

Herald Sports



Bulldogs dominate Buckaroo netters

Hermiston shuts out Pendleton in tennis; boys and girls split against Hood River

By **MATT ENTRUP**
Staff Writer

Hermiston's experienced lineup made quick work of Pendleton's youth-filled roster for a 6-0 win in a boys' tennis meeting between rival schools.

Heated in other sports, the rivalry was not evident on Tuesday as two teams in much different stages of development came into the meeting knowing the Bulldogs were going to be too much for the Buckaroos on this day.

"We only lost one senior last year, so we've got a lot of experience that's back," said Hermiston coach Shann West. "I know Pendleton's young this year, they've only got one senior, so that helps us."

"I've got five first-year players this year, so it's a real learning experience," said Pendleton coach Chris Holdman. "It's a good experience for them to see this competition halfway through the season, so then they know what to expect when they get to districts and they see all the top schools from the Bend area."

The closest match of the day was at No. 2 singles where Aiden Prewitt needed a 10-4 win in a tiebreaker to beat Peter Wallace and complete the sweep.

Overall, Hermiston outscored Pendleton in games 70-17. The only Buckaroo other than Wallace to win a game in each set was No. 1 singles player Henry Holdman.

Jacob Snell defeated Holdman 6-1, 6-1, but it was a closer match than it looks on paper.

"We both played well, (Snell) just beat me on a few extra deuce points," Holdman said. "There was only three or four games we didn't go to deuce. It was a good match."

It was Holdman's first loss of the season, and Snell also has only one loss in No. 1 singles action.

"I think my forehands were doing good and my backhands are getting better," Snell said. "I wish I returned a little bit better and served a lot better. My serves weren't as good as I think they should be right now. I need to get a little more consistent. I have too many double faults."

"He's got a lot of skill and he puts in a lot of time," West said of Snell. "It's a realistic possibility for him to have a chance to go to state. If he's put in the right position and he's playing well, so that's kind of our goal for him."

Singles
Jacob Snell (H) def. Henry Holdman 6-1, 6-1
Aiden Prewitt (H) def. Peter Wallace 6-3, 4-6 (10-4)
Valentino Whitesell (H) def. Easton Phelan 6-0, 6-1
Judah Jenson (H) def. Donovan Costello 6-3, 6-0
Doubles
Cameron Meade/Race Latham (H) def. Silas Johnston/Jeremy Sellers 6-0, 6-1
Patrick Wicks/Thomas McCullough (H) def. Elton Harrison/Henry Scanlon 6-0, 6-1

HOOD RIVER 4, HERMISTON 3 — At Hermiston, Cameron Meade and Race Latham came from behind to win in No. 1 doubles for the Bulldogs boys on Thursday in a league match.

After Hood River's Patrick Hamann and Sawyer Bogard took the first set 6-4, the Hermiston duo won the next two 6-2, 10-7.

"It was good because it gave them the kind of look they'll see when they get to

districts," said Hermiston coach Shann West. "The atmosphere they played in was good. They had to come from behind and they were able to raise their game."

Jacob Snell cruised in straight sets at No. 1 singles for Hermiston with a 6-1, 6-1 win over Will Ferrick as he raised his conference record to 3-0.

The final match of the day was rained out, but Hood River had already secured the team win on tiebreakers.

"They lost quite a few (players) last year and I was not expecting them being so strong, but they had a good lineup," West said. "It was a good match for us to play."

Hermiston was scheduled to play in the Tri-City Invite this weekend but it was canceled. Hermiston's next game is today when it hosts The Dalles at 4 p.m.

Singles
Jacob Snell (H) def. Will Ferrick 6-1, 6-1
Cole Shepherd (HR) def. Aiden Prewitt 6-4, 7-6 (10-7)
Aldon Sova (HR) def. Valentino Whitesell 6-2, 6-0
Hayden Sissna (H) v. Ron Rodriguez, rain out
Doubles
Cameron Meade/Race Latham (H) def. Patrick Hamann/Sawyer Bogard 4-6, 6-2, 10-7
Hugo Sandoval/Arthur Finstad (HR) def. Skylar Grigg/Stefano Peiris 3-6, 5-7
Patrick Wicks/Thomas McCullough (H) def. Adam Harter/Luke Harter 6-2, 6-2
Simon Harsami/Soren Rajan (HR) def. Judah Jenson/Cobi Grigg, 6-1, 6-2

HERMISTON 7, PENDLETON 0 — At Hermiston, except for a couple of first-set losses, the Bulldogs cruised to a league win over rival Pendleton on Tuesday, April 12.

