

Stanfield finding success with all-guard lineup

EO MEDIA GROUP

The Stanfield boys basketball team's new style is proving effective after the Tigers improved to 3-0 with a 60-41 blowout win over 1A Horizon Christian of Hood River at the Columbia River Clash Friday afternoon at Umatilla High School.

Under first-year coach Victor Baros, the Tigers have gone small ball with five guards, lots of 3-pointers and an aggressive, full-court pressing defense.

Tony Flores led all scorers with 17 points and Dylan Grogan added 13. Flores made a 3-pointer in each quarter, and Grogan and sophomore Brody Woods both threw down dunks.

"I just looked at what we got, who we compete against," Baros said about his five-guard lineup. "When you got a 6-3, 6-4 guy that can play at that guard position and everyone else is just a really good ball-handler, it's hard to guard."

After taking a 13-point lead into halftime, Stanfield's defense turned up the pressure, forcing eight turnovers in the third quarter, eliminating any chance for a Hawks comeback. Two of the Hawks' first three possessions were turnovers, and they coughed it up three straights times in one stretch in that period. Stanfield, meanwhile, started the quarter on a 12-0 run and sat on a 48-29 lead after three periods.

"That's what I focus more on, is defense," Baros said. "I feel we probably have enough skilled athletes to score the points, but it's just keeping the other team from scoring."

Defense has been the focus for Baros and the Tigers, and they set a goal before Friday's game to hold the Hawks under 50 points. They did that easily. Baros hopes to hold Stanfield's next opponent, Union at 11:30 a.m. in Umatilla, to under 40 points, a goal that seems rather attainable.

H.C. (2-2) 10 11 8 12 - 41
SHS (3-0) 18 16 14 12 - 60
 HORIZON CHRISTIAN — L. Holste 12, D. Johnston 10, J. Bryan 8, K. Brown 6, E. Evans 5, M. Whitaker, Q. Roetciso-ender, C. Lingel, W. Decker, I. Walker, Z. Walker.
 STANFIELD — T. Flores 17, D. Grogan 13, R. Bailey 11, B. Woods 9, T. Monkus 6, J. Carrillo 4, J. Galarza, A. Nunez, D. Brooks, E. Angel, N. Sanchez, J. Garcia, L. Moreno.

UNION 51, UMATILLA 42 — At Umatilla, the Bobcats stayed undefeated by beating the Vikings on Friday at the Columbia River Clash. No details were reported.

Umatilla (2-2) plays Amity in tournament action today at 5:30 p.m.

COVE 49, ECHO 45 — The Cove Leopards earned its first win of the year Saturday beating the Echo Cougars at home.

Echo (0-4) remained winless. No further details were reported.

Girls Basketball

STANFIELD 77, HORIZON CHRISTIAN 25 — At Umatilla, the Tigers remained unbeaten and snapped the Hawks' three-game winning streak on Friday afternoon at the Columbia River Clash.

Cassidy Hopper finished with a double-double for Stanfield (3-0) and Brittin Braithwaite paced the rout with 20 points.

Stanfield coach Daniel Sharp said most of Braithwaite's points came on offensive put-backs,

and his posts were able to dominate thanks to some selfless guard play.

"The guards did an awesome job of attacking and getting some great passes to the posts," he said.

Hopper finished with 10 points and 11 rebounds, and Natalia Esquivel added 18 points for Stanfield, which led 42-10 at halftime.

Bailey Watson finished with six assists, Melissa Banderas added five, and Cynthia Curiel led the team with six steals.

Paulina Finn led Horizon Christian (3-2) with six points.

H.C. (3-2) 2 8 9 6 - 25
SHS (3-0) 25 17 19 16 - 77
 HORIZON — P. Finn 6, H. Becnel 5, S. Ryan 4, J. Hicks 4, B. Renner 2, A. Ruiz 2, K. Wenz 2.
 STANFIELD — B. Braithwaite 20, N. Esquivel 18, C. Hopper 10, S. Connell 8, M. Griffin 6, C. Curiel 4, B. Watson 4, G. Chavez 3, Y. Chavez 2, A. Lemmon 2, A. Carrillo, M. Banderas.
 3-pointers — H.C. 0, SHS 2. Free throws — H.C. 9-21, SHS 3-12. Fouls — H.C. 14, SHS 19.

UMATILLA 38, UNION 21 — At Umatilla, the Umatilla girls basketball team continued its winning ways with a 38-

21 win over Union at the Columbia River Clash at Umatilla High School.

The Vikings (4-0) continued its trend of recording one shutout quarter when it blanked the Bobcats in the second frame. Umatilla, though, only scored five points itself that period.

