

Bulldogs take care of Eagles

Hermiston earns five pins in blowout of Hood River

The Hermiston Bulldog wrestlers kept its brilliant 2015-2016 season rolling with a big win over Hood River Valley in a 5A Special District 4 dual meet on Thursday.

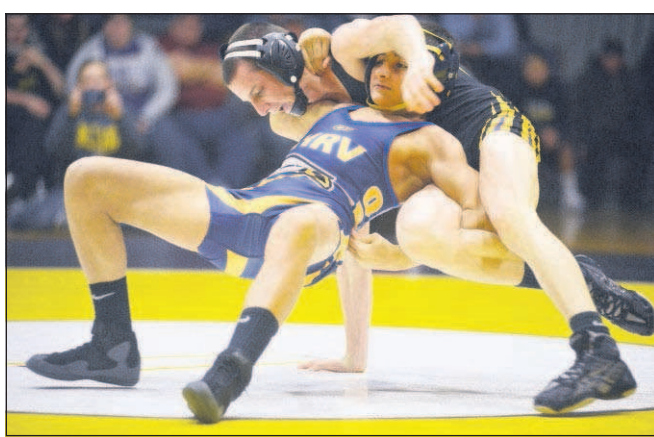
Hermiston lost only one match on the night, when Hood River's Ryan Zeller earned a 19-7 major decision win over Hermiston's Ruben Madrigal to earn the Eagles' only four points of the

dual. From that point on, it was all Hermiston.

Liam Tarvin started off Hermiston's roll with a pin against Noah Wachsmuth at the 3:37 mark of the match, and Andy Wagner followed up with a 5-0 decision win over Jason Shaner to boost Hermiston up 15-4 early.

Then after five-straight forfeited matches from Hood River from 132 pounds to 160 pounds, Julio Leiva picked up right where the team left off, earning a 9-4 decision win over Oscar Villegas to put the 'Dawgs up 48-4.

Hermiston then closed



STAFF PHOTO BY E.J. HARRIS

Hermiston's Liam Tarvin gets tied up with Hood River's Noah Wachsmuth during the Bulldogs' 72-4 win against the Eagles on Thursday in Hermiston.

out strong with four-straight pins to close out the dual, with Brock McDonough at 182 pounds,

Bob Coleman at 195 pounds, Sam Colbray at 220 pounds, and Beau Blake at 285 pounds to vault Hermiston to the 72-4 win.

All-in-all, Hood River forfeited six matches overall with Isaiah Aguilar (120 pounds), Jadon Estes (132 pounds), C.J. Hendon (138 pounds), Will Sharkey (145 pounds), Valen Wyse (152 pounds), and Devin Bosner (160 pounds) the beneficiaries of those matches.

Hermiston has just two meets left in the regular season before districts begin, and it starts Saturday

when they travel to Oregon City for a tournament that begins at 10 a.m.

- HERMISTON 72, HOOD RIVER VALLEY 4**
- 106 — Ryan Zeller (HR) def. Ruben Madrigal by 19-7 major dec. (10-4)
 - 113 — Liam Tarvin (HE) pins Noah Wachsmuth, 3:37 (6-4)
 - 120 — Isaiah Aguilar (HE) wins by forfeit (12-4)
 - 126 — Andy Wagner (HE) def. Jason Shaner by 5-0 dec. (15-4)
 - 132 — Jadon Estes (HE) wins by forfeit (21-4)
 - 138 — C.J. Hendon (HE) wins by forfeit (27-4)
 - 145 — Will Sharkey (HE) wins by forfeit (33-4)
 - 152 — Valen Wyse (HE) wins by forfeit (39-4)
 - 160 — Devin Bosner (HE) wins by forfeit (45-4)
 - 170 — Julio Leiva (HE) def. Oscar Villegas by 9-4 dec. (48-4)
 - 182 — Brock McDonough (HE) pins Trystan Fisher, 1:36 (54-4)
 - 195 — Bob Coleman (HE) pins Mark Reyes, 1:27 (60-4)
 - 220 — Sam Colbray (HE) pins Max Lane, 1:39 (66-4)
 - 285 — Beau Blake (HE) pins Justin Wilson, 4:37 (72-4)

Powder Valley muscles past Cougars on the road

POWDER VALLEY 49, ECHO 43 — At Echo, the Badgers scored 20 points off turnovers to beat the Cougars on Saturday in their Old Oregon League match-up.

