



Hermiston's Che Cadenas (6) drives the ball in front of Mountain View's Melvin Ramirez (5) in the Bulldogs' 2-1 loss to the Thunder on Tuesday in Hermiston.

Dawgs lose heartbreaker in SO

By ANNIE FOWLER
STAFF WRITER

Juan Navarrete put his goalie gloves in his bag and turned and looked at Kennison Field.

Hermiston's senior goalie had six saves on May 14, but the one ball he couldn't stop in the shootout gave Mountain View a 2-1 victory in the first round of the 3A state playoffs.

"This is my last game here," Navarrete said. "It's heartbreaking. We gave it our all. It was a good game. We made history in Washington. No one believed in us, and we proved them wrong."

The Bulldogs finish their season 8-8 and earned the top 3A seed from the Mid-Columbia Conference to the playoffs.

Hermiston coach Rich Harshberger said he knew the game would be a battle.

"We knew they were going to be good," he said of the Thunder. "Things went as planned, for the most part. Essentially, it took us a little longer to get established in the game. We didn't have as much movement as I would have liked."

After a scoreless first half, the Thunder came out after the half and scored 8 minutes into the action, getting a goal by Christopher Grozav.

The Bulldogs looked to tie things up a minute later, but Hermiston's Emilio Leal was stopped on the doorstep.

That would not happen again. Leal beat a defender and put the ball over the goalie Cole Taylor's hands to knot the score in the 66th minute.

Neither team would score again, forcing a shootout.

Hermiston's Alexis Leal scored the first goal of the shootout, but Justin Lufkin-Quant came right back with one of his own on the next attempt.

Grozav gave the Thunder a 2-1 advantage, only to see Matt Mendez put one in the net to make it 2-2.

Elijah Thompson gave the Thunder



Hermiston's Emilio Leal and Mountain View's Justin Keanini chase down the ball in the Bulldogs' 2-1 loss to the Thunder on Tuesday in Hermiston.

a 3-2 lead, leaving the outcome of the game to junior Coleman Solano.

Solano blasted the ball toward the net. It went off the cross bar and dropped down, but just in front of the goal line, sending Mountain View into the quarterfinals for the first time since 2012.

"In the PK, you have to have a little luck," Navarrete said.

Harshberger said the loss hurts, but not as much as saying goodbye to his seniors.

"You are with these kids three to four years," he said. "Now I think about how I don't get to coach them anymore. They don't get to come to

practice tomorrow."

Scoring opportunities were limited in the first half for both teams.

Hermiston had two shots on goal — one by Moises Lopez in the 24th minute, and another by Emilio Leal in the 30th minute.

Leal shot from the right side of the net, only to have Carlos Cruz step in front for the stop.

In the 20th minute, Oliver Parades sent the ball toward to the Mountain View net, only to loft it too high and put it on top of the goal.

Nathan Purvis had the Thunder's lone scoring chance in the 38th minute.

SIGNING



Staff photo by Brett Kane
Hayden Cissna (center) and his teammates celebrate signing his letter of intent to join the Treasure Valley Community College tennis team next season.

Hermiston's Cissna signs with TVCC

By BRETT KANE
STAFF WRITER

Tennis wasn't Hayden Cissna's first sport of choice.

The Hermiston High School senior spent most of his childhood playing in youth basketball programs. He also played football for grid kids and Armand Larive Middle School. It wasn't until he was in eighth grade that he first picked up a racket.

But on Thursday, Cissna officially signed his letter of intent to play with the Treasure Valley Community College Chukars and take his career on the tennis court to the next level.

He said he chose the Chukars because not only is the Ontario campus close to home, but it also offers on-site housing. And more importantly, it was his future team, coached by Mike Heleker, that drew him in.

"I got to meet the coach and some of the team," said Cissna, 17. "They were super nice and they were all great players. You could just see the support they have for each other."

It also helped that his tennis skills have earned him grants that will cover five of his six terms at Treasure Valley.

"He had an interest in going to the next level, and we both knew there weren't a lot of options for tennis in the area," said Bulldogs head tennis coach Shann West. "We were able to reach out to (Heleker) and go down there for a visit, and it wasn't too long after that he got an offer."

Cissna said he didn't shift his focus to tennis until his junior year. Although he doesn't have the years of experience with a racket that he does on the basketball

court or the football field, he's put in the hours to make up for it.

