

SPORTS

Hermiston lacrosse shows promise following losses

BY SAM BARBEE
HERMISTON HERALD

Last spring, the Hermiston lacrosse team lost to Canby by 10 goals in its final game of the year.

This spring, the Bulldogs scored six of seven third-quarter goals to mount a second-half comeback, but the Canby Cougars proved to be too much, holding off the Bulldogs 14-12 Sunday afternoon at Sunset Elementary School.

The game was the third of the week for the Bulldogs (1-2). They lost to Southridge (Washington) 11-7 on March 16 and beat Century 12-6 on Friday. Though head coach Scott Hammond said three games in a week can, and will, cause fatigue, it wasn't an excuse.

"I just thought we were way too inconsistent," he said. "We gotta play more consistent. I thought we played really well on Friday night, but I thought we looked a little bit slow, a little bit tired (on Sunday). That's not an excuse. We gotta keep working and keep getting better."

George Westfall led the Bulldogs with four goals, and AJ Schoonover and Bradley Giusti had three apiece.

Bulldog goalkeeper Chris Jones turned away seven shots in total, and Hammond said a num-



Hermiston lacrosse player Tucker Salinas (22) drives against Canby's Chris Morris during the second half of Hermiston's 14-12 loss Sunday at Sunset Elementary School.

SAM BARBEE PHOTO

ber of the goals allowed weren't his fault.

"He's solid for us, real solid," Hammond said of Jones. "A lot of those goals, we put him in a really bad position. We gotta work better as a team defensively, staying in front of our guy, help side. That's not all on him by any means."

Hammond said, while his Bulldogs were timid in their first contest of the week, by the third game the timidity was gone.

Hermiston scored the first goal of Sunday's game off the opening face-off and led 5-2 after the opening quarter.

The lead wouldn't last, however. Canby scored five goals in the second quarter to Hermiston's one and took a 7-6 lead at halftime. No Canby player scored more than one goal in that period in a very balanced attack.

Hammond has been preaching competition and competitiveness,

and, in the third quarter, Hermiston showed it can fight.

After giving up three straight to start the second half, Hammond took time to talk with his club with the Bulldogs down 10-7. Westfall then got hot and hit the back of the net three times in the third quarter. His third of the quarter and fourth of the day tied things up at 11 to complete the comeback, but Hammond said his team spent a bit too

much energy in that time.

"We just gotta stay consistent throughout," Hammond said of falling behind in the second and coming back in the third. "If we don't put ourselves in that position in the second of being down, then we could already be in a good position and add to a lead at that point, instead of having to claw back and having to use up all our energy to come back in the game."

Canby scored the first

three goals of the fourth quarter, and Schoonover's last score, with about two minutes left, proved to be too little too late.

Despite the frustrating loss, Hammond was satisfied his team played better than the last time it took on Canby. Hammond said the Bulldogs competed last year but just didn't have the ability to stay with a decent Canby team. This year, Canby had to hold off the Bulldogs in a close, competitive game. In his post-game address, Hammond told his players they should have won, that they can beat that team.

"I don't think (that game's) anywhere close to our potential," Hammond said. "It's still really early in the season. We have a ton of things we can still be better at. We could have done a couple (more) things right and won that game."

Still, he thinks the team's outlook is bright this season, with most of the roster made up of freshmen and sophomores.

"There's no doubt this is moving in the right direction," he said. "We're light years ahead of where we were last year. We're just not where we want to be."

Hermiston next plays at 5 p.m. today against the Richland Bombers at Sunset Elementary School.

Vikings fall to Dufur Saturday

The Umatilla baseball team came away from Saturday's doubleheader in Dufur with two losses.

The Vikings lost to the Dufur Rangers 13-3 in the opener, and Kennedy snuck past the Vikings 4-3 in the finale.

The Vikings committed five errors in the 10-run loss, allowing seven unearned runs.

Cory Landon, Josh Dever and Cody Samson had the only hits for Umatilla in the first game. The Vikings scored the first run of the ballgame when Landon singled, stole second and third and scored on a ground ball off the bat of Dever. The lead wouldn't last as Dufur plated seven in the bottom half, with four of those unearned.

In the second game, Umatilla stuck close to Kennedy and even had a chance to win in the final inning. Kennedy struck first, scoring two in the first. Umatilla answered in the second, when Tristen Sanguino walked and scored on a double from Ernesto Barrea to make the count 2-1. Kennedy tacked on two more in the fourth to take a 4-1 lead, and Umatilla got one back in the sixth after back-to-back doubles from Jair Andrade and Kole Keller to cut the lead in half at 4-2. Umatilla got one more in the seventh when Emilio Bernal walked and scored.

With the tying run on base, Dever, who Vikings skipper Corleone "Booter" Lewis called his best hitter, popped up to right to end the threat and the game.

