

Wins all around

Pendleton, Pilot Rock, Mac-Hi, Stanfield, Weston-McEwen, Echo win first round games

SPORTS/1B

Kitzhaber email whistleblower steps forward, reveals motives, resulting legal issues

NORTHWEST/2A



EAST OREGONIAN

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2015

139th Year, No. 160

WINNER OF THE 2013 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar



Oregon State University head football coach Gary Andersen shakes hands with Grant Kitamura of Ontario during an OSU Beaver Nation Road Show event on Wednesday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Beaver fans eager to meet new coach

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

Gary Andersen is still getting to know Pendleton.

The first year head coach for the Oregon State University football team spotted a man wearing what he thought was a green and yellow Oregon Ducks cap Tuesday at Hamley's Slickfork Saloon.

After bartering with a fan for an OSU hat she had just won in a drawing, Andersen playfully requested the man switch out his cap, only to find out he was wearing a Pendleton Bucks hat instead.

"Hey, that's close enough in my book," he said jokingly.

Over the past few weeks, Andersen has been crisscrossing the state as a part of the Beavers Road Show, traveling to Portland, Salem, Newport and Bend before arriving in Pendleton.

In an interview before a short speech made to alumni and fans, Andersen said the intent of the tour was a way for OSU's athletic staff to connect to fans.

For many Beaver fans in Eastern Oregon, the event was their first exposure to Andersen, who came aboard late last year amid a whirlwind of surprising developments.

Andersen was hired a week after Mike Riley, OSU's head coach of 14 years, unexpectedly took the head coaching job at Nebraska. Some

See BEAVERS/8A

Andersen's coaching bio

1989-1991: Ricks College (Idaho)
1992-1993: Idaho State
1994: Park City High School (Utah)
1995-1996: Northern Arizona (Asst. Head Coach)
1997-2002, 2004-2008: Utah
2003: Southern Utah (Head Coach)
2009-2012: Utah State (Head Coach)
2013-2014: Wisconsin (Head Coach)

Source: Oregon State University

Senate tightens regulations for medical pot

By HILLARY BORRUD
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The Oregon Senate Wednesday passed a bill to rein in the state's largely unregulated medical marijuana market, which many people believe is crucial to the state's effort to undermine the black market when marijuana becomes legal for all adults July 1.

The legislation to cap the size of medical marijuana grows and track weed through the supply chain moves next to the House where some Democrats have already stated their opposition and its fate is less certain.

The bill, Senate Bill 964, would also set up a licensing system for all medical pot businesses and allow for state inspections. It passed 29-1, with Sen. Floyd Prozanski, D-Eugene, casting the lone no vote.

With only a month left before lawmakers hope to adjourn, legislators and some in the marijuana industry said they hope Oregon's showdown over medical pot

regulations does not turn into a replay of what happened in Colorado and Washington. Although voters approved legalization of cannabis in both states in 2012, the states struggled with the question of how to handle medical marijuana and lawmakers only recently passed bills to address some of the issues Oregon is currently considering.



SB 964

- Creates licensing system for medical marijuana business.
- Limits medical gardens to 12 mature plants in residential areas, 48 plants elsewhere
- Allows cities and counties to ban medical marijuana dispensaries and processing facilities in the first six months after legalization

"I think there's a wide recognition that if we don't get our hands around the medical market — certainly Colorado and Washington discovered this — that if we can't get our hands around the

medical market, it will undermine the recreational market," state Sen. Ginny Burdick said.

Burdick, who is co-chair of a joint House-Senate committee working on marijuana issues, traveled to Colorado earlier this year to learn about that state's experience with legal marijuana,

See POT/8A

Blackleg fungus threatens canola

By GEORGE PLAVERN
East Oregonian

A new type of fungus is among us in Umatilla County's canola crop.

For the first time, Oregon State University researchers have detected an infection of the fungal disease known as blackleg in local canola fields, which can cause heavy yield losses under

certain conditions.

Blackleg is a potentially serious disease specific to brassica plants, including canola, mustard, radish, turnips, Brussels sprouts and cabbage. It gets its name for the dark lesions that appear on the base of stems, which can also spread to leaves and pods. Lesions are dotted with small pepper-like structures that release spores for

the fungus to reproduce.

Don Wysocki, extension soil scientist for OSU in Pendleton, said the primary crop of concern for the area is canola, which can be used in rotation with winter wheat to break up soil diseases and clear grassy weeds out of fields.

Though the disease cannot spread directly to wheat, Wysocki said it could

make canola a less profitable option for wheat farmers hoping to take advantage of the crop's rotational benefits.

"The fungus invades the plant and robs it of water and resources," Wysocki said. "The yield potentially will be greatly decreased."

The price of canola is already sagging compared

See FUNGUS/8A

New federal rules on stream protection hailed, criticized

Rules clarify which waters fall under Clean Water Act

By MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — New federal rules designed to better protect small streams, tributaries and wetlands — and the drinking water of 117 million Americans — are being criticized by Republicans and farm groups as going too far.

The White House says the rules, issued Wednesday, will provide much-needed clarity for landowners about which waterways must be protected against pollution and development. But House Speaker John Boehner declared they will send "landowners, small businesses, farmers, and

manufacturers on the road to a regulatory and economic hell."

The rules, issued by the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, aim to clarify which smaller waterways fall under federal protection after two Supreme Court rulings left the reach of the Clean Water Act uncertain. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy said the waters affected would be only those with a "direct and significant" connection to larger bodies of water downstream that are already protected.

The Supreme Court decisions in 2001 and 2006 left 60 percent of the nation's streams and millions of acres of wetlands without clear federal protection, according to EPA, causing confusion for landowners

See EPA/8A

HERMISTON Film crew spotlights revived West Park as 'shining star'

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

A film crew worked its way through classrooms at West Park Elementary on Wednesday in an attempt to capture what has made the Hermiston school the top-performing focus school in the state.

The crew was part of Education Northwest, a regional education policy center contracted by the state of Oregon to provide learning coaches and support to struggling schools.

West Park used to be one of those schools. Three years ago the Oregon Department of Education named the elementary school one of the state's approximately 90 "focus schools," meaning its test scores and other indicators of success were in the bottom 15 percent for the state. After its first two years of effort to improve its status, West Park Elementary went from being rated a two out of five to a rating of 4.9 and was officially recognized by the

state as a "model school."

"West Park has been a real shining star," said Nanci Schneider, strategic school improver for Education Northwest.

She said not only has the school's turnaround been highly impressive, but

when principal Kevin Headings and learning coach Mark Burrows travel to professional development conferences for focus schools, they have been particularly good at articulating what they are doing to foster that improvement.

As a result they were asked to participate in a video about ways to improve school performance that Education Northwest is creating as part of its contract with the Oregon Department of Education.

"There's 90 (focus) schools and we're highlighting three and the one that immediately came to mind was West Park," Schneider said.

Principal Kevin Headings

See WEST PARK/8A



Headings