Gus McGinn led Powder Valley (14-5, 7-3 OOL) with 15 points and nine rebounds and Tanner Eubanks added nine rebounds to go with eight points.

Each team turned the ball over 20 times, but Echo (7-14, 5-5) was only able to turn the Badgers' miscues into five points.

Carlos Chavez led the Cougars with 19 points and Michael Thompson added eight points to his team-high 11 rebounds.

Echo closes regular-season play on Friday

at Wallowa at 7:30 p.m.

PV (14-5, 7-3) 12 11 13 13 — 49
EHS (7-14, 5-5) 10 5 14 14 — 43

POWDER VALLEY — G. McGinn 15, C. Browne 10, I. Colton 9, T. Eubanks 8, S. Dixon 5, C. Day 2, H. Davis. (19-48)
ECHO — C. Chavez 19, M. Thompson 8, B. Gibbs 7, B. Moffitt 5, J. Dorn 4, Z. Gerke, D. Craig. (18-52)
3-pointers — PV 6-17, EHS 6-18. Free throws — PV 5-14, EHS 1-4. Fouls — PV 12, EHS 16. Fouled out — C. Day (PV), J. Dorn (EHS).

NYSSA 51, UMATILLA 35 — At Umatilla, the Vikings their third game in a row, but could take solace in knowing their district standing couldn't be affected going into Saturday's Eastern Oregon League match-up. No details were reported.

Umatilla, which will have the No. 3 seed in the district tournament, finishes the regular season at Vale on Friday at 7 p.m.

Knights manage to hold off Tigers

IRRIGON 38, STANFIELD 32 — At Stanfield, Taylor Davis scored a season-high 17 points to guide the Knights past the Tigers in a key Columbia Basin Conference match-up on Saturday.

Stanfield coach Daniel Sharp said the score was within one or two points for most of the fourth, but "Irrigon was able to execute some things down the stretch and make some free throws to pull away."

Yazzmin Chavez led Stanfield (9-11, 4-5 CBC) with 16 points and Natalia Esquivel scored 12. Beatriz Aguilera added nine points for Irrigon (8-12, 4-5).

The outcome, along with Culver's win at Heppner on Saturday, created a three-way tie for third place that will not last long.

Irrigon hosts Culver at 6 p.m. on Friday to finish the regular season.

Stanfield closes out at Weston-McEwen on Friday at 7:30 p.m.

IHS (8-12, 4-5) 6 10 14 — 38
SHS (9-11, 4-5) 4 8 9 11 — 32

IRRIGON — T. Davis 17, B. Aguilera 9, J. Burns 6, K. McLaughlin 6, A. Zacarias, L. Mills.
STANFIELD — Y. Chavez 16, N. Esquivel 12, C. Curiel 7, M. Griffin 3, B. Braithwaite 2, C. Hopper 2, M. Banderas, B. Watson, G. Chavez, S. Connell, A. Carrillo.
3-pointers — IHS 1, SHS 3. Free throws — IHS 9-13, SHS 7-14. Fouls — IHS 14, SHS 17.

POWDER VALLEY 44, ECHO 33 — At Echo, Samantha Kerns' double-double led the Badgers past the Cougars in a sloppy Old Oregon League game on Saturday.

The two teams combined for 63 turnovers with Powder Valley (14-7, 9-2 OOL) committing 37 of those.

Kerns finished with 11 points, 14 rebounds, and added three locked shots and four steals.

Kelsey Ranger led Echo (11-12, 4-7) with 16 points, and Hannah McCarty added nine points, eight rebounds and five steals.

Echo finishes the regular season on Friday at Wallowa at 6 p.m.

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

Thursday, February 11

WRESTLING
Hermiston @ Pendleton, 6 p.m.

Friday, February 12

BOYS BASKETBALL
Hermiston @ Pendleton, 7:30 p.m.
Umatilla @ Vale, 7 p.m.
Stanfield @ Weston-McEwen, 6 p.m.
Echo @ Wallowa, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Hermiston @ Pendleton, 5:45 p.m.
Umatilla @ Vale, 5:30 p.m.
Stanfield @ Weston-McEwen, 7:30 p.m.

