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# EAST OREGONIAN

Happy Easter

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Ricardo Mendoza, 17, portraying Jesus, lies on a cross as Vincent Trevino, portraying a Roman guard, uses a mallet while acting out the nailing of Jesus to the cross during The Way of the Cross reenactment Friday in Hermiston. Staff photo by E.J. Harris

## Costume controversy

Tribal members weigh in on Sundown decorations

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**  
East Oregonian

Bronze is quickly becoming the most controversial color in Pendleton. A few weeks after Pendleton resident Pamela Harmon submitted a petition to the city requesting she and her husband be allowed to decorate the Jackson Sundown statue on Main Street, another petition has surfaced requesting the statue remain off limits to adornments.



The Jackson Sundown bronze on Main Street, Pendleton was decorated in a St. Patrick's Day motif in March. EO file photo

Since the Sundown bronze was moved from the Pendleton Convention Center to Main Street over the summer, Harmon and her husband, Tim Becker, have decorated the statue in conjunction with holidays including Halloween, Christmas and St. Patrick's Day.

Harmon gathered a 29-signature petition after Becker got into an alleged confrontation with a man who stripped the statue of St. Patrick's decorations.

In response, a petition asking the city to prohibit

decorations of the bronze was circulated, gathering 156 signatures.

Although many signatures come from members of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, tribal spokesman Chuck Sams said the petition wasn't circulated by the board of trustees or the tribal government.

See **STATUE/10A**

## Risk and reward for growing giant cane

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**  
East Oregonian

As a potential source of renewable energy, giant cane could be the answer to saving Portland General Electric's coal-fired power plant in Boardman long after the facility quits using coal by 2020.

On the other hand, as an invasive species, giant cane could spread wild across the Columbia Basin, choking out native vegetation and undoing years of work by local tribes to restore river habitat.

A proposed bill in Salem attempts to strike a balance between the competing environmental interests. House Bill 2183 would require farmers

who grow giant cane for biomass or other commercial uses to post a \$1 million surety bond with the Oregon Invasive Species Council. The money would pay for costly eradication efforts, should the crop escape from the field.

Not surprisingly, PGE is opposed to the measure while continuing research into alternative fuels that could be used to power the Boardman Coal Plant. In 2010, the state's largest utility decided to phase out coal at Boardman instead of paying for hundreds of millions of dollars in new emissions controls. The plant is relatively young — it opened in 1977 — and

See **CANE/10A**

# WALKING IN HIS FOOTSTEPS

Good Friday display puts focus on faith

By **JADE MCDOWELL**  
East Oregonian

While cities geared up to host Easter egg hunts and stores put out extra candy, more than 200 Hermiston residents prepared for the holiday in a much more solemn way.

They took part in the Way of the Cross, a live reenactment of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ sponsored by Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church.

The Good Friday performance was comprised of 14 stations, starting with the Romans' condemnation of Jesus in the parking lot across from the church and ending with his death and burial atop the Hermiston Butte.

Alternating between Spanish and English, two priests narrated the events unfolding before the audience's eyes, ending each scene by leading everyone in The Lord's Prayer.

For both the actors and the wor-



The Way of the Cross procession makes its way down Northwest 6th Street as Catholics mark the beginning of the Easter weekend on Good Friday in Hermiston. More photos online at [www.eastoregonian.com](http://www.eastoregonian.com) Staff photo by E.J. Harris

shippers who followed their journey through Hermiston, the pageant was a chance to remember the religious reasons behind the holiday.

"I wanted to show my kids what

Easter is all about," said Lela Leon, who brought her four young children and her niece. "It's not just about the Easter Bunny."

She said seeing the events recounted in the Bible played out in front of her made them easier to understand.

"It was an awesome experience," she said. "I loved it."

See **GOOD FRIDAY/10A**

**"I wanted to show my kids what Easter is all about. It's not just about the Easter Bunny."**

— **Lela Leon**

## Outdated security software leaves state websites vulnerable

By **HILLARY BORRUD**  
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregonians who used state websites to pay child support, file unemployment claims and renew their vehicle registration in recent months were vulnerable to attackers who could intercept Social Security numbers and other sensitive information.

The state and private contractors left the door open to what is known as a "man in the middle attack" by using outdated encryption protocols on some websites. In that scenario, the attacker intercepts data as it's passed from the sender to the intended recipient.

A spokeswoman for the Employment Department said Thursday that to her knowledge, no one's personal information had been compromised due to the weakness.

State employees do not know how many websites might have this vulner-



Outdated encryption software on several websites operated by the state of Oregon, including one used for making online child support payments, have put user data at risk.

ability because although some information technology work is centralized at the Department of Administrative Services, many agencies have auton-

omous IT teams and websites, according to Oregon Chief Information Security Officer Stefan Richards.

The EO Media Group/Pamplin

Media Group Capital Bureau tested more than a dozen websites and found several with outdated encryption protocols and other weaknesses. Most of the websites tested were on a list of vulnerable websites that a private web developer sent the Department of Administrative Services in early February.

For example, the Employment Department website still uses the encryption protocol TLS 1.0 that has been known to be vulnerable for years, including at a portal where people are asked to enter their Social Security numbers to file an unemployment claim.

A web portal for Department of Human Services employees uses another older protocol, SSL 2, although the agency's chief information officer Kristen Duus said the site does not

See **SECURITY/10A**

