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HERMISTON 55, NORTH CENTRAL 28

## DAWGS CLOSE OUT SEASON



Hermiston players thank the crowd following Friday night's game against North Central.

Staff photos by Ben Lonergan

By ANNIE FOWLER  
STAFF WRITER

There is no better way to finish off your senior season than with a win.

Garrett Walchli scored three touchdowns, and Sean Stewart scored his first career touchdown as the Hermiston Bulldogs cruised to a 55-28 victory Friday night over North Central in an MCC/GSL crossover game at Ken-nison Field.

"It kind of shows the work we've put in the last four-plus years," Walchli said.

The Bulldogs finish their season 2-8. "It's tough," Hermiston coach David Faaeteete said of the seniors' last game. "It was more of a culmination of the season. We sent the seniors out as winners, playing their best football."

Walchli scored on the Bulldogs' first play of the game, taking the handoff from Sam Schwirse and cutting to the left side of the field. With no room to run, Walchli switched gears, went to the right and churned out a 63-yard run for his first score of the night.

Daniel Faaeteete added a 9-yard touchdown run 90 seconds later, and the rout was on.



Hermiston lineman Sam Cadenas takes down North Central quarterback Carter Storm.

On North Central's ensuing possession, the Indians were forced to punt on fourth-and-11.

Stewart burst through the line, blocked Evan Bertholf-Linn's punt, scooped up the ball and took it in from the 1-yard line for his first-ever touchdown and a 21-0 lead.

"They didn't even touch me when I went through the line," Stewart said. "I jumped up, the ball hit my hands, then bounced the right way. It was awesome. I should have celebrated more."

Hermiston led 21-0 after the first

quarter, and 55-0 at the half.

Walchli scored twice more, on a 39-yard pass from Schwirse, and a 73-yard interception with 52 seconds left in the first half.

"I've been waiting for that all season," Walchli said of the interception.

D.J. Wilson also had an interception return (22 yards) for a touchdown, while Schwirse threw touchdown passes to Trevor Wagner (22 yards) and Broc Remmer (46). Schwirse completed 13 of 14 passes for 206 yards.

The Indians scored four touchdowns

in the second half against Hermiston's junior varsity players, two coming on runs of 11 and 65 yards from Kade Garvey. Garvey finished with 209 yards rushing on 28 carries.

"I'd like to have seen our JV team do better in the third and fourth quarters," Faaeteete said, "but everyone got to contribute."

BOX SCORE				
North Central	0	0	7	21-28
Hermiston	21	34	0	0-55

SCORING	
H — Garrett Walchli 63 run (Trevor Wagner kick)	
H — Daniel Faaeteete 9 run (Wagner kick)	
H — Sean Stewart 1 blocked punt return (Wagner kick)	
H — Walchli 39 pass from Sam Schwirse (Wagner kick)	
H — Wagner 22 pass from Schwirse (Wagner kick)	
H — Broc Remmer 46 pass from Schwirse (Wagner kick)	
H — D.J. Wilson 22 INT return (pass failed)	
H — Walchli 73 INT return (Wagner kick)	
N — Kade Garvey 65 run (Ryan Dewey kick)	
N — Garvey 11 run (Dewey kick)	
N — Ian Cady 12 pass from Carter Storm (Dewey kick)	
N — Cady 86 yard reception from Storm (Dewey kick)	
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
Passing — H, Schwirse 13-14-0-206; NC, Carter Strom 4-4-0-105, Ryan Dewey 1-10-2-4.	
Rushing — H, Faaeteete 6-12, Schwirse 1-3, Wagner 4-13, Walchli 1-63, Koi Mikami 7-33; NC, Garvey 28-209, Evan Bertholf-Linn 3-11, Simon Morales 1-6, Team 1-2, Carter Storm 1(-9), Ryan Dewey 1(-5), Jordan Deaver 1(-12).	
Receiving — H, Garrett Walchli 2-46, Broc Remmer 2-64, Trevor Wagner 5-61, Spencer Juul 3-34, Robert Sloan 1-1; NC, Ian Cady 2-98, Chuck Carr 2-7, Chase Roberts 1-4.	

## Hermiston splits matches at district

By ANNIE FOWLER  
STAFF WRITER

The Hermiston Bulldogs split their matches Thursday at the MCC/GSL District 8 tournament, extending their season into this week.

Hermiston opened play at Kamiakin High School with a sweep of North Central, and then dropped a hard-fought match to the host Braves in three sets.