Echo @ Wallowa, 7:30 p.m.

WRESTLING
Echo @ Hermiston Tournament, TBD

Saturday, February 13

SWIMMING
Hermiston @ Districts @ Hood River, 10 a.m.

WRESTLING
Echo @ Hermiston Tournament, TBD

Tuesday, February 15

BOYS BASKETBALL
Hermiston vs. The Dalles, 7 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Hermiston @ The Dalles, 7 p.m.

PV (14-7, 9-2) 5 9 11 19 — 44
EHS (11-12, 4-7) 5 11 10 7 — 33

POWDER VALLEY — S. Kerns 11, S. Stevens 9, H. Feik 8, M. Hufford 8, A. Jimenez 3, K. Williams 3, L. Nedro 2, S. Sexton, T. Combs. (16-37)
ECHO — K. Ranger 16, H. McCarty 9, D. Tarvin 3, L. Cox 3, S. Stone 2, E. Parks, T. Swaggart, L. Wiggins. (12-50)
3-pointers — PV 4-10, EHS 2-16. Free throws — PV 8-15, EHS 7-16. Fouls — PV 18, EHS 20. Fouled out — H. McCarty (EHS).

UMATILLA 35, NYSSA 33 — At Umatilla, the

Vikings wrapped up the No. 1 seed in the district tournament by beating the second-place Bulldogs on Saturday in Eastern Oregon League play. Details were not reported.

Umatilla (18-5, 7-1) closes regular-season play on Friday at Vale with a 5 p.m. tip-off.

TIGERS:

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Irrigon pulled ahead early in the second quarter with Stanfield's offense falling apart. While Irrigon scored six points to open the quarter, Stanfield committed four turnovers in its first five second-quarter possessions and watched as the Knights built a nine-point lead. But Dylan Grogan got two points and Bailey hit a 3 to cut the Knight lead back to four with 4:04 remaining in the quarter. Later, with Irrigon up 19-13, Bailey hit another 3, this one with 1:56 left, to cut the Knight lead to three.

Despite shooting just 30 percent (3-10) in the second quarter, Stanfield outscored Irrigon 10-8 in the period, but still trailed 19-18.

The back-and-forth nature of the contest was a theme all the way through. In the second half, neither team led by more than four points, with Stanfield holding the one four-point lead at 38-34 after Bailey opened the quarter with five points and Thyler Monkus added two more. Rambo started to rack up the Stanfield fouls with aggressive and athletic drives, but couldn't convert on the free throws. As a team, Irrigon shot just 33 percent (7-21) from the free throw line. Meanwhile, Stanfield shot 74 percent (17-23) for the game, 77 percent (10-13) in the second half, and 86 percent (6-7) in the extra frame.

After taking a timeout with 44 seconds left to draw up a play, Irrigon turned it over. Rather, Stanfield stole it. Monkus jumped in front of a skip pass, and Baros

took time with 12 seconds left to draw up his own play. It went to Grogan at the high post, but he was doubled teamed and could do nothing but force up a shot. It went begging, adding another four minutes onto the clock.

There, Stanfield basically dominated. Rice hit a 3-pointer — Irrigon's only overtime points — to push the Knights ahead 47-46, but Bailey answered back with his 3-point play to give the Tigers a two-point lead. Then Irrigon turned it over again — the Knights had three cough-ups in the final period — and Bailey made a free throw and Tony Flores made two with three seconds left to ice it.

With the Irrigon sweep behind them and a dangerous Weston-McEwen team on the horizon, Baros said it's imperative to focus on the TigerScots, giving his team all of five minutes to celebrate Saturday's emotional win.

"They're a good team. Weston's a good team," Baros said. "I don't take them for granted."

Bailey agreed. "(Next) we go to Weston, keep up our high level of play, and we carry it into districts and state."

Stanfield's last CBC game of the year is Friday at 6 p.m. Irrigon finishes up with Culver the same day 4:30 p.m.

