

UMATILLA TRACK & FIELD

COACH: Kaycee Ferguson, 6th year
2015 SEASON: The Vikings girls placed second at the district meet and the boys were third.
POSTSEASON STORY: The Vikings advanced 11 athletes to state (8 girls, 3 boys) and placed fifth in girls team points and 14th in boys. Umatilla’s girls brought back a gold medal in the 4x100 relay, Andrea Lemus-Cisneros won the 200-meter dash and Fabian Cardenas won both the 1,500- and 3,000-meters.
LOSSES: (Girls) Amie Zitterkob (sprints, relay), Andrea Lemus-Cisneros (sprints, relay), Berenice Chavez (distance), Kassandra Galbraith (relay, jumps); (Boys) Kevin Jaime-Garcia (throws).
KEY RETURNERS: (Boys) Fabian Cardenas, sr. (distance); Miguel Madrigal, sr. (sprints); Armondo Mendoza, sr. (distance, hurdles); (Girls) Maria Moreno-Mendez, soph. (throws), Aleesha Watson, jr. (middle distance, relay); Sonia Lemus-Cisneros, sr. (sprints, relay)

The Vikings lose state champs Amie Zitterkob and Andrea Lemus-Cisneros, who are both running at Eastern Oregon, but retain standout Fabian Cardenas, who won twice at last year’s state meet. Head coach Kaycee Ferguson is confident Zitterkob and Lemus-Cisneros’ roles can be filled, and excited what Miguel Madrigal, Armondo Mendoza, Maria Moreno-Mendez and Aleesha Watson can do in 2016.
“(Fabian’s) gonna put in the work and the effort and he’s gonna do everything he can do. We’re hoping that it’ll work out for him.”
“We always have a few kids that are able to fill those spots. The biggest thing is we’re pretty young as far as the girls are concerned. We have a few returning veterans, but we’re young. So it’ll be really interesting to see who will step up. With hard work and real persistence, who knows what can happen?”



In this May 21, 2015 file photo, Umatilla’s Fabian Cardenas wins the 1,500-meter run at the OSAA state track and field championship at Hayward Field in Eugene.

EO file photo/ Kathy Aney

2016 SCHEDULE		
Mar. 17	Buck Track Classic	Noon
April 1	Carnival of Speed	Noon
April 8	River’s Edge	Noon
April 15	Green and Gold Invite	3 p.m.
April 23	52nd Centennial Invitational	TBD
April 23	Prosser Rotary Invite	10:30 a.m.
April 29	Connell Invitational	3:30 p.m.
April 30	Condon/Wheeler Invitational	11 a.m.
May 6	Baker Invitational	1:30 p.m.
May 14	3A Eastern Oregon League Districts	10:30 a.m.

RIVERSIDE BASEBALL

COACH: Jarret Thompson, 2nd year
2015 SEASON: 5-18, 3-7 EOL (5th)
POSTSEASON STORY: The Pirates last made the state playoffs in 2004.
LOSSES: INF Abel Rodelo, C/ RHP Jose Salgado, OF/RHP Gavin Roberts, OF Kelvin Jimenez, INF/ OF Jessie Hegar.
KEY RETURNERS: OF/INF Wayne Killion, sr.; OF Marino Pena, jr.; C/OF Kylar Sorenson, jr.; INF/RHP Eon Castillo, jr.; INF/ RHP Derek Bingham, sr.; CF/RHP Marvin Calvillo, jr.

Playing in their huge park, the Riverside Pirates hope to compete in the strong 3A

Eastern Oregon League. Second-year head coach Jarret Thompson is hoping Wayne Killion, Marvin Calvillo and Derek Bingham can be leaders for a young program hoping to find itself.
“This season I want to focus on playing clean ball. I want to focus on not beating ourselves. There were games we had opportunities last year to be in and to play tough with some good teams, and we’d make mistakes and shoot ourselves in the foot and cost ourselves that opportunity. So I want to fulfill that opportunity this year. Whether we win or not.”

