Roberts 7, Sams 5

Pendleton (4-9, 1-0 IMC) hosts Baker in a nonleague contest on Tuesday.

Boys

It seems word of Tyler Newsom's skills is spreading.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Katie Bradt (42) puts up a shot during Friday's league game against Hood River.

Although the 6-foot-4 guard scored a team-high 21 points, it wasn't enough to save the Bucks from opening the Intermountain Conference with a 77-67 loss at Hood River Valley.

"People are starting to key on Tyler," said coach Zach Dong. "They double and triple-teamed him."

Pendleton was ahead 38-28 at the half, but dropped the game in a crucial third quarter stumble, where the Eagles outscored them 29-14.

"We didn't play our defense well, again," Dong said of the third quarter. "We couldn't keep anybody in front of us, so (Hood River) either got layups, or took to their open guys on the wing. They played really good."

Dakota Sams followed Newsom in scoring, posting 16 points for the night.

Pendleton (8-5, 0-1 IMC) will travel to Baker for a nonleague game on Tuesday.