

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2015

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## Sports shorts

### EOU women make preseason Top 25

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Eastern Oregon University women's basketball team was selected No. 14 in the NAIA Division II Preseason Top 25 Coaches Poll.



EOU tallied 160 points, Southern Oregon was ranked 16th with 143, and Oregon Tech received votes.

Defending national champion Morningside (Iowa) received all 11 first-place votes and ranked No. 1 with 281 points.

The three-time defending CCC regular-season champion Mountaineers finished last season with a 26-7 record and reached the National Championships for the fifth time in six years before falling to Oklahoma Wesleyan in the first round.

### Biles wins gold at gymnastics worlds

GLASGOW, Scotland (AP) — Simone Biles won her third straight world title by the biggest margin yet, 1.083 points over teammate, buddy and reigning Olympic champion Gabby Douglas and bronze medalist Larisa Iordache of Romania on Thursday.

Biles' eight world championship gold medals are a record for an American, and she'll have a chance to add to that total in event finals over the weekend.

Douglas became the first reigning Olympic gold medalist to reach the podium at worlds since the Soviet Union's Yelena Davydova in 1981.

## FACES



Biles

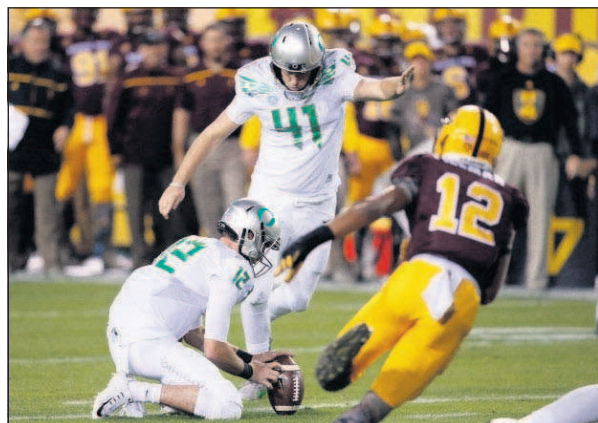
## College Football



Arizona State's Villami Latu, left, and Salamo Fiso, right, converge on Oregon's Vernon Adams Jr., middle, for a sack during the first half of an NCAA college football game Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015, in Tempe, Ariz.

AP Photo/Ross D. Franklin

Oregon's Aidan Schneider (41) steps in to kick a field goal as Oregon's Taylor Alie (12) holds the ball while Arizona State's Tim White (12) rushes in during the first half Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015, in Tempe, Ariz.



AP Photo/Ross D. Franklin

## Ducks go late

The Oregon and Arizona State football teams needed some extra time to sort things out in their Pac-12 match-up Thursday night and were still going at it tied 55-55 in the third overtime when the EO went to press.

Oregon tied the game 41-41 with 12 seconds to play in regula-

tion on a scrambling throw from Vernon Adams to Dwayne Stanford on fourth-and-goal from the eight yard line to force overtime.

Tyree Robinson intercepted Arizona State quarterback Mike Bercovicic and returned it to the Oregon 40 to set up the tying drive. More in Saturday's edition.

## PENDLETON

# Quinn carries on QB tradition

## Buckaroos quarterback fulfills dream, writes legacy

By ERIC SINGER  
East Oregonian

Kai Quinn's passion for the game of football started when he was in third grade.

It was the first time he had the chance to finally put on the helmet and shoulder pads and feel the rush of running, throwing, and tackling.

And ever since that time, Quinn held one dream — to become the starting quarterback for the Pendleton Buckaroos varsity football team.

"Me and my (childhood friend) Jack Peterson would always go outside at his house and play catch when we were younger," said Quinn, "And watching the team and being around it when my dad was a coach drew me to (quarterback)."