"They are fierce competitors," Bulldogs coach Amy Dyck said of her team. "Sometimes it takes them a while to get going, but they don't get discouraged."

The Bulldogs (8-11) will play a loser-out match at 6 p.m. Thursday at Kennewick, while Kamiakin (10-6) will take on Mt. Spokane in the district title game.

"They are the big dogs," Braves coach Morgan Schauble said of undefeated Mt. Spokane, which won the 3A state title last year. "They are good."

The Bulldogs who were without Grace Vertrees (ill-

ness) and Daisy Maddox (vacation), put up a good fight against the Braves, losing all three sets by identical scores of 25-19.

"We knew they would be after us," Schauble said. "They don't let the ball drop. We have been working extremely hard this week on defense and our hitting."

The teams traded blows in the first set, which Hermiston led 10-5 at one point. Kendall Dowdy and Kambree Baker put up a pair of blocks on Delaney Frame, and Courtnee West had a string of four points to take the lead.

Frame later served to tie the score, and Yajaira Meraz gave the Braves a 17-13 lead with three points. From there, Frame had four kills as Kamiakin held on for the win.

It would be the Braves who jumped out to an early lead in the second set — 13-5 before a tip by Emma Combes helped turn the tide.

The Bulldogs would get no closer than seven points the rest of the set.

In the decisive third set, Kamiakin led 10-2 before the Bulldogs got into a rhythm. Dowdy served eight consecutive points to make the score 16-15. The teams traded points until a kill by Frame gave the Braves a 21-19 lead. Frame then served out the match.

"I'm proud of them for coming back and fighting in the third set," Dyck said.

Combes had seven kills and 13 digs for the Bulldogs, while Dowdy had four kills, 15 digs and seven assists. Halee Stubbs had 26 digs, and Baker five blocks.

Frame led Kamiakin with nine kills and 16 digs, while Graysen Banta had 17 digs. Aspen Harrison had eight kills, Taryn Vrieling six kills, 15 digs and two blocks, and Brooklyn Ford four blocks, 12 assists and 10 digs.

**HERMISTON 3,**  
**NORTH CENTRAL 0**  
— Dowdy had 10 kills

and 18 assists as the Bulldogs overcame a slew of unforced errors (36) for a 25-23, 25-23, 25-22 victory over the Indians.

"When it's the day of the match and you have to switch your lineup around, it came be confusing," Dyck said. "It shows what they are capable of."

Hermiston led 9-3 in the first set, and fought through four ties — the last one being 20-20 — to win the first set.

North Central (4-8) had the early lead in the second, but the Bulldogs took the lead for good at 12-11.

In the third, the set was tied at 21-21, but two points by Dowdy gave Hermiston a little breathing room. Combes served an ace on match point.

Stubbs had 23 digs and three aces for the Bulldogs, while Avery Treadwell had nine kills, and Combes seven kills and nine digs.

Katie Allbery led the Indians with seven kills.

### PREP ROUNDUP

## Sanchez finishes 30th at Washington state meet

HERALD STAFF

Sophomore Cydney Sanchez placed 30th, and junior Amanda Nygard 55th, to end their cross-country season at the WIAA 3A state championships Saturday at Sun Wil-lows Golf Course in Pasco.

Sanchez, who was 20th at the 2-mile mark, crossed the finish line at 19:22.70, and Nygard at 19:41.90 in their final race of the season. There were 160 runners in the race.

North Central won the team title with 20 points, leaving the second-place winners from Holy Names Academy (97 points) in the dust. North Central had the top three runners in the race.

**OREGON BOYS 2A/IA** — Stanfield junior Sisay Hurty finished 13th at the Oregon state championships at Lane Community College in Eugene with a time of 16:53.10, less than 2 seconds off his personal best time.

### Girls swimming

#### HERMISTON SENDS TWO TO STATE

Georgia Stevenson placed second in the 100-meter backstroke, and Abigail Sharon third in the 100 butterfly at Saturday's district meet in Kelso, Washington, to earn a trip to the WIAA state meet in Federal Way on Friday and Saturday.

Sharon and Stevenson's 200 freestyle relay team, also consisting of Laly Morfin and Bailey Young, earned fourth place at the district competition.

Overall, the Bulldogs finished sixth out of 10 teams — two places higher than the previous year.

"I am incredibly proud of the team as a whole," Hermiston coach Sara Sargent said. "They have all worked extremely hard this past season. We are growing in numbers, strength and talent."