

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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Hermiston's Sanchez second at MCC Championships

Anderson finishes 10th to lead the Hermiston boys

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

RICHLAND, Wash. — There's nothing like a run along the river on a fall day.

Hermiston sophomore Cydney Sanchez finished second in the girls 3A race Thursday at the Mid-Columbia Conference

Championships at Leslie Groves Park, while junior Amanda Nygard was fourth in the final event before the regional meet next week in Spokane, Washington.

"I was 10 seconds or so off my PR, but it was still a good race," said Sanchez, who clocked in at 19 minutes, 42.24 seconds. "It was warm. I'm not used to the heat."



Nygard



Anderson



Sanchez

20:09.40 was about 45 seconds off her PR, said her legs just weren't there for her during the race.

"My legs are tired," she said. "I felt like I needed to rolled them out, but I never did. I knew my time wasn't good. I didn't even look at the clock."

The Hermiston girls finished third in the team race behind Kennewick (36) and Kamiakin (44) with 56 points.

Alexia Serna was third

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PREP ROUNDUP

Badgers hand Rockets first loss

East Oregonian

LA GRANDE — The Pilot Rock/Nixyaawii Rockets were handed their first loss of the season Thursday, falling to Powder Valley, 48-36, in a nonleague neutral site contest at Eastern Oregon University.

Tanner Corwin threw for 324 yards and four touchdowns, including a 43-yard scoring strike to Logan Weinke for a 36-26 lead with 4:48 to play in the third quarter.

But the Badgers scored 22 unanswered points in the fourth quarter, taking their first lead of the game, 40-36, on a 51-yard touchdown reception by Roper Bingham with 4 minutes to play. Reece Dixon, who passed for 251 yards and rushed for 250, iced the game with 1:28 to play with an 80-yard touchdown run.

Corwin and Weinke connected for three touchdown passes — the others going for 9 and 45 yards. Corwin also threw an 83-yard TD pass to Tyasin Burns, but was also picked off three times — twice in the end zone.

Weinke finished with 10 catches for 220 yards for the Rockets. Burns added 167 yards rushing and a touchdown, and 121 yards receiving.

The Rockets (6-1 overall) face Adrian/Jordan Valley in the Special District 3 title game Nov. 1 at Eastern Oregon University.

Boys soccer

RIVERSIDE 9, FOUR RIVERS 0 — After a long trip out to Four Rivers, Riverside is bringing home a 9-0 Eastern Oregon League win to show for it.

"You already made a three hour trip out here, might as well get out there and run a bit," Pirates coach Jose Duenas said of his team's strong start.

Gerardo Lopez led Riverside with a hat trick, while Humberto Sanchez also scored two goals. Christian Rea, Diego Magana, Ezequiel Ramos and Edwin Pacheco were also goal scorers.

The win is Riverside's (9-3, 8-0 EOL) eighth in a row. The Pirates go for their ninth at home on Saturday versus Nyssa.

PENDLETON 5, CROOK COUNTY 2 — Despite struggling with what Pendleton coach Alex Erazo called "selfish play" in the first half, the Buckaroos recovered in the second for a 5-2 victory at Crook County in Intermountain Conference play.

"I think we saw the opportunity to score a lot of goals and played a little bit as individuals rather than as a team," Erazo said of the first half, which Pendleton led 2-1.

But following a discussion with his group during the break, the Buckaroos came out and poured

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Dawgs sweep Suns in MCC action

Dowdy hands out 33 assists, while Vertrees lays down seven kills

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — On a night they honored their seniors, the Hermiston Bulldogs celebrated with a sweep of Southridge.

Kendall Dowdy had 33 assists and seven kills, and Grace Vertrees added seven kills as the Bulldogs posted a 25-14, 25-19, 25-21 Mid-Columbia Conference win over the Suns.

"This is emotional, especially with this group of girls," said senior Emma Combes, who had four aces and four kills. "A win makes it that much better."

The Bulldogs (5-7 MCC), who had to rally in the first and second sets for the win, led from start to finish in the third set. Other than ties at 8-8 and 9-9, Hermiston had its act together.

Dowdy opened the set with three consecutive points, and a pair of aces by Combes gave Hermiston a 6-2 lead.

The Suns (1-12 MCC) came back, but once the Bulldogs went out front 10-9, the closest the Suns would get would be 21-19 and 22-20.

Senior outside hitter Daisy Maddox finished the set and the match with a kill.

"I'm proud of the girls, especially the seniors, for taking care of business in three," Hermiston coach Amy Dyck said. "We are lucky. Our four seniors have vital roles on and off the court. They are good role models and it's a privilege to coach them."

The Suns raced out to a 6-1 lead in the first set, only to see the Bulldogs bounce back.

Combes served five points for a 7-2 lead, but Southridge's Mattie Staybrook tipped over a block to even the score at 7-7.

Tied at 8-8, Halee Stubbs put four points in the board, getting help from Kambree Baker with a block, and a kill



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Hermiston's Kambree Baker (9) blocks Southridge's Mattie Staybrook (10) during Thursday's game at the Dawg House.

by Vertrees for a 12-8 lead.

When Stubbs rotated back around to the service line, she took the Bulldogs' 19-13 lead and parlayed it into a 23-13 advantage, with Combes putting down a thunderous back-row kill in the rally.

Vertrees had back-to-back

kills to end the set.

"I love to hit from the back row," Combes said. "If I miss, I want them to set me again, I will get it. I love playing the front row too. I like to hit."

In the second set, the Suns led 8-3 after an ace by Staybrook, but the Bulldogs were

able to pull within 8-7 with back-to-back kills by Baker and Dowdy.

Tied at 10-10, Baker served the next three points for Hermiston, including an ace and a double block by Malayna

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Ravens sweep Bucks to end regular season

Bucks stay close for two sets before Ravens run wild in the third

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — To close their regular season, Pendleton volleyball played one of its toughest matches so far.

The third-ranked Bucks (10-8, 6-4 IMC) wrapped up Intermountain Conference play on Thursday night's senior celebration, hanging close with the visiting No. 1 Ridgeview Ravens (21-4, 10-0 IMC) for

two 25-22 sets before a 25-13 third set kept the match out of reach as the Ravens stayed undefeated in the league.

The loss halted a five-match streak and marked the second three-set defeat Pendleton suffered against Ridgeview this season.

"We stuck with them in both matches," said senior setter Sami Spriet after finishing her high school career's final match on Warberg Court. "We know (Ridgeview is) going to be a really great team every year."

Although the Bucks ended the night with a loss, they hung onto their No. 3 spot in the league standings,

earning themselves a ticket to districts next Saturday. The opponent and site has yet to be determined.

"These girls played the game of their lives tonight," Pendleton coach Amanda Lapp said. "They're peaking at the right time of the season. It was awesome to see."

The first set saw the scoreboard pull even at nearly every other point until Pendleton junior middle blocker Josie Wilson hit a kill that gave Pendleton a brief 22-21 lead. Unforced errors soon handed the set to Ridgeview.

The Ravens put three unanswered

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Staff photo by Ben Lonergan
Pendleton's Sami Spriet (9) hits the ball during the first set against the Ravens. The Ridgeview Ravens defeated the Pendleton Buckaroos in three sets at Pendleton High School on Thursday night.