

From Hermiston to the major leagues

Graduate Ramsay has been an MLB scout for 33 years

By ANNIE FOWLER
STAFF WRITER

Scott Ramsay was more than impressed with Kennison Field on Friday night. "It's so different," said Ramsay, a former all-state defensive back for Hermiston. "We played on grass and dirt, and there was a big hump in the middle of the field. There was a cinder track around the field, and there was a baseball field in the northwest corner. The football field was in the out-

field of the baseball field. This is really nice."

The 1979 Hermiston High School graduate and former Bulldogs captain, was one of the honorary captains during the Homecoming celebration Friday, along with 1969 graduate Charley Grabeel.

When he was asked to return to his hometown, Ramsay said he didn't have to think twice.

"When somebody asks you do something, then somebody probably wants you here," he said. "I try not to let anyone down."

Ramsay, 57, was a defensive back, quarterback and



Scott Ramsay

running back during his football days at Hermiston. On the baseball field, he was an all-state outfielder his junior year, and an all-state pitcher his senior year.

After high school, Ramsay played football and baseball at the University of Idaho for one year. When Idaho dropped baseball, he transferred to Whitworth University, where he continued to play baseball.

He pitched for the Pirates until an injury his junior year cut his baseball career short.

While his playing days were over, his life in baseball was just beginning.

In 1984, he was hired as a scout for the Los Angeles Dodgers. Other than the one year he coached at Blue Mountain Community College (1990-91), Ramsay has been involved in Major League Baseball.

"It's been 33 years of this," he said. "It's all I know anymore."

Ramsay, who lives north of Spokane, is in his fifth year as a scout with the Washington Nationals. His area covers Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming. He also covers all of Canada.

He also has worked for the Kansas City Royals, Philadelphia Phillies, Chicago White Sox and Detroit Tigers.

"When scouts jump, it's usually a promotional jump," Ramsay said.

Among the players Ramsay has signed, are Jimmy Rollins, Johnny Estrada and Brandon Duckworth.

"They are All-Star guys," he said.

Ramsay spends a good deal of time in the Northwest, and has scouted players from the Tri-Cities to Pendleton, and everywhere in between.

"I was in Hermiston two years ago when they played West Linn, and I got to see the new field at the middle school," he said. "I haven't spent a lot of time here recently, their program has been down a little. I am in the Tri-Cities every year,

and Pendleton has had some good kids. I've been in Stanfield and watched the Grogan boys (Quin and Dylan). I'm always around."

The Nationals missed out on Southridge High School's Mason Martin nearly two years ago. He was drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates.

"He's a good kid," Ramsay said. "That's still a sore subject."

And, scouting the Northwest means he gets to come home every now and again.

"Hermiston is a small community with a typical small-town atmosphere," he said. "You know everybody. I have always been kind of a country boy. Still am."

PREP ROUNDUP

Hermiston volleyball sweeps Kennewick

By ANNIE FOWLER
STAFF WRITER

The Hermiston Bulldogs moved one step closer to securing a play-off spot Thursday night, sweeping the Kennewick Conference match at the Lions Den.

Ireland McDonough had eight kills, 10 digs and nine aces as the Bulldogs (4-7 MCC) cruised to a 25-19, 25-13, 25-14 win. "They looked good," Kennewick coach Brandy Sonderland said. "They were ready to fight. They deserved to win."

The win gave the Bulldogs a series sweep of the Lions. Hermiston won the first meeting Sept. 13 in straight sets.

"For us, this is huge," Hermiston coach Amy Dyck said. "We are still learning how to win. I'm proud of the way they were able to focus and close it out."

Kennewick (2-8) was hit with a loss before the match even started as Tayah Townsend injured her knee in warmups. In the second set, the Lions lost April Buckingham with a concussion.

"That doesn't help the cause," Sonderland said.

The Lions jumped out to an 8-1 lead in the first set despite the loss of Townsend, but it didn't take long for the Bulldogs to get back in the match. After Daisy Maddox put down a kill for sideout, Courtney West served six consecutive points for an 8-8 score.

Kennewick took a 10-9 lead, then McDonough went to work. She reeled off six points, including five aces, to give Hermis-

ton a 16-10 lead.

The Lions would get as close as 23-18 before the Bulldogs closed out the set.

There were four ties in the second set, the last at 10-10, as the Bulldogs dominated play.