IHS (15-6, 6-3) 11 8 14 11 3 — 47
SHS (15-5, 7-2) 8 10 13 13 8 — 52

IRRIGON — A. Rice 18, X. Rambo 11, F. Vera 9, H. White 5, O. Vera 2, D. Vera 2, L. Covarrubia, J. Phillips, E. Carrillo.
STANFIELD — R. Bailey 19, D. Grogan 16, T. Flores 9, T. Monkus 6, L. Moreno 2, J. Carrillo, J. Galarza, A. Nunez, D. Brooks, E. Angel, N. Sanchez, J. Garcia, B. Woods, E. Esquivel.
3-pointers — IHS 6, SHS 5. Free throws — IHS 7-21, SHS 17-23. Fouls — IHS 17, SHS 16.

NEAL:

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"I thought he was a basketball player who should come play football," Faaeteete said.

Neal obliged, and started playing linebacker. He was athletic and could move, but one day he started rushing the passer from a three-point stance and Faaeteete knew where Neal would play.

"I just looked at him like, 'Yeah, that's your position,'" Faaeteete said. "He didn't learn a lot of his fine motor stuff (until recently). Great get off, he already had that. Just teaching him the technique stuff really improved his game. And playing with an experienced defensive line he had coming in really helped

him blossom into the player he is today."

Neal quickly gained weight as he was thrust into the first real weights program of his life. He added 30 pounds in the next two seasons and played at around 260 pounds this season, though was listed at 250.

"Once you get him on the field, you notice that he's a step quicker than a lot of kids his age," Faaeteete said. "And he's got a little tenacity and a big motor. You (could) definitely tell there was something different about his style of play."

Neal had one other offer. Montana State Northern, located in Havre, Montana and where teammate Hayden Simon is committed, and Boise State was showing interest, yet never

offered. Hawaii showed interest shortly before his visit to Eastern.

Despite the lack of interest from larger schools, Neal is happy with his decision.

"I don't know if up-set's the word," he said. "I wasn't really surprised, either. I feel like their loss. They didn't want to give me the chance. That's on them."

Happy for a couple reasons. First, he said it's an extremely family atmosphere in Cheney. He loved the campus and found the happy medium between being close enough to home while simultaneously being far enough away from it.

In two years at Hermiston, Neal recorded 161 total tackles, 67 of which were solo, and led the team in both categories. He also led

Hermiston in sacks (19.5), quarterback hurries (35) and tackles for loss (38.5). He also forced five fumbles, recovered three and returned one for a touchdown.

Neal's best season came as a junior on Hermiston's state championship team. In 12 games, Neal had 100 total tackles, 31 solo, 12.5 sacks, 21 hurries 25 tackles for loss, two forced fumbles, two fumbles recovered and scored the touchdown.

"I just want to thank all my coaches back in Ione getting me started," Neal said. "Thank all the coaches here for getting me on track. Thank all of my councilors, all my teachers, all my friends for helping me out when I needed it. And my family most of all for supporting me."

WRESTLING:

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145 POUNDS
4) Wade Kirkpatrick, Hermiston
1) Bob Coleman (Hermiston) pins Lane Marshall (Ore. City), 5:24
7) Greg Lee, Pendleton

152 POUNDS
2) Valen Wyse (Hermiston) loses to Lane Stagg (N. Marion) by 16-6 maj. dec.

160 POUNDS
3) JD Peters, Pendleton
5) Devin Bosner, Hermiston

170 POUNDS
1) Brock McDonough (Hermiston) def. Julio Leiva (Hermiston) by 7-4 decision

182 POUNDS
1) Bob Coleman (Hermiston) pins Lane Marshall (Ore. City), 5:24
7) Greg Lee, Pendleton

195 POUNDS
2) Marcus Taylor (Pendleton) loses to Steffen Jacobsen (Wilson) by 11-5 decision
5) Kenny Bevan, Hermiston

220 POUNDS
1) Sam Colbray (Hermiston) pins Nicholas Leadbury (Estacada), 0:50
5) Corey Mason, Hermiston
6) Jeff Priestler, Pendleton

285 POUNDS
1) Beau Blake (Hermiston) pins Jacob Banks (Pendleton), 2:37

PINE EAGLE INVITE

At Pine Eagle, the Heppner Mustangs, Irrigon Knights and Echo Cougars were all in action on Saturday afternoon finishing up their last competition before district tournaments begin.

Heppner turned in the best performance of the three finishing tied for sixth place with 79 points, while Irrigon finished No. 12 with 53 points and Echo at No. 14 with 30 points.