"I just put in the hours," he said. "It was the only sport where I was seeing the satisfaction of that work. It puts everything on yourself, which makes it more personal. My teammates have encouraged me so much. We've built such a strong relationship together."

Cissna has been on the Bulldogs' varsity team for all four years of his high school career. This year, he was the team's No. 1 singles player. West said nothing has come between Cissna and improving his game, even if he has to do it alone.

"I got to meet the coach and some of the team. They were super nice and they were all great players."

Hayden Cissna

"He'll be out there on the courts by himself doing anything he can do put in the effort, trying to get better," West said. "Over the past four years, he's put in countless hours. He'll be practicing with the ball machine until 11 p.m."

After his time as a Chukar, Cissna will set his sights on the University of Montana in Missoula, where he'll pursue a degree in wildlife biology. He also hopes to be a walk-on for their tennis team.

"His name's Cissna, but we call him Cissy," said West. "Because of the relationship we've sparked up over the years, I'm really happy to be the guy who has helped him pursue and achieve his goals. It's awesome."

Low returns put a damper on Chinook season

HERMISTON HERALD

The Snake, Wallowa and Imnaha rivers will remain closed to spring Chinook fishing during 2019 due to low returns. Lookingglass Creek also remains closed for now, but will be reevaluated later in the season.

According to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2019 forecasts are just half of the 10-year average. Just 99,330 fish are expected to pass the Bonneville Dam this year compared to an average of 198,200.

"While ODFW makes every effort to offer opportunities to fish for these prized

salmon, protecting wild stocks and meeting hatchery broodstock needs are a priority," a news release stated.

Updates and closures can be found at myodfw.com/recreation-report/fishing-report/columbia-zone.

Sturgeon fishing

State fish managers from Washington and Oregon will be in Hermiston to discuss sturgeon fishing regulations upstream of Bonneville Dam.

ODFW and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) have scheduled a series of public meetings, including one in Hermiston from 6-8 p.m. on

Wednesday, June 12 at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Hwy 395.

Included in the conversation will be possible rule changes meant to improve conservation efforts and increase the abundance and survival of mature spawning-size sturgeon, according to a news release.

Discussion topics and management recommendations include:

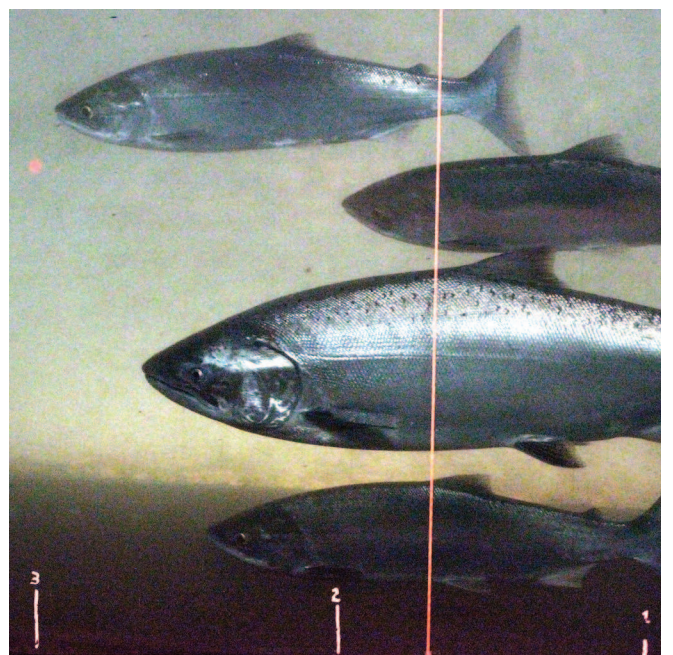
- Extending the dates of all sturgeon spawning sanctuaries in the Columbia River from Bonneville Dam to Priest Rapids Dam, and in the Snake River below Ice Harbor Dam, through Aug. 31. Most of these spawning

sanctuaries are currently in effect from May 1 through July 31.

- Extending the area of the spawning sanctuaries on the Columbia River below McNary and Priest Rapids dams.

- Closing sturgeon retention fishing within McNary Reservoir, inclusive of the lower Snake River below Ice Harbor Dam and the Hanford Reach below Priest Rapids Dam, due to a lack of population monitoring information.

For those who can't make the meeting, comments can also be emailed to tucker.a.jones@state.or.us or john.a.north@state.or.us.



File photo
Salmon swim past the fish-counting window at the Bonneville Dam.

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