

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019

FOLLOW US ON [TWITTER @EOSPORTS](#) | [FACEBOOK.COM/EOSPORTS](#)

B1



Hermiston's Adrian Mendez (34) lays the ball in during Saturday's game against Southridge in Kennewick.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

## BIG PLAYS LIFT DAWGS PAST SOUTHRIDGE IN OT

**Boys | Ramirez hits clutch free throws with 10 seconds left**

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian

Big-time players make clutch plays when their teams need them most.

Jordan Ramirez hit two free throws with 10.7 seconds left on the clock, and Adrian Mendez stole the ball with 4 seconds remaining to lead Hermiston to a 62-61 Mid-Columbia Conference road victory on Saturday over Southridge.

"The game was crazy," said Ramirez, who finished with 11 points. "Those (free throws) were must makes. That first one, I thought I air-balled it. The second one, I was like 'OK, this is easy, we are tied.'"

See Boys, Page B2



Hermiston's Mia Hernandez (21) dribbles down court during Saturday's game against Southridge in Kennewick.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

**Girls | Hermiston rolls to big win over Southridge**

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian

Jazlyn Romero scored a game-high 16 points, and Hermiston secured a spot in the 3A regional tournament with a 54-23 Mid-Columbia Conference road victory Saturday over Southridge.

"It was ugly," Bulldogs coach Juan Rodriguez said. "We didn't play overwhelming well, but we got a win. We missed some easy baskets and had too many turnovers."

The Bulldogs (6-10 overall, 4-8 MCC) led 10-5 after the first quarter, then went on an 18-7 run in the second quarter for a 28-12 lead at the half.

Romero scored 11 of her

See Girls, Page B2

## Bucks finish 4th at Oregon Classic

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian

The Pendleton wrestling team is on the rise this season. The Bucks finished fourth in the 5A Division of the Oregon Classic in Redmond over the weekend — their highest placing in recent memory.

"We have been second a couple of times," Pendleton coach Fred Phillips said. "But I don't remember the last time we were in the top four. We've wrestled a lot in the last three weeks and we are getting better. We beat some really good kids, won some big matches and competed hard."

The Bucks opened the tournament Friday with a 78-6 win over Rex Putnam, picking up six forfeits along the way.

Thurston handed Pendleton a 42-37 loss. Bucks' heavy-weight Travis McGee had the quickest pin of the bout, beating Duncan Hicks in 14 seconds.

In the third round of pool matches, Pendleton shut out Redmond II 80-0.

Pendleton finished off the first day with a 51-30 victory over West Albany, with McGee again dominating his opponent with an 8-second pin.

"Travis is a big, physical kid," Phillips said. "He just threw him down and pinned him. I was surprised he was that fast. I didn't see that coming."

The Bucks moved into the championship bracket on Saturday, and began the day with a 36-28 quarterfinal win over Redmond.

In the semifinals, the Dallas Dragons beat the Bucks 59-12, registering eight pins.

In the third-place match, Pendleton dropped a 46-18 decision to the Crater Comets, getting wins from Alex Rendon (126/132), Chris Chambers (138), Isaac Urbina (160) and Aiden Henderson (195).

Rendon finished the weekend with a 7-0 record for the Bucks, recording four pins, two decisions and one forfeit. Rendon has just four losses on the year.

Urbina also had a perfect record for the Bucks, recording three pins and three decisions — all by the identical scores of 7-4.

Henderson posted a 5-2 record, registering two pins and two decisions. One of his losses came at 220 pounds, when he

See Bucks, Page B2

### PREP ROUNDUP

## Stevens drives Mac-Hi boys to GOL victory

East Oregonian

Mac-Hi resumed Greater Oregon League play with a resounding 71-33 home victory Saturday over Ontario.

Deraegan Stevens led the Pioneers with 15 points, while Armando Ruiz and Zach Hodgen each added 12.

"This was probably the most complete game we've played this year," Mac-Hi coach Jordan Poyner said. "This group is buying

in and starting to play really good basketball."

The victory included a 19-2 third-quarter run that helped bury the Tigers.

"We made a lot of shots in the second half through running great offense, and running the floor," Poyner said. "It was a fun game and a great win."

The Pioneers (11-6, 2-1 GOL) travel to Elgin on Tuesday for a nonleague game.

SHERMAN 79, IONE 28 —

The Cardinals were no match for the host Huskies, who handed Ione its 10th Big Sky League loss.

Hunter Padberg led the Cardinals with nine points, including a 7-for-8 performance at the free-throw line. JR Roque followed with six points.

Ione (1-16, 0-10 BSL) hosts Mitchell/Spray on Tuesday.

DUFUR 53, ECHO 28 — The Cougars dropped their fifth consecutive Big Sky League game to the host Rangers.

Dufur held Echo to under 10 points per quarter to secure the win.

Braden MacPherson had a team-high nine points for Echo (2-16, 1-9 BSL), and shot 60 percent from the floor. Noah Scott followed with eight points.

Echo travels to Horizon Christian on Friday.

HEPPNER 82, WESTON-MCEWEN 39 — The Mustangs improved to 7-0 in the Blue Mountain Conference after cruising to a

home win over the TigerScots.

Heppner made easy work of the TigerScots in the first half, leading 20-7 after the first quarter, and 41-9 at the half.

Trent Smith led the Mustangs with 19 points. Aiden Wolf had eight for the TigerScots.

Heppner (13-6, 7-0 BMC) will host Stanfield on Friday, while Weston-McEwen (4-14, 2-5) will host Enterprise.

See Preps, Page B2

Tom Dunchel's **FORDCOUNTRY.COM**  
541-567-3291  
555 S. Hwy 395, Hermiston  
Mon.-Sat. 8am-7pm | Sun. 11am-5pm

We are HUGE supporters of our community and we are very proud to be **GIVING BACK**

**Hermiston**  
  
541-567-5555  
81143 N. Hwy 395, Hermiston  
Mon.-Sat. 8am-7pm | Sun. 11am-5pm

TWO DEALERSHIPS, ONE FAMILY, SERVING YOUR FAMILY & OUR COMMUNITY