The only matches to not end in straight sets were the bookend singles matches won by Katelyn Millard and Sidney Moore.

Millard rallied from a 6-2 loss to Pendleton's Jenna Senter to win 6-2, 6-4 in the No. 1 match. Moore bounced back from a 6-3 loss to beat Julia Livingston 6-3, 6-3.

"They were really able to turn it around and improve their game to show that mental toughness is getting better for us," said Hermiston coach Jason Sivey.

Hermiston's doubles teams were especially dominant and outscored Pendleton 36-4 in games won.

Singles
Katelyn Millard (H) def. Jenna Senter 2-6, 6-2, 6-4
Jaycee Ternes (H) def. Brandie Brown 6-1, 6-0
Lindsey McAllister (H) def. Kayla Walker 6-4, 6-2
Sidney Moore (H) def. Julia Livingston 3-6, 6-3, 6-3
Doubles
Mackenzie Hill/Chyanne Peterson (H) def. Denae Smith/Jessie Patterson 6-2, 6-1
Whitney McMahon/Kylie Markwick (H) def. Brooke Lapp/Gabby Cusbert 6-1, 6-0
Reed Middleton/Breana Wadekamper (H) def. Heather Wilcox/Kelsie Cartmell 6-0, 6-0

HERMISTON 5, HOOD RIVER 3 — At Hood River, the Hermiston Bulldogs girls tennis team pulled together for a win over the Hood River Eagles on Friday afternoon.

Hermiston only earned one win in the singles match-ups, as Jaycee Ternes took a 6-2, 6-3 decision over Hood River's Nikki Paulus, but then moved on into doubles play and took every match from Hood River. In those doubles matches, Hermiston won 48 games and dropped just 17.

The Bulldogs most convincing win came in the No. 1 doubles pairing where Mackenzie Hill and Chy Peterson took down Hood River's Tial Semmes and Camryn Chambers in straight 6-0, 6-0 sets.

Hermiston next plays at The Dalles today at 4 p.m.

Singles
Montsie Graridico (HR) def. Katelyn Millard 6-3, 2-6, 10-4
Jaycee Ternes (H) def. Nikki Paulus 6-2, 6-3
Kirby Joseph (HR) def. Lindsey McAllister 7-5, 6-1
Bianca Badillo (HR) def. Sydney Moore 6-3, 6-4
Doubles
Mackenzie Hill/Chy Peterson (H) def. Tial Semmes/Camryn Chambers 6-0, 6-0
Whitney McMahon/Kylie Markwick (H) def. Bianca Badillo/Ruby Dosier 6-2, 6-2
Reed Middleton/Breana Wadekamper (H) def. Adrianna Vaca/Kayla Green 6-4, 6-1
Paola Sanchez/Adrian Stewart (H) def. Claire Oswald/Aleivea Harsanyi 6-4, 6-4

Bulldogs sweep Riverhawks

Hermiston tops 2015 league win total with Saturday sweep

By **ERIC SINGER**
Staff Writer

The Bulldogs softball team couldn't hold back the smiles after sweeping The Dalles Riverhawks, 10-8 and 7-4, to start CRC play on Saturday afternoon at Rocky Heights Elementary. The wins topped Hermiston's league win total from 2015, where they finished 1-11.

"It feels great," coach Kate Greenough said. "The girls fought through the whole thing and I think these first wins really set the tone for the girls and the rest of the conference to show we're ready to play."

Jaime Hinkley was a big component to the Hermiston (10-5, 2-0 CRC) offense on Saturday reaching base in five of her eight plate appearances in the two games. Hinkley cashed in with four hits including one double, two RBI and five runs scored from her lead-off spot in the batting order.

"She was lights out today," Greenough said. "You



STAFF PHOTO BY ERIC SINGER

Hermiston's Julissa Almaguer delivers a pitch during the second inning of Hermiston's 10-8 win over The Dalles on Saturday in Hermiston.

can't ask for a better lead-off batter because nobody knows what she's going to do. She has all the confidence in the world right now and is exceeding our expectations."

Hinkley also caught all 14 innings as well for three different pitchers. Julissa Almaguer started on the hill in game one and lasted six innings allowing seven runs on nine hits with one strikeout to pick up the win.

"She was hitting her spots everywhere," Hinkley said. "She was throwing good changeups and getting ahead a lot."