Dever pitched all seven

innings in the 4-3 loss to Kennedy, and, according to Lewis, "pitched a hell of a game." Lewis was also impressed that his team made the nightcap a competitive ballgame after getting routed in the opener.

"It was a good game, we just took a little too long to get the bats going," Lewis said Sunday. "I was very happy the way, after getting 10-run, then coming back the next game 20 minutes later and losing by one. I was really impressed with the attitude they came back with. They came back and battled."

Umatilla starts its league schedule April 3 when it hosts Vale for a doubleheader starting at 2 p.m.

DUFUR 13, UMATILLA 3 (5)

UHS	100	02-3 3 5
DHS	700	42-13 7 0

WP: T. Tibbets LP: C. Landon
2B: K. Bales (DHS)

KENNEDY 4, UMATILLA 3

KHS	200	200
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0-4 3 0

UHS	010	001
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1-3 3 1

2B: D. Arritola (KHS), H. Melsness (KHS), J. Andrade (UHS), K. Keller (UHS).

BASEBALL

The Stanfield Tigers baseball team continued its season-opening slide, losing a pair in Cashmere, Washington on Saturday.

The Tigers lost the opener of the doubleheader to Cascade (Leavenworth) 13-10 and were one-hit in a 10-0 bludgeoning.

Stanfield (0-3) gave up seven runs in the bottom half of the second inning to Cascade and could nev-

er recover. The Kodiaks won despite committing eight errors. The first nine Cascade batters reached base in that second inning, producing the seven runs. Stanfield, though, would come back in the top of the third, plating six of its own. The Tigers capitalized on three Cascade errors in that inning, and Tyler Monkus and Ryan Bailey each had RBI singles.

Monkus started on the bump and went four innings, allowed 12 runs (nine earned) on nine hits, walked six and struck out one. Hunter Barnes was stellar in relief, tossing two innings and allowing just one unearned run on one hit.

Jason Fitzpatrick was 2-for-4, Dylan Grogan scored two runs and Ryan Bailey had two RBIs.

In the second game of the day, Stanfield's bats never came to life. Cashmere starter Tyler Chipman allowed just five base runners in six innings and struck out seven in the one-hit shutout. Cashmere took a 4-0 lead into the bottom of the sixth inning and plated six, giving them a 10-run advantage, initiating the mercy rule.

Grogan had the only hit for Stanfield, notching a single in the first inning. Barnes started on the bump, went three innings and allowed four runs (all earned) on four hits and struck out one. Keith Wampler and Fitzpatrick were solid in relief, combining for 2.2 innings and just one run, but Justin Keeney didn't have that kind of success. He didn't record an out and al-

lowed five runs (all earned) on two hits.

Stanfield hosts Union/Cove on Thursday at 11 a.m.

CASCADE (LEAVENWORTH) 13, STANFIELD 10

SHS	006	022
0-10 9 4		
CHS	071	140
X-13 10 8		

WP: C. McMatton LP: T. Monkus
2B: D. Grogan (SHS), K. Kish (CHS). 3B: A. Murdock (CHS).

CASHMERE (WA) 10, STANFIELD 0 (6)

SHS	000	000-0 1 0
CHS	202	006-10 7 0

WP: T. Chipman LP: H. Barnes
2B: J. Frazier (CHS), P. Landdeck (CHS). 3B: M. Elliot (CHS).

GOLF

The Hermiston boys golf team had its best day ever in Grandview, Washington. In the last five years, the Bulldogs' best finish was second, and they never had anyone break 80. Monday, Hermiston did both.

The Bulldogs shot 25-over 313 as a team, claiming the team title. Paden La Coursiere, who battled windy conditions along the back nine, held on to even par, which ended up being the lowest score of the day.

Hermiston head coach Mike Frink said the conditions started calm but slowly picked up until conditions on the back-nine were very difficult.

La Coursiere was 2-under going into the back nine and had to work hard to keep his score from ballooning.

"It was a good round, let's put it that way," Frink said.

Keegan Crafton finished

third with a 4-over 76 and beat Zillah's No. 1 player in a one-hole playoff for third place. Zac Adams, made five on his first five holes and shot 1-under 35 on the back nine to salvage a fifth-place 5-over 77.

Hermiston's next tournament is April 3 at Eagle Crest/Ridge in Redmond. The event is slated to start at 9 a.m.

SOFTBALL

The Hermiston softball team dropped both of its games at the Spring Break Invitational in Clackamas, losing the first to Oregon City 7-0 and the second to Franklin 13-10.

In the opener, Hermiston was one-hit — the lone knock being a bunt single by cleanup hitter Mikayla Kopacz. The Pioneers' pitcher struck out 12 in the dominant performance.

