

WALLOWA GIRLS TAKE DOWN OUTLAWS

Cougars rally in the second half to take the 49-46 win

Chieftain staff

ENTERPRISE — A schedule change allowed the Wallowa girls basketball team to get a little revenge from an early season loss to Enterprise.

Zoe Hermens scored 20 points, including 11 in the second half, and the Cougars stormed back from a double-digit halftime deficit to steal a 49-46 victory over the Outlaws on Thursday, Dec. 30, in Enterprise.

The Outlaws built a 28-16 halftime lead behind 12 first-half points from Rilyn Kirkland, and while the halftime margin was closer, appeared they would be able to grab a second win over their county rivals. Enterprise won the first time the teams met, 38-30.

The Cougars had other ideas. With Hermens, who had eight points alone in the third quarter, and Libby Fisher, who added five, sparking the offense, Wallowa poured in 21 points in the third quarter and by the time the period was over, found itself ahead 37-33. Abby Straight added all seven of



Wallowa's Zoe Hermens sets to shoot over Enterprise's Kimber Stein on Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021. Hermens scored 20 points in the teams' rematch Dec. 30, which was won by the Cougars, 49-46.

Ronald Bond/Wallowa County Chieftain, File

her points in the fourth, Hermens hit an important 3-pointer, and the Cougars held on.

Fisher finished with eight points for Wallowa (6-4 overall), which won for the fourth time in

five games.

Jada Gray scored 16 points, including 11 in the second half, to lead the Outlaws (5-6 overall), while Kirkland added 14 points.

The teams had home contests

— Wallowa against Sherman and Enterprise against Stanfield — that were previously scheduled for Dec. 30 either postponed or canceled due to road conditions, and scheduled the rematch.

Wallowa was scheduled to play Joseph Jan. 4, then visits Elgin Jan. 7 and hosts Cove Jan. 8.

Enterprise already had its Jan. 4 contest against Pilot Rock postponed, and is scheduled to visit Grant Union Jan. 7 and host Stanfield Jan. 10.

Tuesday, Dec. 28

Wallowa 39, Condon 18: The Wallowa girls basketball team shook off a loss in their first game at the Bouncin' Cancer Tournament to wrap it up with a 39-18 win over Condon on Tuesday, Dec. 28.

The Cougars controlled the contest throughout, building an 18-8 halftime lead, then extending that margin in the third quarter to 34-16. Zoe Hermens, who led the Cougars with 14 points, had eight in the second half of the victory, and Sophie Moeller added 11 points, including eight in the opening half.

Joseph 57, Ione/Arlington 54: The Joseph girls basketball team only ended up playing one game on a scheduled three-game post-Christmas road trip, but made it count as the Eagle girls scored a 57-54 road victory over Ione/Arlington on Tuesday, Dec. 28.

Stats were not provided by press time.

Joseph (3-5 overall) was to visit Wallowa on Jan. 4 to open Old Oregon League play, and next travels to Pine Eagle on Jan. 8.



Spencer Decker, shown setting to shoot Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2021, against Imbler, scored nine points as Enterprise topped Wallowa on Dec. 30, 48-32, for its second victory.

Ronald Bond/Wallowa County Chieftain, File

Enterprise boys get back in the win column

Chieftain staff

ENTERPRISE — The Enterprise boys basketball team finally got back into the win column — and did so against a team it beat earlier in the year.

The Outlaws used a balanced scoring attack to get past Wallowa, 48-32, for their second win of the season Thursday, Dec. 30.

The late rematch was scheduled after Enterprise's home game against Stanfield and Wallowa's contest against Sherman County were canceled.

The teams played a tight first quarter, but Enterprise opened up a double-digit halftime lead of 23-10 as Caden Fent and Spencer Decker both scored five points in the period.

It was the only quarter

that Enterprise was able to gain a substantial advantage, but it was more than enough for the Outlaws.

Wallowa hung around in the second half, but couldn't muster enough offense to rally after the break.

The Outlaws were led in the scorebook by Decker, who finished with nine points. Roan Flynn had eight points, all in the second half, and both Jackson Decker and Maclane Melville scored seven points.

Gabe Nobles and Kellen Knifong both had 11 points to lead the Cougars on offense.

Wallowa (2-8 overall) was slated to meet Joseph on Tuesday, then visits Elgin on Friday and hosts Cove on Saturday, while Enterprise (2-8 overall) heads to Grant Union on Friday and hosts

Stanfield on Monday after its matchup against Pilot Rock on Tuesday was postponed.

Tuesday, Dec. 28
Ione/Arlington 56, Joseph 41: The Joseph boys basketball team played neck-and-neck with Ione/Arlington for a half Tuesday, Dec. 28, before Ione/Arlington pulled away in the second half for a 56-41 win in a non-league contest.

The teams were tied at 10-10 after one, and Joseph was down just 26-23 at the break. But Ione/Arlington started to separate itself after the break, pulling ahead 40-31 after three and adding 16 points in the fourth to finish off the victory.

The Eagles showed balance on offense, with Reece Nelson leading the way with 12 points — including

three 3-pointers — and both Hayden Hite and James Burney adding eight points.

The rest of the Eagles' contests on its post-Christmas road trip were canceled. Joseph (2-6 overall) was slated to visit Wallowa on Tuesday, Jan. 4, then heads to Pine Eagle on Friday.

Condon 59, Wallowa 30: The Wallowa boys basketball team dropped its final game at the Bouncin' Cancer Tournament as Condon came away with a 59-30 victory Dec. 28.

Condon put the game out of reach early, pouring in 27 first-quarter points, to lead by 21 after one, and leading by 27 at halftime and 29 after three quarters.

Willie Gibbs was the top scorer for the Cougars with nine points, and Kellen Knifong added seven points.



Dylan Rogers, of Joseph, shown during the Enterprise Kickoff, won two matches to claim his weight class at the Pomeroy Christmas Tournament on Thursday, Dec. 30, 2021.

Ronald Bond/Wallowa County Chieftain, File

Rogers' win helps Eagles tie for sixth at Pomeroy

Chieftain staff

POMEROY, Wash. — Dylan Rogers claimed his weight class to help the Joseph wrestling team tie for sixth at the Pomeroy Christmas Tournament on Thursday, Dec. 30, in Pomeroy, Washington.

Rogers only needed to win two matches — including one against his Eagles' teammates, Jayden McNall — to take the 126-pound weight class. Rogers pinned McNall in their matchup, then later in the day, pinned Union/Cove's Jacob Jones to claim his round-robin weight class. McNall shook off the loss against Rogers to take second at 126, as he came back to pin Jones to take second.

Gavin Russell had a busy day at 152 pounds, going 3-2 on the day. The day started rough with a 7-2 loss to Fabien Garduno of White

Swan. He followed with a win by injury against Pomeroy's Tyler Slaybaugh, then was hit with a second loss, a close 10-9 setback against Preston Michel of Wilbur Creston Keller. He finished, though, with two wins against two other WCK wrestlers, pinning both Lanny Stroyk and Ruger Angstrom to finish sixth.

And in the Girls 105 class, Megan Brock dropped her lone match by fall to Isabella Tiwebemal of Inchelium.

Joseph finished with 22 points in the tournament. Up next for the Eagles is their home Jo-Hi Invite this weekend, Jan. 7-8.

Enterprise, meanwhile, was set to compete at Riverside on Dec. 30, but the Outlaws' trip over was canceled due to inclement weather conditions.

Enterprise next wrestles at Joseph Jan. 7-8.



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