



Photo by E.J. Harris

Haystacks combust near Rieth

Pendleton firefighters monitor a haystack fire off Birch Creek Road on Wednesday near Rieth. The fire department was called out at 2:13 p.m. and worked to move other bales of hay away from the burning stack and protect a nearby outbuilding. Pendleton Fire Chief Mike Ciraulo said the property owners agreed to let the bales burn, and the fire would likely burn through the night. The cause is under investigation, but Ciraulo said at first glance the fire appears to be spontaneous combustion, as wet hay can heat up and ignite.

Lawmakers deny funding for community college security

PORTLAND (AP) — Lawmakers rejected a \$17.6 million request to increase security at community colleges in Oregon months after a gunman killed nine people and himself at one of the schools in the state's worst mass shooting.

The proposal would have replaced doors, added security cameras and beefed up aging buildings and communications systems at most of the state's community colleges, *The Oregonian* reported Wednesday.

Lawmakers approved \$6 million for improvements at Umpqua Community College's Snyder Hall, where the shooting took place in October. The money also will fund overall safety and security measures at the school.

But lawmakers told Oregon's other 16 community colleges to try again in 2017.

Brent Finkbeiner, president of the Clackamas Community College student government, said the rejection stung.

"Waiting until next year doesn't do us any good," said Finkbeiner, who is also the board chairman of the Oregon Community College Student Association.

Clackamas Community College was hoping for more than \$1.6 million for several projects, including installing electronic locks across campus.

Not everyone is disappointed by the delay in funding.

The 2017 discussion should be "more robust," said Andrea Henderson, executive director of the Oregon Community College Association. The conversation about campus security is "far from over," she said.

Oracle says it sued to get feds to investigate Cover Oregon

PORTLAND (AP) — The main tech contractor on the failed Cover Oregon health insurance exchange says it has filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, saying the agency has neglected to investigate misconduct allegations.

Oracle says it filed the lawsuit Tuesday in Washington, D.C. It is the latest salvo in a long-running legal battle between Oracle and Oregon over the failed health exchange. The two sides have blamed each other in multiple lawsuits.

Oracle has maintained it was never fully paid for its work on the \$300 million project and that the state illegally used Oracle code.

The U.S. Justice Department did not immediately reply to an email seeking comment on the lawsuit.

John Cooney, an attorney for the company, says the Affordable Care Act requires Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia

Mathews Burwell to investigate allegations of misconduct involving exchanges.

She has yet to do so in Oregon or six other states with troubled exchanges, despite \$1.45 billion in federal grants awarded to those states to build the exchanges, Cooney said.

Among other things, Cooney claims Oregon officials made false statements to Health and Human Services and gave "unelected political operatives control over ACA implementation."

The state then filed litigation against a contractor to attempt to distract attention from its own failure, he said.

The state has been seeking to recoup the millions of dollars it paid Oracle to construct the glitch-filled website. It has accused Oracle and its executives of corruption.

Kristina Edmunson, spokeswoman for Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, said the lawsuit is a publicity stunt.

BRIEFLY

Woman who killed abusive husband free after decade in prison

GRANTS PASS (AP) — A woman imprisoned for killing her abusive husband is free.

The Daily Courier reports 46-year-old Wendy Maldonado was convicted of first-degree manslaughter and sentenced in March 2006.

Her sister Michelle Roberts says about 20 family members greeted Maldonado when she left the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility on Monday after a decade of incarceration.

Maldonado's then-16-year-old son was convicted of second-degree manslaughter for his role in the death and was released from prison in 2011.

Both argued in court that they were protecting themselves from physical and emotional abuse.

Aaron Maldonado was fatally bludgeoned in May 2005 while he was in bed at home.

Two governors denied clemency for Maldonado.

Roberts says her sister is looking forward to settling in and spending time with her four sons in Grants Pass.

Bend voters reject proposal to raise gas tax, improve roads

BEND (AP) — Bend voters have rejected the city's plan to raise the gas tax to pay for road improvements.

The Bend Bulletin reports that election results as of 10 p.m. Tuesday showed the measure losing by a nearly 2-to-1 margin. It would have created a 5-cent-per-gallon tax that was expected to generate about \$2.5 million in revenue each year.

Bend has an estimated \$80 million in deferred street maintenance.