Heppner was carried by two-time state champion Ryan Smith, who remains unbeaten on the season after taking first place at 113 pounds. In that first place match,

Smith defeated Baker's Jace Hays in a sudden victory 2-0 in the first round of overtime.

Echo finished the meet with only three placers, as Kyle Ranger took fifth place at 113 pounds, James Stradley sixth at 195 pounds, and Ian Faulkner sixth at 195 pounds.

PINE EAGLE INVITE

113 POUNDS
1) Ryan Smith (Heppner) def. Jace Hays (Baker) 2-0 in SV-1.
5) Kyle Ranger (Echo) pins Red Colnot (Pine Eagle), 2:18

126 POUNDS
4) Carson Brosnan (Heppner) pinned by Jay Goldblatt (Grant Union), 2:01

132 POUNDS
5) Darron Sawyer (Irrigon) def. Eduardo Munoz (Adrian) by 8-6 dec.

145 POUNDS
4) Josue Aguilera (Irrigon) pinned by Bryson Shira (Adrian), 2:05
6) Will Lutscher (Heppner) loses by 7-0 dec. to Adam Van Meter (Nyssa)

152 POUNDS
6) Tim Jaca (Heppner) loses at 3:12 with injury

160 POUNDS
6) Franco Sanchez (Irrigon) loses by 7-3 dec. to Zylzer Hermens (Enterprise)

170 POUNDS
5) Brady Harrington (Irrigon) pins Zac Brown (Imbler), 0:48

182 POUNDS
6) Sabasayan Futter (Heppner) pinned by Cole Kiesecker (Joseph) at 1:41

195 POUNDS
3) Tucker McAllister (Irrigon) pins Zachary Davis (Crane), 3:57
6) James Stradley (Echo) pinned by Hadley Boehlin (Grant Union), 0:28

220 POUNDS
2) Cord Flynn (Heppner) loses by 5-1 dec. to Samuel Williams (Crane)
6) Ian Faulkner (Echo) pinned by Gavin Hawkins (Juntura), 2:22

285 POUNDS
1) Kasey Kroske (Irrigon) pins Jose Covarrubia (Irrigon) at 2:29
5) Aaron Math (Irrigon) pins Adrian Huerta (Crane), 2:08

BULLDOGS:

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ly because it worked itself into foul trouble with six first-quarter fouls, sending Hermiston to the free throw line eight times that period.

Hermiston also changed its defense in the second quarter, switching to a full-court man-to-man defense in an attempt to throw off the Riverhawks' offense. It worked.

"We like to switch up our

defense once they adjust," Juul said.

As the Riverhawks' offense began to stall, the Bulldogs' offense took off. They never shot worse than 48 percent from the floor as a team in any quarter, and shot a near-unbelievable 80 percent (8-10) in the third quarter that saw Hermiston's lead go from 12 at the break to 23 after three quarters.

With outside shots not falling — Hermiston shot just 5-14 from deep — it

was Juul who dominated stretches. With Edmiston and Ramirez getting penetration off the bounce, it forced the Riverhawk defense to collapse upon them, leaving Juul open at the block. One time, the ball reversed to Edmiston in the corner, and two Riverhawk defenders moved to close out on the shooter, leaving Juul, again, wide open on the block.

"Those are team points, for sure," the sophomore said.

"The dump pass was open so we used it."

Hermiston continues its Columbia River Conference schedule Tuesday with a 7 p.m. date at Hood River Valley.

TD (10-8, 2-2)	17	49
12	13	7
HHS (16-3, 4-0)	17	19
23	20	79

THE DALLES — I. Telles 13, K. Hoyman 8, S. Watson 8, J. Bonham 7, L. Cimmiyoti 6, B. McCall 3, J. Thomason 2, M. Heemsah 2, I. Taylor, E. Weir, K. Jesch.
HERMISTON — S. Ramirez 22, M. Juul 21, J. Edmiston 20, H. Meyers 4, K. Padilla 4, S. Gilbert 3, K. Heehn 3, J. Thomas 2, S. Stefan, R. Anderson, K. Smith, H. Thompson.
3-pointers — TD 4, HHS 5. Free throws — TD 9-15, HHS 22-32. Fouls — TD 19, HHS 13.

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