Breanna Naylor relieved Almaguer in the seventh inning and gave up one run on two hits, but was able to get a key strikeout with the tying run at the plate to end the game.

Senior Taylor Betz went the distance in game two, allowing nine hits and four

runs with one strikeout.

In game one, The Dalles (11-5, 0-2) responded with three runs between the second and third innings to tie the game at three. But Hermiston's offense came back to score in the bottom of the third with back-to-back hits from Hinkley and Rebecca Engelbrecht put runners on second and third base, and Mikayla Kopacz followed with a sacrifice fly to centerfield to score Hinkley and give the Bulldogs back a 4-3 lead — one they would never relinquish.

Hermiston eventually pushed their lead to its widest margin at 9-3 before The Dalles took advantage of a tiring Almaguer on the mound in the sixth inning. The Riverhawks strung together six hits in the sixth — all singles — including three infield hits to push across four runs to cut the deficit to 9-7.

Hermiston added one more run in the sixth inning as Hinkley came around to score on a passed ball, narrowly evading the tag of the Riverhawks catcher to push the lead back to 10-7. The Riverhawks threatened again in the seventh inning, adding one more run before the Bulldogs put the cap on the win.

See **BULLDOGS, A10**

HERMISTON SPLITS WITH THE DALLES

Sexton pitches complete-game shutout to earn game two win

By **ERIC SINGER**
Staff Writer

The Hermiston Bulldogs kicked off the start of Columbia River Conference play in Hermiston by splitting a doubleheader with The Dalles, losing 2-1 and then winning 2-0.

Consistent hitting has been the one weak link in the Bulldogs game this season, and it showed again on Saturday as Hermiston (8-6, 1-1 CRC) cranked out just six hits and the three runs in the two games combined. However, the coaches believe the team is right on the cusp of breaking out of the funk.

"We're real close," said assistant coach John Christy. "We're literally one step away from where we need to be and you can see a lot better approaches today, especially in the second game."

In that second game, senior Tyler Sexton was the star of game two for the Bulldogs, pitching a complete game shutout with 11 strikeouts while allowing just seven hits and three walks, while also smacking a two-run double in the first inning to score the only two runs of the game.

Hermiston had great scoring opportunities in both the third and fourth innings, but were not able to cash in on either. In the third, Daniel Gossler ripped a one out single past the



STAFF PHOTO BY ERIC SINGER

Hermiston's Tyler Sexton delivers a pitch during the third inning of Saturday's 2-0 win over The Dalles on Saturday in Hermiston.

third baseman and into left field and then stole both second and third base but was left stranded on a strikeout by Andrew James and then a groundout by R.J. Robles to end the inning.

The Dalles' (7-7, 1-1 CRC) offense was kept out of any real scoring chances until the fifth inning, when they cranked out three-

deep into left field and was also stranded on a strikeout by Andrew James and then a groundout by R.J. Robles to end the inning.

The Dalles' (7-7, 1-1 CRC) offense was kept out of any real scoring chances until the fifth inning, when they cranked out three-

straight hits to load the bases with two outs. However, Sexton was able to escape the jam by getting a strikeout with an offspeed pitch to end the jam.

Hermiston head coach Lance Hawkins said that he

See **BASEBALL, A10**

IN BRIEF

Meadowood tourney accepts registration

The Camp Meadowood Springs Benefit Golf Tournament is now accepting registrations.

In its 36th year, the three-day event is sponsored by the Hermiston Elks Lodge in honor of the late Raymond "Whitey" Schroth, a past president of the Oregon State Elks. The event is June 3-5 at Big River Golf

Course in Umatilla. The regular entry is \$170. Participants must register by Tuesday, May 31.

Established in 1964, Camp Meadowood Springs is a unique summer camp experience for children/teenagers and their families impacted by communication and/or social learning challenges.

For more about the tournament, call Ron Hosek, co-chair, at 541-720-0427 or contact Big

River at 541-922-3006 or megan@golfgbigriver.com.

Participants tee-off for HHS golf team

A two-person scramble will help raise money for the Hermiston High School Golf Association.

The benefit golf tournament is Saturday with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. at Big River Golf Course in

Umatilla. The cost is \$60 for adults and \$45 for students. The fee includes hole events, raffle prizes, a putting contest and a barbecue, which follows the tournament. Golf carts are not included; to reserve a cart, contact 541-922-3006 or megan@golfgbigriver.com.

For more information about the tournament or to register, call Bob Brinkley at 541-571-4647 or Karl Adams at 541-561-7044.