Former Bend mayor Jeff Eager opposed the measure. He says the 58.2 percent turnout indicates that the proposal may have drawn out voters who don't normally weigh in on local issues.

Peter Werner of the Yes For Bend Roads campaign says he had hoped the vote would be lopsided in the other direction, showing public support for the city's infrastructure.

Uninjured 6-year-old pulled from crane-grab toy machine

ROSEBURG (AP) — A Roseburg pizza shop is making it a little harder to access a game machine's prizes after a 6-year-old girl climbed up the chute to get a stuffed animal.

The News-Review reports firefighters pulled an uninjured Melissa Angel Wilkerson out of the top of the ACME Crane Company game Saturday during a party for the girl's birthday.

Ben Wilkerson says his daughter, who is autistic, wanted inside the machine and found a way.

Abby's Legendary Pizza general manager Randy Rice says he's glad no one was hurt.

He said the crane-grab toy machine was given a temporary fix until it can be replaced with a new machine in the coming weeks.

Corrections

The *East Oregonian* works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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To submit community events, calendar items and Your EO News: email community@eastoregonian.com or call Tammy Malgesini in Hermiston at 541-564-4539 or Renee Struthers in Pendleton at 541-966-0818.

To submit engagements, weddings and anniversaries: email rsruthers@eastoregonian.com or visit www.eastoregonian.com/community/announcements

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AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Windy with a couple of showers	On-and-off rain and drizzle	Milder; a few afternoon showers	Mostly cloudy with a shower	Cloudy with afternoon rain
54° 36°	51° 38°	57° 37°	57° 41°	52° 35°

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

54° 36°	51° 38°	57° 37°	57° 41°	52° 35°
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HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

60° 33°	52° 38°	58° 36°	60° 42°	56° 38°
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ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

HIGH	LOW
Yesterday 55°	37°
Normals 53°	34°
Records 77° (1916)	21° (1933)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.08"
Month to date	0.52"
Normal month to date	0.33"
Year to date	2.89"
Last year to date	1.55"
Normal year to date	2.88"

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

HIGH	LOW
Yesterday 55°	35°
Normals 56°	33°
Records 76° (2005)	16° (1933)

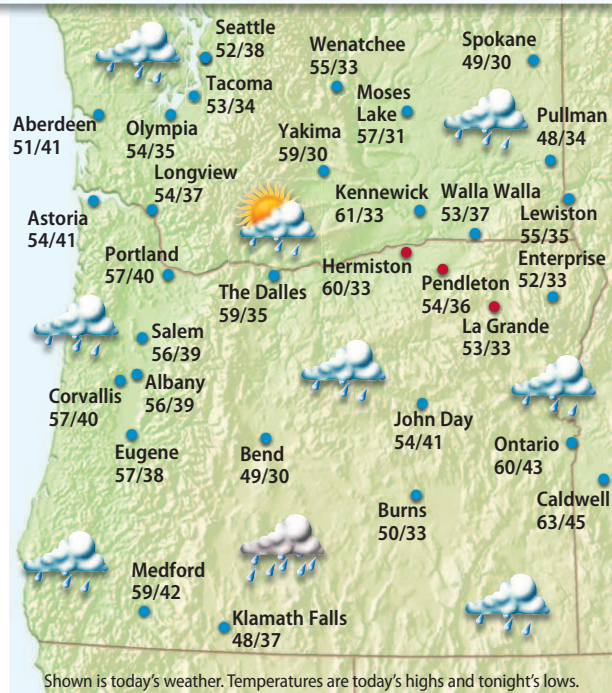
PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.03"
Month to date	0.46"
Normal month to date	0.29"
Year to date	1.95"
Last year to date	1.06"
Normal year to date	2.56"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	6:17 a.m.
Sunset tonight	5:55 p.m.
Moonrise today	7:17 a.m.
Moonset today	8:21 p.m.

First	Full	Last	New
Mar 15	Mar 23	Mar 31	Apr 7



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: A couple of showers and a thunderstorm today, except a little rain in the south.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Mostly cloudy and windy today with a couple of showers; warmer in the south.

Western Washington: Periods of sun today with a shower and thunderstorm around.

Eastern Washington: Spotty showers today.

Cascades: Cloudy and windy today with a couple of showers. A shower tonight.