Emma Combes gave Hermiston breathing room with four points for a 15-10 lead, and Halee Stubbs extended the lead to 19-12 and the rout was on.

Two long service runs by McDonough in the third set the table for the Bulldogs.

McDonough's first trip to the service line was worth seven points and a 9-3 lead. Another string of seven points gave Hermiston a 24-13 lead.

A kill by Scout Reagan ended the match.

Reagan finished with five kills, seven blocks and five digs, while Avery Treadwell added eight kills, Kendall Dowdy 14 assists and 10 digs, and Stubbs 18 digs. West chipped in with 17 assists and four kills, and Sophia Streeter had five kills.

Grace Morby led the Lions with six kills, while M'Kaylah Mangum added four kills and 11 digs, and Madeline Gebers 14 assists, three kills and five digs.

Hermiston boys XC finishes sixth at Kennewick meet

HERMISTON HERALD

Led by Angel Benites, the Hermiston boys were sixth at the Mid-Columbia Conference meet Thursday at Lawrence Scott Park in Kennewick.

Benites turned in a time of 16 minutes, 12.64 seconds to place 20th on the day for the Bulldogs (145 points).

Kennewick's Johan Correa won the race in a time of 14:23.37, while Kamiakin won the team title with 31 points.

Following Benites across the finish line were Gregory Anderson (22nd, 16:14.74), Freddy Mendoza (25th, 16:21.76), Adrian Delgado (37th, 16:53.54) and Martin Heredia (39th, 16:59.78).

In the girls race, Hermiston finished eighth (217 points), led by Cydney Sanchez, who was 28th (20:01.29).

Kamiakin won the team title with 53 points, with Walla Walla's Ella Nelson placing first in a time of 17:32.11.

Ellie Ernst (35th, 20:12.98) was the second Bulldog across the finish line, followed by Alexia Serna (43rd, 20:39.28),

Madison Anderholm (52nd, 21:24.94) and Jennifer Fuentes (59th, 22:13.19).

Volleyball

STANFIELD 3, ENTERPRISE 2 - Stanfield carried their momentum from Tuesday's Helix win into Thursday, battling it out with Enterprise and coming out on top after five sets.

The Lady Tigers started strong with an opening set win, 25-16, but narrowly dropped the following two, 27-25 and 25-16. They came back in the final two sets to claim the match, 28-26 and 15-7.

Stanfield (13-13, 2-9) will host the Heppner Mustangs for their league's closing match after the Herald's deadline on Tuesday.

RIVERSIDE 3, CONDON/WHEELER 1 - Riverside scored a nonleague home match against Condon/Wheeler on Thursday night.

The Lady Pirates claimed the first set 25-15 before falling in the second, 25-23. However, they came back with a vengeance to take the match in sets three and four, 25-11 and 25-14.

Riverside (6-13, 2-5) resumed league play when they travel to Burns last

Friday.

Girls Soccer


KENNEWICK 2, HERMISTON 0 - Coming off Tuesday's loss against Richland, the Lady Bulldogs couldn't recover in time to face Kennewick on Thursday night.

"It was a rough game," said coach Freddy Guizar. "We just came from playing a really solid team on Tuesday, and straight into practice on Wednesday. Our girls had no rest. It just didn't work out for us."

Hermiston (0-9, 1-6) will host Kamiakin (6-0, 5-1-1) Thursday.

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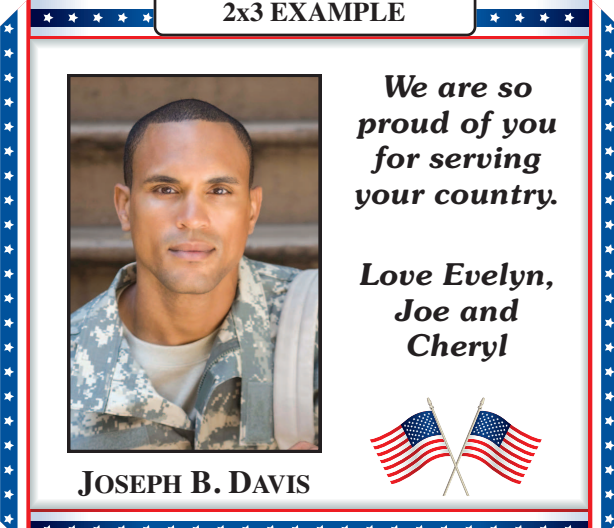


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Joel Davis
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Veteran**


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