In the nightcap, Hermiston came up short 13-10 in a barn-burner with Franklin. Hermiston scored in the first five innings but couldn't push one across late. Hermiston got its 10 runs on just four hits.

Julissa Almaguer pitched all but one, throwing the first two and the final 3.2.

In its final two games at the Spring Break Invitational in Clackamas, Hermiston split with Milwaukie and host Clackamas. Hermiston topped the Mustangs 10-5 in the morning and dropped its finale 13-5 to the host Cavaliers.

In the morning, Herm-

iston broke open a 2-2 tie with six runs in the fifth. Abi Drotzmann had an RBI single in the rally, and Kopacz and Almaguer both stole home. Taylor Betz threw a complete game, allowed just six hits and struck out one.

In the finale, Clackamas jumped out to a quick lead with five in the first. The first five Cavaliers hit safely, with two notching doubles, providing all the cushion they would need. The Cavs got eight more in the fourth to break the game open.

Hermiston tried to respond in the fourth and fifth innings, getting two in the fourth and three in the fifth, but Clackamas' pitching proved to be too much. Elory Jones was the lone offensive bright spot for Hermiston, going 2-for-3 at the plate, scoring two runs and stealing three bases. In the fifth, she reached on a single and stole second, third and the plate to notch Hermiston's fourth run.

Hermiston plays again March 31 at Summit. First pitch is set for 4 p.m.

HERMISTON 10, MILWAUKIE 5 (6)

MHS	020	011
1-5 6 4		
HHS	001	161
X-10 7 1		

WP: T. Betz LP: L. Paschel-Lloyd
2B: J. Hinkley (HHS).

CLACKAMAS 13, HERMISTON 5 (5)

HHS	000	32-5 6 5
CHS	800	80-13 15 2

WP: A. Zehr LP: T. Betz
2B: M. Kopacz (HHS), J. Haethan (CHS), A. Godinez (CHS).

Super Crossword

Answers

E	P	I	T	A	P	H	A	E	S	O	P	I	C	H	O	S	E	D	
C	A	M	I	L	L	E	L	A	H	A	I	N	A	E	R	O	D	E	
C	R	U	E	L	A	N	D	U	N	U	S	A	L	M	E	R	G	E	
E	S	S	T	R	I	G	S	N	A	G	G	E	A	R	E				
S	K	E	I	N	A	L	O	V	E	B	I	Z	A	R	R	E			
A	L	U	M	N	A	E	C	T	R	R	O	S	I	N					
C	U	R	I	O	U	S	G	E	O	R	G	E	O	T	T	O	M	A	N
T	R	I	T	T	U	S	A	U	S	A	L	A							
E	K	E	S	A	I	N	T	H	A	T	P	E	C	U	L	I	A	R	
D	S	L	E	B	B	E	R	N	O	A	N	E	M	I	C				
E	C	C	E	N	T	R	I	C	O	R	B	I	T	S					
O	L	D	S	O	D	I	A	M	S	U	N	O	H	A	T				
P	E	O	P	L	E	A	R	E	S	T	R	A	N	G	E	R	A	R	E
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N	O	T	A	B	I	T	O	D	D	A	S	S	O	R	T	M	E	N	T
G	I	N	S	U	Y	O	M	B	E	T	A	R	A	Y					
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A	L	O	E	O	N	E	I	S	A	Y	A	E	D	U					
D	U	N	E	S	E	D	D	K	O	O	K	I	E	B	Y	R	N	E	S
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D	E	C	O	Y	S	O	L	D	E	R	S	S	L	A	N	D	E	R	

SOLUTION:

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but also because a school wants its complex to look good, or, as Ganvoa put it, "aesthetically pleasing." The school district should do something, however, to lessen or eliminate the glare.

One solution is by painting that one roof matte black. That way the surface would absorb all the sun's light hitting it and not reflect any of it.

Another solution could be to erect a screen, something Ganvoa mentioned, that merely blocks the glare coming off the roof.

This isn't a huge deal. It's a minor problem, but it could become a greater issue down the road. A game can't be called every time a baseball game is played at Armand Larive in March in the early afternoon because of a blinding glare. It would severely cripple any type of early-season

scheduling. But it has to be thought about. It has to be a concern, and a solution has to be found. Ganvoa and I talked about protocol for if this happens again. He said players and officials will wait it out, like a rain delay, and resume play once the glare is sufficiently gone. But they'll have to notify the conference and the state if it becomes a bigger problem so teams aren't first learning about the situation when it happens.

Baseball and sun are frenemies. They go well together, but the sun can be a dangerous spectator at a baseball game. Hermiston can't let the sun become such a huge problem that games are called.

Let's hope this is the last time this happens, but we can't assume it will be. Let's make sure it never happens again.

— Sam Barbee is the Hermiston Herald sports reporter. He can be reached at sbarbee@hermistonherald.com