But when the time came to get settled into a position a few years

**WAR on 84**

 <b>Hermiston Bulldogs</b> (3-5, 2-0)	 <b>Pendleton Buckaroos</b> (3-5, 1-1)
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- Friday, 7 p.m.
- at Round-Up Stadium
- Radio: KOHU 1360 AM  
KTIX 1240 AM
- All-time Series: Pendleton leads 79-12-1
- Last five meetings:  
2014 - Dawgs 63, Bucks 14  
2013 - Dawgs 49, Bucks 28  
2012 - Dawgs 28, Bucks 13  
2011 - Bucks 26, Dawgs 12  
2010 - Bucks 40, Dawgs 34 (2OT)

later, there was a different reason that gave Quinn the desire to play quarterback.

"The center of attention," he said with a chuckle. "Just having the spotlight, there's just something about it I like."

The quarterback position for the Pendleton Buckaroos has produced some big-time athletes in recent years. Preceding Quinn were the



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pendleton quarterback Kai Quinn rushes the ball in front of The Dalles' Colton Walker on his way to a touchdown last Friday in the Bucks' win against the Riverhawks in Pendleton.

likes of Conner Johnson (2011-2012) and Chad McCoy (2013) — names that can be found at the top of several categories in the Buckaroos all-time record books.

And now Quinn — a two-year starter — has continued that success

with his career. In 2014 he was selected as a second team All-CRC selection at quarterback and first team selection at defensive back and is well on his way to finding his name on those lists again this

See QUINN/3B

## HERMISTON

# Bulldogs getting kick out of Rodriguez

## Hermiston junior scoring points on gridiron and pitch

By SAM BARBEE  
East Oregonian

It's just kicking, right? It can't be that different, right?

Wrong. Ask Freddy Rodriguez. The Hermiston junior is pulling double duty this season by leading the fourth-ranked Bulldogs into the playoffs this weekend, but will also tee it up for the Bulldogs tonight as a kicker in the War on 84.

"In soccer, I'm just used to it," Rodriguez said. "I was born kicking a ball."

So early into the 2015 football season, Rodriguez was approached when Hermiston's kicking game, which was one of the best in the state last year, fell off. So after junior Omar Garcia, who won the job exiting fall camp, got hurt, Hermiston needed a kicker. Enter Rodriguez.

"They asked me one day during conditioning class," he said. "They



File photo

This file photo shows Hermiston's Freddy Rodriguez (9) in action for the soccer team against Hood River earlier this season. Rodriguez is also playing football for Hermiston and is third on the team in scoring.

just started demonstrating how to do it," before offering for Rodriguez to come out to practice that day. "So I did."

In six games, Rodriguez has made 15 of 18 extra points and three of six

field goals with a long of 52. He's already third on the team with 24 points scored this season, and 53.1 yards per kickoff. On the pitch, Rodriguez is second in goals with eight behind senior Edwin Rosales' 14.

"It was easy. I picked it up really quick. It was not a big change."

— Freddy Rodriguez, Hermiston junior on learning to kick a football this season after years of playing soccer.

It's not Rodriguez's first time on the gridiron, though. The junior played football in sixth grade with many current teammates.

It's not the same, kicking a soccer ball and football, he says. The first obvious difference is the shape of the two, and a round soccer ball is much more forgiving than its oblong cousin.

"In football it's different because you have to hit it in the exact spot to get to go to the exact position where you want it," Rodriguez said. "It was easy. I picked it up really quick. It was not a big change."

Naturally, Bulldogs soccer

See RODRIGUEZ/3B

## THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1943 — Gus Bodnar of Toronto scores 15 seconds into his first NHL game, and the Maple Leafs beat the New York Rangers 5-2.

1974 — Muhammad Ali knocks out George Foreman in the eighth round in Kinshasa, Zaire, to regain the world heavyweight title.

2003 — In the first regular-season game of his NBA career, 18-year-old LeBron James has 25 points, nine assists, six rebounds and four steals, but the Cleveland Cavaliers lose 106-92 to the Sacramento Kings.

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