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Special Olympics athletes net wins

A group of 31 athletes and 12 coaches from the Hermiston/Pendleton Special Olympics Local Program #510 recently traveled to Beaverton to compete in the Special Olympics Regional Basketball Competition.

Kristi Smalley, communications manager, said the luck of the Irish was with them during the event, which was held close to St. Patrick's Day — the majority of the athletes brought home gold.

A pair of 5-on-5 teams both brought home gold: The Currents, who also received the sportsmanship award, were under the leadership of first time Special Olympics basketball coach Cal Harris. The Shockers were guided by head coach Mark Smalley.

At the Individual Skills Competition, athlete Misty Larson earned a gold medal, Mary Ann Wright, earned a

bronze medal, Lyall Arey earned a silver and Kelly Wiseman placed fifth. The ISC athletes were coached by Remick Arey and Raymond Trotter.

In the 3-on-3 division, The Lightning came away with bronze medals and the sportsmanship award for Division D under the watchful eyes of coaches Kirsten Kinsel and Lindy Thompson. The Thunder stormed their way to a gold medal and also the sportsmanship award for Division C coached by Stu Bance, John Driesen and Kristi Smalley.

Special Olympics provides training and competition for individuals with a developmental/intellectual disability. For more information about the upcoming sports season, which includes track and field events, Bocce and golf, call Stu Bance at 541-376-8132 or Randy Brown at 541-278-6168.



Special Olympics team Currents: Andrea Eiden, coach Cindy Middleton, Jose-Angel Ramos Garcia, Jeff McEachran, Rian Middleton, Steven Reed, Andi Sue Reid, coach Jennifer Reed, Veronica Turner, Justin Winters, coach Cal Harris.



Special Olympics team Shockers: Sean Boyd, Jason Cargill, Steven Gutterud, Cody Heaps, Brian Vandenaeker, Trampus Jeffreys, Bobby Phillips, Timothy Vickere, coach Mark Smalley.



Special Olympics team Thunder: coach John Driesen, Jeremy Hansen, Chris Gillpatrick, Jonathan Wilson, Jillian Smalley, Tammy Koenig, Christina Williams, coach Kristi Smalley.

PREP ROUNDUP

Baseball

Bulldogs fall to Falcons on the road

The Hermiston Bulldogs baseball team allowed four runs to the La Salle Prep Falcons in the bottom of the fifth inning on Wednesday, March 30, letting the game slip away to earn the 5-2 loss in non-league action.

Until that point, the Bulldogs (4-3) and Falcons were deadlocked in a 0-0 tie as both offenses were struggling to get anything going against each teams' pitchers. Tyler Sexton got the start for Hermiston and was solid through the first four innings, but in the fifth inning he left some pitches up in the zone and the Falcons capitalized for those four runs.

Sexton finished his outing with a respectable line, tossing 4.2 innings while allowing four earned runs on five hits, three strikeouts and three walks. Slade Gritz relieved Sexton in that fifth inning, and allowed one unearned run on four hits over the last 1.1 innings while striking out one and walking two. Gritz also had two hits on offense, leading the team.

"We hit some balls hard and they caught them," Hermiston assistant coach John Christy said of the teams' five-hit offensive performance. "There were too many rollovers and four, five-hoppers right to guys. We need to be more balanced at the plate."

Hermiston next hosts Rex Putnam for a doubleheader on Friday at 4 p.m.

HHS	000002	0	2	5	3
LSP	000041	X	5	9	1
T. Sexton, S. Gritz (5) and K. Caldwell; O. Arnston and J. Lynch.					
W — O. Arnston, L — T. Sexton.					

PILOT ROCK 15, HEP-PNER 14 — At Pilot Rock, the former league foes combined for 29 runs on 23 hits and eight errors in a non-league game on Monday.

Chris Weinke (3 for 5) drove in four runs and Levi Thieme (3 for 4) added three RBI for the Rockets (8-1), who got 3 2-3 innings of shutdown relief from Bryson Pierce to pull out the win.

Pierce allowed one run on four hits and struck out six after entering with the Rockets trailing 13-4 in the fourth inning.

Weinke's double with two outs in the sixth inning scored Jake Brickey and Devin Barkley for the tying and winning runs for the Rockets. Weinke and Brickey each scored three times.

Weston Putnam took the loss on the mound, but led the Mustangs (0-4) at the plate going 3 for 5 with four RBI and two runs. C.J. Kindel (3

for 3) scored four times and drove in a run.

HHS	454100	0	14	11	5
PRHS	202443	X	15	12	3
W. Putnam, P. Collins (5) and C. Kindel, I. Winters, D. Ward (2), B. Pierce (4) and C. Weinke, W — Pierce, L — Collins.					
2B — P. Collins, W. Putnam (HHS); C. Weinke, L. Thieme (PRHS).					

Tigers sweep Vikings in doubleheader

The Stanfield Tigers extended their unbeaten streak to nine games by sweeping a doubleheader against the Umatilla Vikings on Friday afternoon, winning game one 10-0 and game two 6-2.

