



EO file photo  
Ebony Wilson, of Hermiston, returns in the sprints for the Bulldogs.

## BULLDOG TRACK

**Coach:** Emilee Strot, 1st year

**2014 Season:** Both teams won districts; the boys took third in state at state, the girls fourth.

**Key returners:** Chris Barrett, sr.; Jazmin Gutierrez, sr.; Tyler McAbe, sr.; Josiah Niederwerfer, sr.; Hayden Earl, jr.; Jansen Edmiston, jr.

### 2015 Schedule

Thu., March 19	Buck Classic	Noon
Fri., April 3	Easter Classic	4 p.m.
Tue., April 7	@ The Dalles	3:30 p.m.
Sat., April 11	Willamette Invite	10 a.m.
Tue., April 14	vs. Hood River	TBA
Fri., April 17	River's Edge	11 a.m.
Sat., April 25	Kiwani's Invite	10 a.m.
Wed., April 29	Dual Meet	TBA
Sat., May 2	2015 Strandberg	9a.m.
Fri., May 15	Districts	TBA
Sat., May 16	Districts	TBA

## BUCKAROOS TRACK AND FIELD

**Coach:** Nicole Stewart and Dustin Breshears, 2nd year

**2014 Season:** Both the boys and girls teams finished third at the district meet; the Buckaroos sent several individuals to state and featured a few placers.

**Key Returners:** (BOYS) Nolan Bylenga, jr.; Andrew Porter, jr.; Andrew Thomas, sr. (GIRLS) Delaney Clem, jr.; Hannah Boozer, sr.; Keagan Utter, jr.; Marlene Bodmer, sr.; Kiara Golver, soph.



### 2015 Schedule

Thu., March 19	BuckTrack Classic	Noon
Fri., April 3	Mac-Hi Carnival	11 a.m.
Sat., April 11	Dick Horyna Invite	11 a.m.
Sat., April 11	Willamette Falls Invite	11 a.m.
Sat., April 17	Apple Blossom Invite	4 p.m.
Sat., April 17	River's Edge	11 a.m.
Sat., May 2	Heinz Invite	11 a.m.
Fri., May 8	Baker Invite	Noon
Fri., May 15	Districts (@ The Dalles)	TBA

## Bucks ready for state push

PENDLETON — Just a handful of points separated the Buckaroo boys and girls teams from state qualification a year ago.

This year's team features droves of state-caliber competitors that will attempt to lift Pendleton over the hurdles this spring and to Hayward Field.

"We have a lot of young athletes," second-year coach Nicole Stewart said. "Tons of actual athletes. Our coaching staff is energized and excited."

The boys' side is led by the middle distance tandem of Andrew Porter and Nolan Bylenga. The pair of juniors each ran away from district com-

petition to state placing a year ago. Porter finished fifth place in the 400 meters, while Bylenga took third in the 800 meters.

The duo will also pace the middle distance relay team that returns three of four legs from last year's team, which ran the fourth fastest time in school history.

Andrew Thomas is the third returning relay participant and figures to qualify for state as an individual in the throws and jumps.

Senior thrower Jerry Chavez missed all of last season with an injury, but is back as a team captain this year.

The girls' team is rid-

dled with state participants. Senior hurdler Hannah Boozer fared the best last spring, taking sixth place in the high hurdles. Marlene Bodmer was seventh in the javelin to round out those whose placing added to the Buckaroos' scoring total.

Keagan Utter was ninth in the discus, Kiara Glover took ninth in the long jump and Delaney Clem was tenth in the 3,000 meters.

Maddie Kelm will try to use a breakout cross country season to catapult her this spring in the distances. Jackie Talbot, a junior, is a developing talent in both the long jump and triple jump.

## Dawgs taking different steps

HERMISTON — With a new head coach, the Hermiston track and field program got a new philosophy, too.

"Train like a Bulldog" is the new motto for the Bulldogs, with train forming an acronym that reads: Trust, Resilience, Ambition, Intensity, No excuses.

"Every day we sort of touch on those things and say, 'Hey, when you come to practice, you're going to train like a Bulldog today,'" first-year head coach Emilee Strot said. "That's what our expectations are."

Strot said she was fortunate to have such an accomplished staff underneath her. Head football coach Mark Hodg-

es works with sprinters. Assistant head football coach David Faaeteete works with the throwers and head cross country coach Troy Blackburn instructs the long distance runners.

But Strot is more fortunate to have Chris Barret and Tyler McAbe, two seniors who really bought into Strot's redefinition of what Hermiston track means.

With a number of strong returners and a group of exciting freshman incoming, Hermiston has positioned itself to improve on its fortunes from last year. And Strot expects a big season.

"I can't ask for anything more," Strot said of the preseason.

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