



**BLAZERS BREAK
LOSING STREAK**
BASKETBALL/1B



**Ice causes massive
pile-up on I-84**
REGION/3A

EAST OREGONIAN

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2015

139th Year, No. 68

WINNER OF THE 2013 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar



Staff photo by E.J. Harris
Ebony, Karen and Tre Wilson hold signs with pictures of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. on Monday while participating in the Martin Luther King Day remembrance in Hermiston.

LIVING 'THE DREAM'

Speakers at Hermiston event urge audience to keep MLK's vision alive

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
East Oregonian

If Martin Luther King Jr. had seen the pews of Hermiston United Methodist Church filled in his honor Monday, there's no doubt he would have been gratified at the sight of so many black, white and Hispanic residents sitting side by side.

"I truly believe this is what Dr. King saw," keynote speaker Brandon Clay told the audience, describing the scene as "beautiful."

Clay, a Portland pastor and president of the Pacific Northwest chapter of Union Pacific Railroad's Black Employee Network, said even though he isn't old enough to have marched on Washington, D.C. with King, "I can truly say I'm a product of that dream."

Clay said the school he attended had no signs telling students of different races where they could sit or what drinking fountains they could

See WALK/6A



Staff photo by E.J. Harris
Hermiston City Manager Byron Smith speaks on the steps of city hall to a group of marchers Monday during a Martin Luther King Day remembrance in Hermiston.

Walden criticizes Obama's order

Republican tells BMCC crowd it's not fair to immigrants or citizens

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**
East Oregonian

According to Oregon's sole Republican representative in Congress, a recent executive order from President Barack Obama has transported millions of undocumented immigrants to "never-never land."



Walden

Immigration was on the mind of U.S. Rep. Greg Walden's constituents as the Hood River Republican held a town hall meeting Saturday at Blue Mountain Community College.

Repeatedly asked about his position on immigration, Walden praised the recent passage of a Homeland Security bill in the U.S. House of Representatives, which he said would

See WALDEN/6A

PENDLETON Tum-A-Lum cancels move to PGG storefront

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**
East Oregonian

Tum-A-Lum Lumber Company won't be changing locations in Pendleton after all.

The long-standing local business had negotiated for several months with Pendleton Grain Growers to lease the co-op's former retail store on Southwest Dorion Avenue. Tum-A-Lum even purchased thousands of dollars worth of PGG fixtures and inventory at two recent auctions in anticipation of the move.

But sides ultimately could not agree to terms, meaning Tum-A-Lum will stay put in its current building on Southeast Dorion just behind the Umatilla County Courthouse. General Manager Mike Darby said the finances were in place, though the deal was hung up primarily on how the property would be used and

See LUMBER/6A



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Wayne Ballou, of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church Choir, sings a solo during Monday's Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration at First Christian Church in Pendleton.

Pendleton event shares American Indian plight

By **KATHY ANEY**
East Oregonian

Civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. often condemned mistreatment of black Americans, who marched by the thousands in Selma, Montgomery and Washington D.C. in the 1960s.

But King didn't limit his humanitarianism to those with dark skin. He became known as a fighter for all oppressed, including American Indians.

"Our nation was born in genocide when it embraced the doctrine that the original American, the Indian, was an inferior race," wrote King in his book, "Why We Can't Wait." "We are perhaps the only nation which tried as a matter of national policy to wipe out its indigenous population. Moreover, we elevated that tragic experience into a noble crusade."

Native people embraced

See PENDLETON/6A

First DNA tests say Kennewick Man was American Indian

By **SANDI DOUGHTON**
The Seattle Times

Nearly two decades after the ancient skeleton called Kennewick Man was discovered on the banks of the Columbia River, the mystery of his origins appears to be nearing resolution.

Genetic analysis is still under way in Denmark, but documents obtained through the federal Freedom of Information Act say preliminary results point to a Native-American heritage.

The researchers performing the DNA analysis "feel that Kennewick has normal, standard Native-American genetics," according to a 2013 email to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which is responsible for the care and management of the bones. "At present there is no indication he has a different origin than North



AP file photo
A plastic casting of a 9,500-year-old skull, known as "Kennewick Man."

American Native American."

If that conclusion holds up, it would be a dramatic end to a debate that polarized the field of anthropology and set off a legal battle between

scientists who sought to study the 9,500-year-old skeleton and Northwest tribes that sought to rebury it as an honored ancestor.

In response to *The Seattle Times'* records request, geochemist Thomas Stafford Jr., who is involved in the DNA analysis, cautioned that the early conclusions could "change to some degree" with more detailed analysis. The results of those studies are expected to be published soon in a peer-reviewed scientific journal. Stafford and Danish geneticist Eske Willerslev, who is leading the project at the University of Copenhagen, declined to discuss the work until then.

But other experts said deeper genetic sequencing is unlikely to overturn the basic determination that Kennewick Man's closest relatives are Native Americans.

The result comes as no surprise

to scientists who study the genetics of ancient people, said Brian Kemp, a molecular anthropologist at Washington State University. DNA has been recovered from only a handful of so-called Paleoamericans — those whose remains are older than 9,000 years — but almost all of them have shown strong genetic ties with modern Native Americans, he pointed out. "This should settle the debate about Kennewick," Kemp said.

Establishing a Native-American pedigree for Kennewick Man would also add to growing evidence that ancestors of the New World's indigenous people originated in Siberia and migrated across a land mass that spanned the Bering Strait during the last ice age. And it would undermine alternative theories that some early migrants arrived from Southeast Asia or even Europe.

