

Sports

LOCAL ROUNDUP

Mid-Columbia Conference football teams play Thursday

BY JEFF MORROW

Special to the Herald

The Mid-Columbia Conference is diving in to get most of its football teams two games over the next week.

Only Walla Walla (March 25) and Hermiston (next Tuesday) have byes. But the remaining seven teams will have two games.

Here is what we're looking at for Thursday:

HERMISTON (1-2) at CHIAWANA (4-0), 7 p.m., Edgar Brown Stadium: The host Riverhawks have the top defense in the area, so Hermiston will need a big performance from QB Chase Elliott.

Jalen Webber has been outstanding on both sides of the ball for Chiawana.

KENNEWICK (4-0) at SOUTHRIDGE (0-4), 7 p.m., Lampson Stadium: This game has been moved to Lampson so that more fans can attend the game under the current COVID rules.

And because Pasco and Kamiakin play at 4 p.m., this contest may not start on time because fans need to be cleared out and everything sanitized.

But when it does start, expect a big game from Lions QB Elijah Tanner and LB Josiah Barajas. Both players have been standouts on the offensive and defensive sides of the ball, respectively.

Maxton Martin has been a bright spot at quarterback for the Suns, as has running back Albersh Kuwa.

PASCO (1-3) at KAMIKIN (3-1), 4 p.m., Lampson Stadium: The visiting Bulldogs had a rough game at Richland last Friday, trailing 56-0 at the half.

Meanwhile, the Braves had a strong bounce back game against Southridge, winning 42-0. Kamiakin RB Tuna Altahir scored three times in that game.

RICHLAND (2-2) at HANFORD (1-3), 7 p.m., Fran Rish Stadium: The host Falcons got head coach Nick Baker his first victory last weekend by beating Davis 28-0 in Yakima.

The Bombers have found their offense with two wins in a row — over Southridge and Pasco — with the three headed monster of Cameron Kitchens, Elijah Rodriguez and Ben Fewel.

Falcons QB Easton Wise-Hyde is winding down his prep football career, and he led Han-

ford to a rare victory over crosstown Richland last year, and he'd like to do it again.

WALLA WALLA (2-2): The Blue Devils have a bye this week.

DAYTON-WAITSBURG (2-2) at COLUMBIA-BURBANK (3-0), 7 p.m.: The host Coyotes lost their game at Mabton last week when the lights weren't working. So they'll be ready to play two week's worth of games on Thursday.

Burbank has already clinched the 2B EWAC East title, and will play either Granger or Cle Elum/Roslyn the following Tuesday in a crossover game.

KITTITAS (1-3) at RIVER VIEW (3-1), 6 p.m.: The host Panthers have only lost to Burbank, and Braulio Mendoza has been a standout on both sides of the ball for them.

TRI-CITIES PREP (2-2) at MABTON (0-3), 3:30 p.m.: Dan Whitsett's Jaguars will play a day-time contest Thursday, and he'll expect his defense to carry the load — thanks to so many injuries to the offensive unit.

NAIA BASKETBALL

● Congratulations to the Lewis-Clark State College men's basketball team, which advanced all the way to the NAIA championship game on Monday night before losing to Shawnee State of Ohio 74-68.

The Warriors finished the season with a 22-2 record.

Jake Albright, who played two seasons at Walla Walla Community College, scored 8 points, had 7 rebounds and 2 assists in the title game.

● Meanwhile, the LCSC women's team made it all the way to the NAIA Sweet 16 before being ousted 69-53 by Campbellsville University of Kentucky.

In the game, starter Jansen Edmiston (Hermiston) scored 4 points and grabbed 5 rebounds. The senior finished the season with the third-best scoring average — 10.2 points — on the team. She also averaged 4.1 rebounds.

Sophomore Madeline Weaver (College Place) came off the bench in the game and played 2 minutes.

The Warriors women's team finished with a 14-6 record.

Jeff Morrow is the former sports editor for the Tri-City Herald.