

Hermiston digs deep on Pink Night to beat Pasco



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Daisy Maddox (11), of Hermiston, spikes the ball during Thursday's game against the Pasco Bulldogs.

Dowdy leads the Bulldogs with 17 assists and 16 digs

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Dig Pink Night had special meaning for Hermiston setter Kendall Dowdy, who lost her grandma to cancer. “Today, I played for my grandma Kathy (Reimers),” Dowdy said. “To play for something more than my school is something special. I’m glad we were able to come out with the win.”

See Pink, Page B2



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Courtnee West (5), of Hermiston, bumps the ball as teammate Kendall Dowdy (6) backs her up during Thursday's game against the Pasco Bulldogs.

Cougars outlast Cardinals in four-set battle

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

ECHO — The Cardinals brought a fight to the Cougars’ court, but could not withstand Tylene Skillman’s swing. The senior middle blocker scored a match-high 22 points off of 10 kills and eight blocks to help Echo rout visiting Lone/Arlington 25-22, 25-20, 21-25, 25-23 in a heated Big Sky League volleyball match on Thursday night. “They’re a really good volleyball team,” Skillman said. “We knew it would be a fight. We were on the top of our game today.” Following their first meeting of the season in which the Cougars won in five, the Cardinals grabbed an 8-6 lead in early set one after breaking three ties.

Skillman pulled Echo even with Lone at 13-13, and sophomore setter Faith McCarty’s ace sparked a four-point rally that kept the Cougars alive. Cardinals sophomore Isabella Mastriona served an ace that evened the score at 21-21, but three unforced errors gave the set to the Cougars. “Echo is a great team, defensively,” Lone coach Teren Humphrey said. “They’re very aggressive.” The score tied three more times in the opening minutes of the second set until the Cardinals took flight with a four-point rally of their own that put them up 9-5. Skillman hit a return that Lone couldn’t recover for a 10-10

See Cougars, Page B2



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Echo’s Tylene Skillman (17) blocks a hit from Lone/Arlington’s Emma Rietmann (10) during the third set. The Echo Cougars defeated the Lone/Arlington Cardinals in four sets at Echo High School Thursday night.

PREP ROUNDUP

Mendoza pushes Bucks past Panthers

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Jamie Mendoza capitalized on Pendleton’s ball movement on Thursday, netting three goals to lead the Buckaroos past Intermountain Conference foe Redmond 5-2. “We’ve been emphasizing playing simple and just moving the ball around,” Pendleton coach Alex Erazo said. Juan Ortega and Jon Lopez each found the back of the net themselves. Pendleton led 2-0 just 10 minutes into the game, but after a dry spell until the second half, the Buckaroos scored again and cruised to the win. The win to begin the second half of league play puts Pendleton within sight of the playoffs with just two weeks remaining in the regular season. “We’re really happy with where we’re at,” Erazo said. “We have a good feeling moving forward and tonight was a good step in the right direction.” Pendleton (4-5-1, 3-3) hosts The Dalles/Dufur next Tuesday.

Girls soccer

REDMOND 5, PENDLETON 2 — Pendleton competed at home versus Redmond, keeping the game tied 2-2 at half until falling flat in the second half and losing 5-2. Reily Lovercheck scored both of the Buckaroos goals in the first half, and coach Paul Parker highlighted the play of Lindsey Paseña-Littlesky as goalkeeper. Despite the disappointing second half, Parker said Thursday’s loss was a sign of improvement after the Buckaroos lost to Redmond 10-0 earlier in the year. Pendleton (1-9, 1-5) travels to The Dalles/Dufur next Tuesday. **HERMISTON 1, PASCO 0** — Hermiston outshot Pasco 13-5 and played strong defensively to secure a 1-0 victory. “If we play with a solid defense, we play with a different composure throughout the game,” Bulldogs coach Freddy Guizar said. Hermiston’s goal came in the 12th minute off a set play when Jayden Ray crossed a ball in front of the goal and Jizzelle Gonzalez chipped it over the keeper. Hermiston (2-11, 2-10) plays at Southridge on Tuesday and hosts Chiawana on Thursday to end the season.

Volleyball

UNION 3, WESTON-MCEWEN 1 — Weston-McEwen started strong but failed to execute the rest of the way, losing to BMC frontrunner Union in four sets 20-25, 25-22, 25-14, 25-20. “We’re right there,” TigerScots coach Shawn White said. “It was really just the third set where we lost our way a bit and lost focus.” Union entered Thursday’s match 11-0 in BMC play and as the No. 3 ranked team in the OSAA. But the TigerScots managed to make adjustments from the teams’ first meeting and were successful on the blocks. Cloe Davis led WM with 11 blocks and Ellie Scheibner had 10. Davis also tallied 20 digs and eight assists, while Scheibner connected for five kills. W-M (16-9, 6-5) plays in its season finale at Enterprise next Tuesday. **HEPPNER 3, PILOT ROCK 0** — Heppner took care of Pilot Rock at home, sweeping the Rockets 25-13, 25-20, 25-18. “We’ve been telling the girls we needed to work on the little things and we definitely got a

See Roundup, Page B2