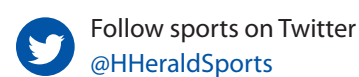


HeraldSports



Hermiston digs deep on Pink Night to beat Pasco

Dig Pink Night had special meaning for Hermiston setter Kendall Dowdy, who lost her grandma to cancer.

“Today, I played for my grandma Kathy (Reimers),” Dowdy said. “To play for something more than my school is something special. I’m glad we were able to come out with the win.”

Hermiston (4-6 MCC) swept Pasco 25-11, 25-19, 25-23 on Thursday in Mid-Columbia Conference play, getting 17 assists and 16 digs from Dowdy.

“It’s always hard when there is a distraction — even though this was a good distraction,” Hermiston coach Amy Dyck said of the Dig Pink Night. “The mental focus and discipline tends to fall by the wayside. I’m proud of the girls for honoring the people who have had, and those fighting, cancer.”

Pasco (0-11) jumped out to 7-0 lead in the third set behind the serving of Dayzah Duvall before Hermiston’s Daisy Maddox hit into a block for sideout.

Hermiston, behind the serving of Avery Treadwell, pulled even with Pasco at 10-10. Hermiston would later take a 20-16 lead behind the serving of Dowdy, but Pasco rallied back to tie the score at 20-20, and later held a 22-21 advantage.

Tied at 23-all, Treadwell laid down a kill, and Courtnee West served for the match.

“That’s what our history has been — rally in the third,” Pasco coach Julie Estes said. “I want to be known for winning. They are scrappy. I’m proud of them. They play hard every single night.”

Grace Vertrees, who had six kills and five ace serves on the night, had three of them in a string of eight points in the first set.

Tied at 5-5, Vertrees gave Hermiston a 13-5 lead before an unforced error gave the serve to Pasco, which got within 14-9 before Hermiston took advantage of six Pasco errors down the stretch.

Pasco led early in the second set, and the teams traded points to forge an 8-8 tie.

Dowdy served Hermiston to an 11-8 lead, including two aces. Pasco would pull within a couple of points, but could not recover after Halee Stubbs put four points on the board for a 17-11 lead.

Pasco’s Lyqualah Kinsey pulled her team within 19-16, but Vertrees did a little damage of her own to bring about set point at 24-17.

Pasco got two points back with a block and a hitting error by Hermiston, but a kill by Treadwell finished it off.

“It wasn’t pretty, but we got the job done,” Dyck said. “I’m proud of them.”

Stubbs finished the match with 22 digs, while Emma Combes had six kills and 10 digs. Malayna Anderson had six kills, and Kambree Baker four kills and nine digs.

RICHLAND 3, HERMISTON 0 — The Bulldogs came close in the second set, but could never overcome the Bombers, who handed Hermiston a 25-10, 26-24, 25-12 Mid-Columbia Conference loss Saturday afternoon.

“We lost the first set pretty easily,” Hermiston coach Amy Dyck said. “But we led most of the second set, which was awesome.”

Daisy Maddox had a team-high six kills for the Bulldogs (5-7, 4-7 MCC), and Kambree Baker led the defense with five blocks. Kendall Dowdy had 12 assists, eight digs, and three kills, while Halee Stubbs had 13 digs, and Emma Combes 10.

The Bulldogs host Southridge at 7 p.m. on Thursday.



Staff photos by Kathy Aney

Kambree Baker (9), of Hermiston, plays the net during Thursday’s game against the Pasco Bulldogs.



Courtnee West (5), of Hermiston, bumps the ball as teammate Kendall Dowdy (6) backs her up.



Hermiston’s Avery Treadwell (2) hits the ball during Thursday’s game against the Pasco Bulldogs.

Dawgs falter late, drop 20-14 game to Eisenhower

Hermiston gave up a late touchdown with less than 5 minutes to play as the Eisenhower Cadets held on to beat the Bulldogs 20-14 on Friday night at Zaepfel Stadium.

“It was pretty back-and-forth all night,” Hermiston coach David Faeteete said. “We threw an interception for a touchdown early in the game. Offensively, we kept shooting ourselves in the foot with

penalties. We just couldn’t get the job done.”

Malachi Spurrier had an interception for a touchdown for the Cadets, returning the ball 51 yards less than 4 minutes into the game.

Daniel Faeteete evened the score at 7-7 in the third quarter with a 3-yard touchdown run, but 39 seconds later Spurrier hauled in a 68-yard scoring pass from Justice Dean for a 14-7 lead.

Guimar Garay pulled the Bulldogs back into the game with a 7-yard touchdown run with 5:51 to play. Garay ran for 109 yards on 21 carries.

Nahum Garent scored the game-winning touchdown with 4:10 left on the clock.

“We got in the red zone three times and scored twice,” Faeteete said. “We let them drive the field on us late and score. We turned

the ball over on downs, but got it back with about 40 seconds left, but we didn’t get the job done. The defense played hard and gave us a chance to win.”

Hermiston had 21 first downs on the night, and 322 yards of offense — almost 100 more than Eisenhower — but could not put the ball in the end zone.

Sam Schwirse completed 21 of 29 passes for 136 yards, but threw

two interceptions. Trevor Wagner was on the receiving end of six passes for 49 yards.

Defensively, Ryan Arnold had 10 tackles, while Sean Stewart added four and a quarterback sack. Koi Mikami, Spencer Juul and Sam Cadenas had six tackles apiece.

The Bulldogs (1-6, 1-5 MCC) will host Hanford in a Mid-Columbia Conference game Friday.