

HOUSE TO VOTE ON HEMP RULES
OREGON/2A

GEORGIA SUPPORTS CLERGY REFUSING GAY MARRIAGE
FAITH/8A

BUCKS GET PINNED BY DAWGS
WRESTLING/1B

EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2016

140th Year, No. 85

WINNER OF THE 2015 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

Your Weekend



- A Temptations Revue at Hermiston High School
- Mike Ferguson benefit spaghetti feed in lone
- The Tenors in concert at Wildhorse Casino

For times and places see Coming Events, 6A

Catch a movie



Ryan Reynolds stars as the foul-mouthed mercenary, "Deadpool."

For showtime, Page 5A

Weekend Weather

Fri	Sat	Sun
57/38	53/43	56/50

Watch a game



Hermiston vs. Pendleton
Friday, 7:30 p.m., at Pendleton

Senate passes three-tier min wage

By PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The Oregon Senate on Thursday passed a controversial bill that sets three regional minimum wage rates throughout the state.

The bill now proceeds to the House of Representatives, where there appears to be enough support for passage, lawmakers said.

The bill hikes wages from \$9.25 to \$14.75 in the Portland metro area, \$12.50 in rural and coastal areas with struggling economies

See WAGE/12A

IT'S OVER



A man waves an American flag from atop a car at the Narrows roadblock, Thursday near Burns. The last four occupiers of a Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in eastern Oregon surrendered Thursday.

Cliven Bundy arrested in Portland

BURNS (AP) — With the FBI tightening its ring around them, the last four holdouts in the armed takeover of a national wildlife refuge in Oregon surrendered Thursday, ending a 41-day standoff that left one man dead and exposed simmering anger over the government's control of vast expanses of Western land.

Federal authorities in six states also arrested seven other people accused of being involved in the occupation and brought charges against a leader of the movement who organized

a 2014 standoff. Two more suspects remained at large.

The last occupiers at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge gave up without incident a day after federal agents surrounded the site.

Nearby residents were relieved.

"I just posted hallelujah on my Facebook," said Julie Weikel, who lives next to the nature preserve. "And I think that says it all. I am so glad this is over."



Cliven Bundy

At least 25 people have now been indicted on federal charges of conspiracy to impede employees at the wildlife refuge from performing their duties.

Meanwhile, Cliven Bundy, who was at the center of the 2014 standoff at his ranch in Nevada, was arrested late Wednesday in Portland after encouraging the occupiers not to give up. Bundy is the father of Ammon Bundy, the jailed leader of the

More inside

• Umatilla County racks up \$51,000 bill helping Harney County
Page 3A

• Last hours of standoff play out online
Page 10A

Oregon occupation.

The elder Bundy appeared in federal court Thursday in Portland to hear the charges against him, all of which stem from the 2014 confrontation with

See STANDOFF/12A

Scientists detect ripples in fabric of space and time

By SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON — It was just a tiny, almost imperceptible "chirp," but it simultaneously opened humanity's ears to the music of the cosmos and proved Einstein right again.

In what is being hailed as one of the biggest eureka moments in the history of physics, scientists announced Thursday that they have finally detected gravitational waves, the ripples in the fabric of space and time that Einstein predicted a century ago.

The news exhilarated astronomers and physicists. Because the evidence of gravitational waves is captured

in audio form, the finding means astronomers will now be able to hear the soundtrack of the universe and listen as violent collisions reshape the cosmos.

It will be like going from silent movies to talkies, they said.

"Until this moment, we had our eyes on the sky and we couldn't hear the music," said Columbia University astrophysicist Szabolcs Marka, a member of the discovery team. "The skies will never be the same."

An all-star international team of astrophysicists used an exquisitely sensitive, \$1.1 billion set of twin instruments known as the Laser Inter-

See GRAVITY/10A

Oregon higher ed fiscal improvement tops nation

By KATHY ANEY
East Oregonian

Oregon higher education funding is out of the cellar.

A recent national report revealed that Oregon improved more than any other state in the nation last year. The state's public universities and community colleges received \$779.4 million in 2015, a hike of 16.1 percent. The national average was a 4.1 percent improvement, though a few states bucked the

trend. Arizona, the worst in the nation, actually reduced spending by 14 percent.

The Grapevine report was compiled by the Center for the Study of Education Policy and the State Higher Education Executive Officers.

The upswing in spending doesn't have Oregon higher education leaders doing handstands just yet — they are tempering their delight

See EDUCATION/12A

Key players

The holdouts

David Fry — The 27-year-old from Blanchester, Ohio, formed an online friendship with Finicum and helped the rancher self-publish a novel. Fry traveled to Oregon against his father's advice and often posted online updates from the occupation. He and the other three holdouts surrendered Thursday. Each faces a charge of felony conspiracy to interfere with federal workers.

Sean and Sandy Anderson — The husband and wife moved from Janesville, Wisconsin, to Riggins, Idaho, within the past several years. Sean, 47, opened a store for hunting, tactical and survival gear. Sandy, 48, worked at a gas station.

Jeff Banta — The 47-year-old has lived in Elko, Nevada, the past several years and worked in construction most of his life. He arrived at the refuge shortly before authorities arrested the occupation leaders. Banta has two children with his ex-wife.

The negotiators

Michele Fiore — The two-term Republican Nevada assemblywoman known for her brash statements, love of guns and flair for the dramatic traveled to the refuge to assist with the final holdouts' surrender. More than 60,000 people listened to the 45-year-old's live-streamed conversation with the holdouts Wednesday as she worked to calm the four remaining occupiers, who at times sounded hysterical as the FBI moved in.

Rev. Franklin Graham — The 63-year-old Christian evangelist went to the refuge Thursday to assist with the surrender of the four holdouts, at least one of whom requested his presence. Graham is the son of evangelist Billy Graham.

See PLAYERS/12A

UMATILLA COUNTY STANDOFF: DAY 1



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A game of cat and squirrel

A house cat stares up at a squirrel after the feline chased the rodent up a tree Thursday on Fourth Street in Pendleton.



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