Dylan Grogan started the game on the mound for Stanfield in game one and finished with another fantastic outing, tossing six innings and allowed only one hit with 15 strikeouts. He struck out the first 12 batters in the game, and the only hit he allowed was a soft liner into right field off the bat of Jesus Ochoa.

In game two, the Vikings started pitcher Josh Dever on the mound and he gave the Tigers fits. Dever struck out six batters over his five innings on the mound.

Umatilla led 1-0 early before Stanfield scored four runs in the second and third innings to grab the momentum. The game marked the first time this season Stanfield had scored less than 10 runs in a game, something that Tigers coach Bryan Johnson was happy to see.

"It was kind of nice to be in a closer game as a coach," he said. "We faced a good arm in Dever and we haven't seen that type of pitching in these games yet."

At the plate, Ryan Bailey had a solid day for Stanfield hitting a combined 4-7 with two runs and two RBI, and Grogan went 2-6 with three runs and three RBI.

For Umatilla, Ochoa and Jessie Hernandez were the only players to get hits on Friday with one apiece.

Game 1	HHS	000000	0	1	3
SHS	450001	X	10	11	0
Landon, Grogan and Monkus/Keeney, W — Grogan, L — Landon.					
2B — Curiel, Bailey, Woods, Grogan (SHS).					

Game 2	HHS	010000	1	2	7
SHS	013011	X	6	8	4
Dever, Cranston (6), Flores, Bailey (5) and Grogan, W — Flores, L — Dever.					
2B — Bailey, Grogan (SHS).					

KNIGHTS SPLIT WITH ROCKETS

At Irigton, the Pilot Rock Rockets and the Irigton Knights split a Friday doubleheader with Irigton taking game one 8-0 and Pilot Rock game two 5-2.

In game one, Irigton's Austin Rice took care of the Pilot Rock batters tossing seven shutout innings where he struck out 12 batters, walked four, and allowed only one hit. The lone hit came off the bat of the Rockets' Bryson Pierce in the fourth inning.



STAFF PHOTO BY E.J. HARRIS

Hermiston junior Anders Lind watches his putt on the 18th green at the Wildhorse Resort & Casino on Monday in Mission. The Hermiston boys finished second in the invitational event and Lind tied for fourth in the boys individual scoring.

At the plate, Irigton's Fredy Vera went 1-3 with a leadoff solo home run in the first inning, and scored three runs.

In game two, Pilot Rock's Levi Thieme was the one dazzling on the mound, allowing five hits and two runs over seven innings with seven strikeouts. The Rockets tagged Irigton starter Johnny Phillips for three runs in the first inning to give Thieme enough cushion to keep the Knights at bay.

Chris Weinke and Iverson Winters each had two hits in game two for the Rockets, while Bryson Pierce had one hit and two RBI. For Irigton, Zack Henrichs had two hits, while Vera had one hit and one run scored.

Game 1	PRH	000000	0	0	1	0
IHS	101411	X	8	8	0	0
Pierce, Winters (5), Rice, W — Rice, L — Pierce.						
2B — Phillips (IHS), HR — F. Vera (IHS).						

Game 2	PRH	301000	1	5	8	0
IHS	101000	0	2	5	1	1
Thieme, Phillips, White (4), and Henrichs (7), W — Thieme, L — Phillips.						
2B — Winters (PR), Kroske (IHS).						

Softball

Hermiston split with Reynolds

After doubling game one of a Friday doubleheader with the Reynolds Raiders 11-1, the Hermiston Bulldogs bounced back in a big way in game two to take a 19-2 victory in Troutdale.

In game two, Hermiston (6-3) held an 8-2 lead at the start

of the seventh and final inning, but the offense chummed out 11 runs in the inning to place a big seal on the victory.

Fifteen batters came to the plate during that inning as the team racked up nine hits one walk and one hit-by-pitch in the inning alone.

Hermiston was led on offense by Mikayla Kopacz, Jamie Hinkley and Sydney Stefani as each player went 3-5 at the plate. Kopacz added two RBI, four runs scored, and a solo home run while Stefani added three runs and three RBIs. Hinkley also scored one run and had two RBIs.

On the mound, Breanna Naylor got the start for the Bulldogs but pitched just one inning and allowed just two walks. Julissa Almaguer came on in relief in the second inning and pitched five strong innings allowing eight hits and two runs over that span.

As active as Hermiston's bats were in game two, they struggled mightily against the Raiders' pitching in game one. Hermiston mustered just one hit in the game, which came off the bat of Hinkley in the third inning.

Almaguer got the start on the mound in the first game, and allowed nine runs on 10 hits and two walks with one strikeout over her four innings on the mound. Taylor Betz pitched just 0.1 innings in relief, allowing four hits and two runs before the game was called due to the 10-run rule.

PREP SCHEDULE

PREP BASEBALL

Friday
Hermiston at Parkrose, 4 p.m.
Saturday
Stanfield vs. Burns (DH), 2 p.m.
Umatilla at Vale (DH), 2 p.m.

PREP SOFTBALL

Friday
Echo vs. Burns, 2 p.m.
Saturday
Heppner at Echo, 11 a.m.
Umatilla at Vale (DH), Noon
Weston-McEwen at Riverside (DH), 1 p.m.