Northern California: Rain ending today; snow, accumulating 1-3 inches in the interior mountains.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	54	41	t	55	44	r
Baker City	54	31	r	53	32	r
Bend	49	30	sh	50	33	sh
Brookings	56	44	r	52	44	r
Burns	50	33	r	49	30	sh
Enterprise	52	33	r	51	33	r
Eugene	57	38	sh	54	40	r
Heppner	54	37	sh	51	35	r
Hermiston	60	33	c	52	38	sh
John Day	54	41	r	57	39	r
Klamath Falls	48	37	r	48	32	r
La Grande	53	33	r	53	35	r
Meacham	49	30	r	50	36	r
Medford	59	42	sh	55	37	r
Newport	54	44	sh	55	44	r
North Bend	57	44	sh	55	45	r
Ontario	60	43	c	59	41	r
Pasco	60	34	c	52	39	sh
Pendleton	54	36	sh	51	38	r
Portland	57	40	t	56	43	r
Redmond	53	31	sh	52	31	sh
Salem	56	39	sh	55	41	r
Spokane	49	30	sh	48	39	pc
Ukiah	48	33	r	50	34	r
Vancouver	54	40	t	54	41	r
Walla Walla	53	37	sh	52	44	sh
Yakima	59	30	pc	51	35	r

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	45	19	s	46	20	s
Hong Kong	60	51	r	58	55	r
Jerusalem	67	49	s	68	52	s
London	49	33	c	52	34	c
Mexico City	58	36	pc	67	37	pc
Moscow	41	27	pc	40	30	c
Paris	49	36	c	53	33	pc
Rome	54	42	sh	60	46	sh
Seoul	39	23	s	40	29	s
Sydney	80	74	pc	82	72	pc
Tokyo	48	38	c	44	39	r

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Friday
Boardman	SW 10-20	NNW 4-8
Pendleton	SW 10-20	WNW 4-8

UV INDEX TODAY

0 1 2 2 1 0

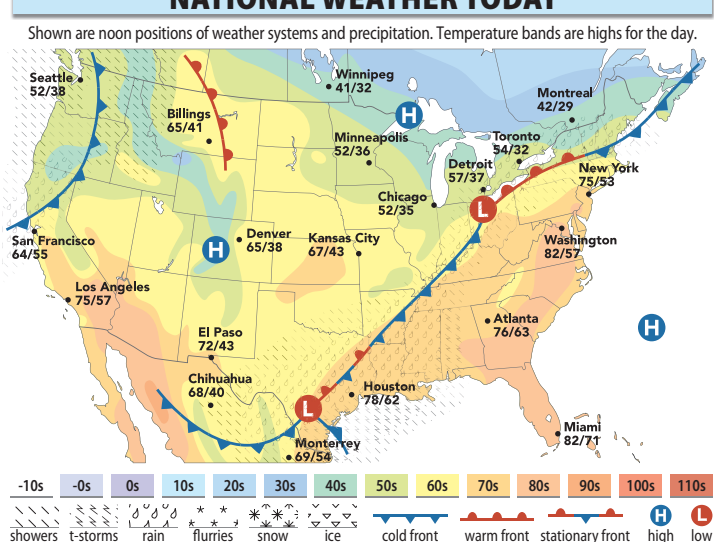
8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 2016

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



National Summary: Rain will dampen and cool areas from the Ohio Valley to New England today. Rain and flooding will continue from Texas to the lower Mississippi Valley. Rain will expand southward on the West Coast.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 86° in Thermal, Calif. Low 4° in Leadville, Colo.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	67	37	s	70	42	s
Atlanta	76	63	pc	79	61	c
Atlanta City	70	55	pc	67	40	pc
Baltimore	81	58	pc	67	41	pc
Billings	65	41	pc	63	40	c
Birmingham	76	66	c	78	64	c
Boise	60	46	c	63	44	r
Boston	64	45	r	54	36	pc
Charleston, SC	79	60	s	82	60	pc
Chicago, WV	79	52	c	66	48	pc
Chicago	52	35	c	55	39	pc
Cleveland	65	37	r	50	37	pc
Dallas	66	58	r	68	55	r
Denver	65	38	r	72	38	s
Detroit	57	37	r	53	36	s
El Paso	72	43	s	72	45	s
Fairbanks	27	2	pc	25	3	s
Fargo	57	37	s	66	40	