No players in the game scored in double figures, though Mari Paz and Sidney Webb lead all scorers with nine points each. Umatilla shot just 12-35 from the floor and 1-13 from 3-point range. Courtney Dohman added seven rebounds and Judy Contreras had five steals.

UHS (1-2) 9 0 7 5 - 21
UMA (4-0) 12 5 11 10 - 38
 UNION — Ann Joseph 0, Abriel O'Reilly 0, Ely Wells 5, Sarah Niday 1, Delanie Kohr 5, Kortnee Marriott 0, Caitlin Defries 0, Lizzy Verhelst 0, Rylee Montgomery 2, Katie Good 8, McKenna Antonie 8.
 UMATILLA — Judy Contreras 5, Mari Paz 11, Lauryn Journot 0, Taija Coffey 4, Charlene Alvarez 0, Brenda Campos 0, Sidney Webb 11, Gaby Lemus 0, Courtney Dohman 4, Aleesha Watson 7.

COVE 40, ECHO 26 — The Cove Leopards topped the Echo Cougars Saturday evening at Cove.

Hermiston dance team sets new school record

By **SAM BARBEE**
 Staff Writer

The Hermiston dance team set a program record at the fall category dance championships Dec. 5 at Rex Putnam High School in Milwaukie, Oregon.

The fall category championships were invitation-only based on previous results. Hermiston won the hip-hop competition at David Douglas High School in Portland on Nov. 7, then took second at their competition Nov. 21 at Reynolds High in Troutdale. Teams must have finished first or second in the respective disciplines to be invited to the fall category championships last week.

At the category championships, Hermiston's

jazz team had a down day and finished in seventh place. The hip-hop team, however, finished third with a score of 80, a record score for a Hermiston dance squad. Scores were given by judges based on choreography, forms and staging, technique, precision, projection and visual repertoire. A final score was averaged from the two disciplines.

Southridge, a 6A school from Beaverton, defended its championship with Westview its runner-up.

With the fall season complete, Hermiston's dance team is beginning preparations for the spring's dance and drill season, which starts in March.

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PREP SCHEDULE

Thursday, December 17

BOYS BASKETBALL

Umatilla @ Sheridan, 7:30 p.m.

Stanfield vs. South Wasco, 7 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Umatilla @ Sheridan, 6 p.m.

Stanfield vs. South Wasco, 5:30 p.m.

WRESTLING

Hermiston vs. Kuna, 2 p.m.

Friday, December 18

BOYS BASKETBALL

Hermiston vs. Cleveland @ Century Tournament, 6:15 p.m.

Umatilla vs. Scio at Amity, 4:30 p.m.

Stanfield @ Tri-Cities Prep, 7:30 p.m.

Echo @ Helix, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Hermiston vs. TBA @ Nike Tournament of Champions, Phoenix, TBD

Umatilla vs. Scio at Amity, 3 p.m.

Stanfield @ Tri-Cities Prep, 6 p.m.

Echo @ Helix, 6 p.m.

WRESTLING

Hermiston @ Tri-State Tournament, Coeur d'Alene, TBD

Saturday, December 19

BOYS BASKETBALL

Hermiston vs. Century @ Century Tournament, TBD

Echo vs. Pine, 5:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Hermiston vs. TBD @ Nike Tournament of Champions, TBD

Echo vs. Pine Eagle, 4 p.m.

SWIMMING

Hermiston @ LaGrande, noon

WRESTLING

Hermiston @ Tri-State Tournament, TBD

Monday, December 21

BOYS BASKETBALL

Stanfield vs. Horizon Christian, 6 p.m.

Echo vs. Heppner, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Hermiston vs. TBD @ Nike Tournament of Champions, TBD

Stanfield vs. Horizon Christian 4:30 p.m.

Echo vs. Heppner, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, December 22

BOYS BASKETBALL

Hermiston vs. St. Helens, 5 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Hermiston vs. TBD @ Nike Tournament of Champions, TBD

Stanfield @ Baker, 7 p.m.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Katie Ward

NIXYAAWII COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Katie Ward, a Sophomore at Nixyáawii Community School, has put forth exceptional effort in learning the basics of the Nez Perce language last year and the Umatilla language this year. She has learned to pronounce Native American words by reading and using the Umatilla alphabet and has learned to use the Salish font and symbols on the computer. Katie is a two year participant on the Nixyáawii volleyball team, played softball her freshman year and is currently the girls' basketball manager. Her attendance is near perfect, she is quiet and attentive and is always pleasant to be around.

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