

VonOelhoffen powers Chiawana past Hermiston 58-31

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — When you play a team as good as Chiawana, you need to shoot the ball well. That did not happen for Hermiston on Tuesday night.

The Bulldogs were held to 14 first-half points, and the Riverhawks ran away in the second half for a 58-31 Mid-Columbia Conference victory at the Dawg House.

“We did not shoot well,” Hermiston coach Maloree Moss said.

CHIAWANA 16 6 23 13 — 58
HERMISTON 11 3 9 8 — 31

CHIAWANA — Carreto 1, Agundis 10, Cartwright 1, B.Thorne 4, Pink 5, vonOelhoffen 26, Booth 3, K.Thorne 8.

HERMISTON — Heideman 3, K.Young 2, Ray 4, Hernandez 16, Romero 2, B.Young 4.

“We’d get some defensive stops, then weren’t able to hit our shots. Jazlyn (Romero) couldn’t find a basket. Kind of the story of the night.”

The Bulldogs (9-7, 6-6 MCC) held Chiawana’s Talia vonOelhoffen to six points in the first half, but the 6-foot-1 junior poured in 20 in the second half to rally the Riverhawks (15-2, 12-1).

“My shot wasn’t falling in the

first half,” said vonOelhoffen, who had 26 points and 11 rebounds on the night. “In the second half, I got my rhythm back, and my teammates stepped up.”

The Riverhawks jumped out to an 11-4 lead midway through the first quarter, getting seven points from Alyssa Agundis and four from vonOelhoffen. Agundis finished the game with 10 points.

Hermiston made a late run, capping off the quarter with a 3-pointer by Mia Hernandez from the left wing for a 16-11 game.

The Riverhawks outscored the

Bulldogs 6-3 in the second quarter to take a 22-14 lead at the half.

“In the first half, we were rushing our offense,” Chiawana coach Mike Brown said. “In the second half, we were patient and stuck to the game plan.”

The Riverhawks opened the third quarter on fire. They outscored the Bulldogs 23-9, with vonOelhoffen leading the way with 17 points, including three 3-pointers — the final one coming at the buzzer for a 45-23 lead.

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Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Carissa Cooley (13), of Pendleton, looks past Hood River defender Emma Kroll for a teammate during Tuesday’s Intermountain Conference game at Warberg Court.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Muriel Hoisington (34), of Pendleton, goes up for a shot between Hood River defenders Hannayo Sato (24) and Kaitlyn McNerney during Tuesday’s Intermountain Conference game.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Jonathan Begay (20), of Pendleton, goes to the hoop during Tuesday’s nonconference game against La Grande.

BUCKS DOMINATE HOOD RIVER VALLEY

Pendleton had five players score in double digits against the Eagles

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Just two games into the regular basketball season, and the Pendleton girls know the key to an easy win — bury their opponent early.

On Tuesday, the Bucks (10-4, 2-0 IMC) cruised to one of their season’s easiest wins yet, posting a 30-6 run in the first quarter over visiting Hood River Valley, highlighted by runs of 12 and 13 points, as they knocked down a 75-27 Intermountain Conference win over the Eagles (1-13, 0-2 IMC) to stay unbeaten in league action.

“That was the game plan,” Pendleton head coach Kevin Porter said. “To get an early start and force the issue early. We’re in league play now. We can’t afford not to.”

Pendleton’s early domination got off to a false start after sophomore Muriel Hoisington sunk a basket to put the Bucks on the board just 16 seconds into play before Eagles junior Morgan Baker — the only Hood River Valley to score for the quarter — responded with a basket not a minute later for the game’s first and only tie.

Bucks junior Natalie Neveau got the 13-point streak going with a point at the line, which Hoisington followed with a trey. Hoisington would contribute one more basket to the run, and sophomore Daisy Jenness chipped in four points. The 1.5-minute streak was finally broken up after Baker put up a basket at 4:30 for a 15-4 game.

Jenness scored two at the line at 3:26 to get the Bucks going again, sparking a quarter-closing 12-point run, which

included a pair of treys from sophomore Chloe Taber, as the Bucks put the game away early with a 30-6 lead at the buzzer.

“They’re struggling this year,” Porter said of Hood River Valley, “but their girls didn’t give any less effort from the opening minute until the end. They played hard.”

The Bucks took a 32-point advantage with nine unanswered points midway through the fourth quarter, capped off by two back-to-back baskets from sophomore Brielle Youncs. They led 47-11 at the half.

“We wanted to carry that velocity all the way through the game,” Porter said. “We only did that until halftime. We don’t want to (put Hood River Valley down) too much. It was one of those games where it was tough to have the girls play at the level you want them to for 32 minutes.”

Pendleton senior Sami Spriet helped

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Bucks clinch nonleague win over La Grande

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The Pendleton boys withstood a late La Grande comeback in the fourth quarter, and took advantage of key free throws down the stretch to clinch a 64-57 win over the Tigers in nonleague action on Tuesday night.

“They hung around and hung around,” Pendleton head coach Zach Dong said of La Grande. “They hit a couple shots down the stretch that made it a game for us.”

Although the Bucks managed to stay out front for the majority of the game, Tigers senior guard Kaleb Myer hit a trey from just outside the right side of the arc to pull within one point at 54-53 with 2:32 left to play in the fourth quarter, forcing a Pendleton timeout.

The Buckaroos had previously escaped the first quarter 14-13, and held the Tigers to just six points in the second. The Tigers matched them 18-18 in the third to stay in the game.

“La Grande is a tough team, Dong said. “They have a couple of guys that can really light it up once they get going. Our focus was on their two guards (Myer and junior Cristian Mendoza).”

Pendleton guard trio Greyson Sams, Chauncey Sams, and Bryson Murray held Myer to just nine points on the night, and Mendoza eight, allowing just one Tiger to score in double digits — sophomore guard Devin Bell with a game-high 24.

“That was huge for us,” Dong said.

After the break, Pendleton senior guard Cooper Roberts and Greyson Sams combined for four points for a little distance, but Mendoza fought back with two points at the line to keep

Big second half propels Riverhawks past Dawgs

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Hermiston went toe-to-toe with Chiawana in the first half of Tuesday’s game, but the Riverhawks went into overdrive in the second half to post an 84-60 Mid-Columbia Conference win over the Bulldogs at the Dawg House.

“I thought Hermiston came out and matched our intensity,” Chiawana coach Chad Herron said. “Chase (Elliott) hit some shots. You can tell he is a leader. We responded well in the second half.”

Hermiston (2-14, 1-11), which

CHIAWANA 22 16 25 21 — 84
HERMISTON 13 18 15 14 — 60

CHIAWANA — Cantu 9, DeWitt 16, Perez 14, Manterola 1, Martinez 13, Mendez 15, Davis 6, Bungler 7, Schmidt 3.

HERMISTON — Pitney 9, Lin 2, Elliott 20, Ramos-Barron 8, Rangel 11, Moreno 7, Ray,Ramirez 1, Jai. Ramirez 2.

trailed 8-0 to open the game, pulled within 28-25 with 2:45 to play in the second quarter, and was down 38-31 at the half.

“This is something I have wanted to see from the kids all season — some grit,” Hermiston coach Drew Preuninger said. “Tonight we did and competed



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan
Hermiston’s Trent Pitney (2) goes up for a layup during Tuesday night’s game against the Chiawana Riverhawks at Hermiston High School.

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