PREP TRACK & FIELD

Friday
Irrigon, Ione, Echo, Stanfield, Pendleton, Mac-Hi, Pilot Rock, Weston-McEwen at Umatilla, Noon
Saturday
Hermiston, Pendleton at Oregon City, 10 a.m.

Heppner, Echo, Helix, Weston-McEwen, Pilot Rock, at Stanfield Invite, 11 a.m.
Ione at Burns, Noon

PREP GOLF

Wednesday
Hermiston, Pendleton at Hood River (Indian Creek), 10 a.m.
Friday
Heppner at John Day GC, 11 a.m.

PREP TENNIS

Thursday
Umatilla at Riverside, 4 p.m.
Friday
Helix at Riverside, 4 p.m.
Ione at Mac-Hi, 4 p.m.
Stanfield at Sherman, 2 p.m.

PREP LACROSSE

Saturday
Hermiston vs. Lincoln, 5:30 p.m.

Game 1	HHS	001 00	—	1	1	3
RHS	021 53	—	11	14	0	0
Almaguer, Naylor (5), and Betz, L — Almaguer.						

Game 2	HHS	030050	11	19	17	1
RHS	001100	0	2	10	5	5
Naylor, Almaguer (2), Betz, W — Almaguer.						
2B — Hinkley, Naylor, Stefani, Jones, Kopacz (HHS), Grose, Siebert (RHS), HR — Kopacz (HHS).						

PILOT ROCK 4, ECHO 0 — At Pilot Rock, Pilot Rock's Teyha Ostrom threw a no-hitter against the Echo Cougars on Saturday, striking out 11 and walking just two in a non-league game.

Through the first three innings, Ostrom was in a duel with Echo's MacKenzie Gonzales as Gonzales had allowed no runs and only one hit with three walks to that point.

But in the fourth inning, it started to unravel for Echo. After Gonzales retired the first two batters, Ostrom reached on an error and then Gonzales issued two straight walks to Desiree Madern and Rhyanne Oates to load the bases. Bekah Roe knocked in two runs on an RBI single to center field to break the 0-0 deadlock.

Gonzales finished the game allowing four runs (one earned) and five hits with four strikeouts and six walks.

EHS	000000	0	0	0	3
PRH	000211	X	4	5	1
Ostrom and Walker, Gonzales, W — Ostrom, L — Gonzales.					

ECHO 22-22, UMATILLA 2-1 — At Echo, the Echo Cougars combined to outscore Umatilla 44-3 in a pair of wins on Friday afternoon, taking the first game 22-2 and the second game 22-1.

MacKenzie Gonzales started game one for Echo

and tossed five innings with nine strikeouts while allowing two runs on two hits and two walks. Alyssa Ray started game two and also pitched all five innings with eight strikeouts while allowing one run on three hits.

For Umatilla, Millie Rodriguez led the Vikings' offense with two hits on the day, including an RBI double in game two.

Game 1	HHS	001 10	—	2	2	7
EHS	1423 3X	—	22	12	1	1
Rodriguez, Trujillo (1), Journot (4), Gonzales, W — Gonzales, L — Rodriguez.						
2B — Parks, Christopher, Blankenship, McQuown, Gonzales (EHS).						

Game 2	HHS	000 10	—	1	3	4
EHS	1162 3X	—	22	13	1	1
Trujillo and Rodriguez (4), Ray, W — Ray, L — Trujillo.						
2B — Rodriguez (JHS), Blankenship, Gonzales, Pollock, Campana (EHS), HR — Blankenship (EHS).						

Tennis

MAC-HI 9, UMATILLA 3 — At Milton-Freewater, the Pioneers overcame heavy winds and the Umatilla Vikings for a 7-1 win in girls tennis on Monday. The teams split their boys' matches 2-2.

"The wind played a huge part in tonight's match, but the players powered through," said Mac-Hi coach Michelle Snyder.

Girls: Mac-Hi 7, Umatilla 1

Singles
Elise Griffith (M) def. Sidney Webb 2-6, 7-5 (10-6)
Maria Castillo (M) def. Brenda Mendoza 6-3, 6-1
Jacky Reyes (M) def. Mey Lopez 8-1
Erika Landa (M) def. Fatima Sanchez 8-5

Doubles
Ana Rodriguez/Emily Cuellar (M) def. Daisy Garcilazo/Jenny Vasquez 6-0, 7-5
Yessenia Garcia/Aly Munoz (U) def. Joci Alvarez/Jennifer Robles 6-2, 6-4
Marlee Brundage/Cinthia Rodriguez 8-2
Nicole Flores/Evelyn Garcia (M) def. Diana Gutierrez/Chyann Hinesley 8-2

Boys: Mac-Hi 2, Umatilla 2

Singles
Rigo Ponca (M) def. Junior Coria 7-6 (7-4), 7-5
Giovanni Armenta/Garcilazo (U) def. Deazan Zerba 4-6, 6-4 (12-10)
Douglas Gomez (U) def. Cristian Contreras 8-3

Doubles
Jose Abrego/Francisco Robledo (M) def. Umatilla 7-5, 6-2.