

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2019

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## Bucks ground Riverhawks



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Muriel Hoisington (34), of Pendleton, drives past two Riverhawks to the basket during Friday's game against The Dalles.

By BRETT KANE  
East Oregonian

Friday night's game left sophomore Natalie Neveau a little shaken.

"I'm still a little nerve-wracked," the 5-foot-6 post said. "The Dalles are scrappy. They go after everything."

The Bucks just scraped past The Dalles 40-34 to remain undefeated in Intermountain Conference action. The two teams kept within two points of each other for the meat of the first half before a couple of key runs in the second gave Pendleton the edge.

"I expected us to win, no question," said Bucks coach Kevin Porter. "But I told the girls that it would be a dog fight the entire time. The Dalles is tough every game. I knew we'd have to grind it out."

The score tied three times in the first half alone before Neveau and junior Sami Spriet scored four straight points to take the first quarter, 9-6.

Pendleton coughed up the lead in the second quarter after Riverhawks junior Jenna Miller sank a 3-pointer for a 14-11 Dalles lead with 4:27 left to go. The Riverhawks stayed up front for the next three minutes until Bucks sophomore Josie Wilson closed the half with a basket to put Pendleton ahead 18-17.

It was in the second half that Neveau and senior Katie Bradt kicked into high gear. Neveau scored four straight points and Bradt scored six points in mid-quarter three to allow the Bucks some distance. A 3-pointer



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Josie Wilson (10), of Pendleton, goes up for a jump shot during Friday's game against The Dalles at Warberg Court.

### GIRLS' BOX SCORE

Pendleton	9	9	14	8-40
The Dalles	6	11	8	9-34
PENDLETON —	Neveau 14, Bradt 11, Nirschl 6, Spriet 5, Wilson 2, Hoisington 2			
THE DALLES —	Hoylman 16, Belanger 9, Miller 8, Salvatori 1			

from Spriet also helped keep Pendleton alive.

"Katie is one of our captains. She took it upon herself tonight and rose to the occasion," Porter said. "That's what you look for in a senior leader. And Natalie never gets denied."

Although the Bucks led by eight points going into the final quarter, The Dalles kept them on their toes, coming within three points of the lead with just 1:34 left to play.

Bradt and freshman Muriel Hoisington missed their free throws that would've lessened the tension, but Neveau came back once again to save the day, grabbing an offensive rebound to score, and put in another point at the line for good measure to close the game.

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## BOYS HOOPS



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Hermiston's Andrew James shoots the ball guarded by Hanford's Garrett Horner in the Bulldogs' 58-52 loss to the Falcons on Friday in Hermiston.

## Dawgs lose lead, key game to Hanford

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian

Hermiston made sure it held Connor Woodward in check Friday night, but Hanford in turn used its entire arsenal of weapons to sneak past the Bulldogs in Mid-Columbia Conference action.

The Falcons used a 19-7 run in the fourth quarter to overcome a six-point deficit to start the fourth quarter and post a 58-52 victory over the Bulldogs (12-5, 8-5 MCC) at the Dawg House.

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### BOX SCORE

Hanford	13	12	14	19-58
Hermiston	16	12	17	7-52
HANFORD —	Horner 9, DeVine 4, Woodward 16, Sutey 2, Izquierdo 13, Milliken 9, VanderTop 10.			
HERMISTON —	Andreason 8, Ortiz 12, James 4, Smith 6, Madrigal 3, Ramirez 15, Mendez 4.			

## GIRLS HOOPS

## Thomas leads Hermiston to MCC win over Hanford

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian

Hermiston coach Juan Rodriguez has pleaded with his team all season to feed the ball inside to 6-foot-4 post Jordan Thomas. Friday night, the Bulldogs did just that.

Thomas finished with a game-high 21 points to lead Hermiston to a 52-43 Mid-Columbia Conference victory over Hanford at the Dawg House.

"It's happening," Rodriguez said of utilizing Thomas more. "Other players made some good plays too."

Hermiston (7-10, 5-8 MCC), which

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### BOX SCORE

Hanford	4	7	11	12-43
Hermiston	16	10	11	15-52
HANFORD —	Moran 13, Beattie 8, Robinson 2, Nelson 6, Davis 8, Harlow 2, Ellis 4.			
HERMISTON —	Young 2, Ray 7, Byrd 6, Stefani 5, Hernandez 2, Romero 9, Thomas 21.			

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