



**MARIOTA
TO GO PRO
FOOTBALL/1B**



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skids off Texas highway**
NATION/2A

EAST OREGONIAN

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One dollar



Assistant speech language pathologist Midge Harris, with the InterMountain Education Service District, works with a student on Tuesday at West Park Elementary School in Hermiston. The Hermiston School District voted to leave the IMESD and hire their own staff.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Big Dawgs go it alone

InterMountain ESD assesses fallout from Hermiston's imminent exit

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
East Oregonian

The InterMountain Education Service District was busy "putting pencil to paper" on Wednesday to reassess its budget after Hermiston School District voted to leave the ESD on Tuesday night. "I'm disappointed that they're choosing to opt out and not be part of the team," said IMESD superintendent Mark Mulvihill.

He said the ESD will lose \$1.8 million in state funding when Hermiston leaves next year. The district also will have a reduced workload, but Mulvihill's initial estimate is for a net loss of between \$550,000 and \$700,000.

Mulvihill said since the IMESD was formed in 2011 he has lost about 80 staff members to budget cuts. The 2015-2016 school year was going to be the first year he could add some back, including behavioral specialists

and school resource officers. Now the extra revenue he was expecting from a variety of sources will instead go to filling the gap left by Hermiston's departure.

Mulvihill said it was disappointing Hermiston chose to focus on its own balance sheet instead of looking at what was best for the region.

"Sometimes you have to agree

"It's time to move on ... Hermiston is moving forward and we respect that."

— **Mark Mulvihill**, IMESD superintendent

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Legislative leaders show bipartisan side

By **PHIL WRIGHT**
East Oregonian

A bipartisan attitude seems to be prevailing in the days leading up to the 2015 Oregon Legislature. Rep. Greg Smith, R-Hepner, said Wednesday a key meeting by legislative leaders set a positive tone.

Smith is one of four co-vice chairs of the powerful Joint Ways and Means Committee. Smith said he, Ways and Means member Rep. Mike McLane, R-Powell Butte, House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland, and Senate President Peter Courtney, D-Salem, met Wednesday



Smith



Hansell

services, natural resources, public safety, and transportation and economic development — will receive an up-front budget allocation and start prioritizing spending.

Smith said in years past Ways and Means would wait until April before doing the heavy lifting during the 160-day session. But this maneuver allows committees to work right away. Then, he said, the committees can tweak priorities once the February and May budget forecasts come in.

Smith said House and Senate leaders made it clear education funding and the structure of ed-

ucation are going to be major issues, but public safety does not look to make any gains. Smith said that concerns rural law enforcement and drug treatment programs. And a new courthouse for Multnomah County will take a large chunk of the capital construction fund. That will be a big lift for Oregon, Smith said, and rural districts in need of serious construction upgrades are still on the back burner.

Smith said the big takeaway from the meeting was the message of bipartisanship. Democrats have an 18-12 majority in

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PENDLETON

Police nab another Aryan gang member

By **PHIL WRIGHT**
East Oregonian

Pendleton police Tuesday arrested a third member of a white supremacist gang that originated in Pendleton. Police Chief Stuart Roberts reported officers put Greg Tinnell, 43, of Pendleton, in the Umatilla County Jail for unlawful use of a weapon, a misdemeanor, and ex-con in possession of a firearm, a felony.

Roberts in a written statement said the arrest is for Tinnell's involvement in shootings Nov. 23 and Dec. 24, 2014, on Pendleton's North Hill. Both times someone fired two rounds into residences; no one was injured in either shooting.

Police suspected Tinnell was the shooter in the Dec. 24 incident, according to Roberts, but "could not absolutely prove it at that time," so officers booked Tinnell in jail on possession of a prohibited switchblade knife. That changed Tuesday.

"We believe we can now prove he was the shooter on Dec. 24," Roberts reported, "and he was present/involved in the Nov. 23 incident."

Tinnell is a member of the United Aryan Empire, a white supremacist gang police allege was started by Pendleton resident Jeremiah Jerome Mauer, 30. Police arrested Mauer on Saturday during a search of his residence, 516 N.W. Bailey Ave., Apt. 8, Pendleton, for possession of a prohibited firearm and five counts of ex-con in possession of a firearm. Police also arrested Aryan Empire member Steven Ray Grangood, 32, for possession of a prohibited firearm.

Roberts also reported police are notifying the apartment's owner and/or manager about the risk of violating the city's chronic nuisance property law, which allows the city to compel responsible parties to stop illicit conduct on residential properties. Once police serve someone with the notice, the responsible party has 13 days to present an abatement plan to the police chief for approval.

Most notices result in evictions, according to Roberts, and when that happens the community services officer notifies landlords and owners participating in the city's Apartment Watch Program "so the problem is not merely displaced."

Roberts also said the investigation into the gang's activities, including a shooting Friday north of Pendleton, remains open.

Contact Phil Wright at pwright@ea-storegonian.com or 541-966-0833.



Tinnell



An excavator is used to move dirt at the old St. Anthony Hospital demolition site Wednesday as the project nears completion in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

PENDLETON

Hospital vanishes into concrete dust

By **KATHY ANEY**
East Oregonian

For months, excavators chomped into the old St. Anthony Hospital, bringing the structure down one bite at a time.

Demolition at the site is almost complete. The hulking old hospital on Southeast Court has been reduced to heaps of concrete waiting to be pulverized.

"The buildings are gone," said Project Manager Jeff James of Northwest Demo-

lition and Dismantling. "We are in the process of digging up foundations and crushing concrete."

The demolition started mid-summer after the opening of a new \$70 million medical center on Highway 395 in December of 2013. The dismantling required no explosives. Designed to cut through steel beams, an excavator attachment called a hydraulic shear was the weapon of choice.

Workers began by remov-

See **HOSPITAL/6A**

