

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019

FOLLOW US ON  TWITTER @EOSPORTS |  FACEBOOK.COM/EOSPORTS

B1

PENDLETON PREP BASKETBALL

Bucks roll to 64-45 victory over Southridge

Dakota Sams and Lane Maher combine for 35 points for Pendleton

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

KENNEWICK, Wash. — Dakota Sams wasn't playing at 100 percent Tuesday night, but you wouldn't know it by the effort he put on the court.

Sams had a game-high 18

points, and Lane Maher added 17 as Pendleton cruised to a 64-45 nonleague victory over Southridge.

"We had long weekend down in Wilsonville with three tough games," Sams said. "We had one day in between, and here we are. We have some guys out sick, so it feels good to get this win."

The Suns got off to a 7-2 lead in the first quarter, but it was all Bucks from there.

Stockton Hoffman and Sams hit back-to-back 3-pointers, and Pendleton led 16-12 after the

first quarter.

The Bucks went on a 21-12 run in the second to take control of the game. Sams scored nine of his points in the second, while Maher had 10 to give Pendleton a 39-24 lead at the half.

"It took a bit to get their feet under them," Pendleton coach Zach Dong said of his team. "We got up and down the floor, and put four pretty good quarters together. I'm proud of them for that."

Holding a 50-33 lead after

See Boys, Page B2

Pendleton tops Southridge 41-31

Tabor scores 10 points in final quarter as Bucks win first game of season

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

KENNEWICK, Wash. — Pendleton was behind the 8-ball before it left town Tuesday afternoon.

Key player Muriel Hoisington was home sick, leaving the Bucks shorthanded as they hit the road to

play Southridge.

No worries. The Bucks rallied from an early deficit, then went on a 16-6 run in the fourth quarter for a 41-31 nonleague win over the Suns.

"Honestly, I don't know what it is. I've never had a team that didn't play all four quarters," said Pendleton coach Kevin Porter, whose team picked up its first win. "We make silly mistakes a lot, but they never quite trying."

For the Suns, it was their first

See Girls, Page B2

DAWGS FALL IN BATTLE WITH DAVIS

Davis breaks away in second half to hand Hermiston their second nonleague loss

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Coming into their last preseason game before starting their league run, the Bulldogs expected a fight if they were going to beat Davis.

And a fight was what they got.

After a technical foul and a rough second half, the visiting Davis Pirates made off with a 98-74 win over the Bulldogs on Tuesday night. Following the technical foul, the third quarter saw the Pirates tear away with eight and seven-point streaks from which the Bulldogs never recovered.

"Coming into the game, we knew it was going to be a battle," Hermiston junior shooting guard Jaiden Ruloph said. "We came out in the first half with high energy, but we kinda fell under the pressure. Going up against Davis, you gotta be ready for the physicality."

The two teams swapped the lead twice, and tied four times before Hermiston narrowly came out on top at the first buzzer. Senior wing Ivan Rangel gave Hermiston their first lead at 5-4 with a trey two and a half minutes into the first quarter before Pirates senior guard Earl Lee III recovered their advantage one minute later. Ruloph scored a basket and two points at the line to give Hermiston its second lead in response.

Senior wing Trent Pitney scored a basket with eight seconds left in the quarter to break away from a 19-19 tie to help Hermiston take the quarter.



Hermiston's Trent Pitney goes up for a shot as Marcus Cook, of Davis, defends during Tuesday's game at the Dawg House.

The score tied twice more, and Hermiston was forced to recover the lead two more times before Davis took over. Pirates senior guard Marcus Cook scored two at the line, and sophomore forward Dhan-taye Bennet-Joe sunk his first of three, 3-pointers for a 27-27 tie.

Ruloph scored a 3 and a basket in response to push the Dawgs back out front, but the lead would not last.

The Pirates embarked on a brief six-point streak, and Lee hit two back-to-back baskets in the final two minutes of the half as Davis took a 42-38 lead into

the locker room.

"We were really competing with them in the first half," Hermiston head coach Drew Preuninger said. "In the second half, we were trying to take too many quick shots. That's not the

See Dawgs, Page B2

PREP ROUNDUP

Weston-McEwen boys, girls fall to the Huskies

East Oregonian

ELGIN — Weston-McEwen never led as the Huskies pulled away in the second half to send the TigerScots to their fourth loss of the preseason.

Blane Peal's 3-pointer midway through the third quarter pulled Weston-McEwen within six, but Elgin finished the quarter on a 15-2 run to take a 56-37 lead and put the game out of reach.

Theo White had 14 points for the TigerScots, and both Peal and Blair Rudolph added 12.

Weston-McEwen (0-4 overall) faces visits Kennedy at the Kennedy Classic Friday.

Boys hoops

MAC-HI 48, IRRIGON 38

— Dareagan Stephens scored a game-high 26 points as the Pioneers picked up a road win over the Knights (0-4).

The game was tied 20-20 at the half, and Mac-Hi led just 28-25 after three quarters, but a 20-13 run by the Pioneers in the fourth sealed the win.

"In the fourth, we got sloppy with the ball," Irrigon coach Davie Salas said. "We had way too many turnovers and it got away from us."

Ben Flores led the Knights with 10 points, while Ruben Moreno added eight.

Girls hoops

ELGIN 70, WESTON-MCEWEN 53 — A 15-2 run by the Huskies to start the game was too much for the TigerScots to overcome Tuesday as they dropped their third game of the season.

Charli King was the leading scorer for Weston-McEwen with 12 points, while Bailey Munch added 10.

Jayden Palmer countered with 15 points to lead the Huskies, and Jocelyn Palmer added 11.

Weston-McEwen (1-3 overall) visits Kennedy at the Kennedy Classic on Friday.

See Prep roundup, Page B2

SPORTS SHORTS

NFL salary cap could top \$200 million for 1st time in 2020

Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — The NFL salary cap for 2020 is projected to be in the range of \$196.8 million to \$201.2 million, making it likely for the cap to have an increase of at least \$10 million for the seventh consecutive year.

The 2019 salary cap is at

\$188.2 million. If the cap tops \$200 million for the first time, it will have grown by roughly 40% since 2015, when it was at \$143.3 million.

Clubs were given the estimate Tuesday for the final season of the current collective bargaining agreement as NFL owners gathered for meetings in the Dallas area. Negotiations on

a new labor deal were expected to be among the topics for owners to discuss.

The updated salary cap figure is released when free agency opens along with the official new league year each March. The cap was \$120.4 million in the first year of the labor deal in 2011. The cap has increased roughly 65% since then.



Baltimore Ravens outside linebacker Matt Judon (99) celebrates a 24-17 win over the Buffalo Bills after an NFL football game in Orchard Park, N.Y., on Sunday. AP Photo/Adrian Kraus