2016 SCHEDULE		
Mar. 14	vs. Dufur	4 p.m.
Mar. 17	at Irrigon	3:30 p.m.
Mar. 22	at Columbia Bsh	12:30 p.m.
Mar. 23	at Columbia Bash	TBD
Mar. 23	at Columbia Bash	2 p.m.
Mar. 28	at Irrigon	4 p.m.
April 1	at Elgin/Imbler (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 5	vs. Stanfield (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 12	vs. Prescott (WA)	4 p.m.
April 15	vs. Vale (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 22	at Nyssa (DH)*	4 p.m.
April 26	at Prescott (WA)	4 p.m.
April 29	at Joseph (DH)*	1 p.m.
May 2	at Dufur	4:30 p.m.
May 6	vs. Umatilla (DH)*	1 p.m.
May 11	vs. McLoughlin	4:30 p.m.
*League game		

RIVERSIDE SOFTBALL

COACH: Shayne Arndt, 2nd year
2015 SEASON: 13-12, 7-7 EOL (5th)
POSTSEASON STORY: The Pirates last made the state playoffs in 2010.
LOSSES: None
RETURNERS: Sadie Hasbell, jr., Skylar Wightman, soph., Ariana Corpus, Emily Kurbee, Stephanie Stocco, Abby Hernandez, jr.



In his second season, Shayne Arndt is optimistic about the Pirates softball program. The Pirates return much of its 2015 roster that went .500 a year ago, and Arndt is expecting a step forward from his squad.
“I am excited for the new players that are here and the returning players (too),” he said. “I expect that we’re gonna make the playoffs this year.”
Ariana Corpus returns to the diamond after a year off do rehab knee surgery, and Arndt expects big seasons from junior Sadie Hasbell and sophomore Skylar Wightman.
“We are going to depend on the pitching of Skylar Wightman,” Arndt said. “We are going to depend on good defense and timely hitting.
“I’m very confident in our team. The team chemistry is coming along very well here this year.”

2016 SCHEDULE		
Mar. 14	at Pilot Rock	4 p.m.
Mar. 17	at Irrigon	3:30 p.m.
Mar. 22	vs. Toledo	10 a.m.
Mar. 22	vs. Willamina	1 p.m.
Mar. 23	vs. Knappa	10 a.m.
Mar. 23	vs. Burns	1 p.m.
Mar. 28	at Irrigon	3:30 p.m.
April 1	at Elgin/Imbler (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 5	vs. Echo (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 9	vs. Weston-McEwen (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 12	vs. Waitsburg (WA)	4 p.m.
April 15	vs. Vale (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 22	at Nyssa (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 26	at Waitsburg (WA)	4 p.m.
April 29	at Enterprise (DH)*	1 p.m.
May 6	vs. Umatilla (DH)*	1 p.m.
May 13	at Grant Union (DH)*	1 p.m.
*League game		

RIVERSIDE TRACK & FIELD

COACH: Sam Cornelius, 1st year
2015 SEASON: The Riverside girls placed 14th at last year’s state meet. The boys didn’t score any points. The Pirates took two individual and one boys relay to state, and Justyce Smith won gold in long jump and silver in the 400 meters.



KEY LOSSES: (Girls)Justyce Smith (middle distance, jumps), Maria Rodriguez (sprints); (Boys) Brian Mendoza (throws)
KEY RETUNERS: (Boys) Ricardo Mendoza, jr. (throws); David Rodriguez, jr. (hurdles, relay, jumps); (Girls) Maria Virelas, sr. (throws), Rubi Salazar, jr. (throws), Yoselin

Ayuso, soph. (throws)

The Pirates lose standout sprinter/jumper Justyce Smith, who placed in four events and won the long jump at last season’s OSAA meet in Eugene, but should have several girls back that performed well at the district level. The boys team was young last season and returns most of its best athletes.

2016 SCHEDULE		
Mar. 17	at Pendleton	Noon
April 1	at Mac-Hi	Noon
April 8	at Umatilla	Noon
April 9	at Stanfield	10 a.m.
April 15	at Pendleton	3 p.m.
April 22	at Sherman	11 a.m.
April 29	at Kennedy	4:30 p.m.
May 14	at Districts	10:30 a.m.

RIVERSIDE TENNIS

COACH: Dave Boor, 1st year
KEY RETURNERS: (Girls) Gema Juarez, sr.; (Boys) Adolfo Bedolla, jr.; Luis Gonzalez, soph.; Bryan Altamarino, jr.; Austin Thompson, jr.

On the girls’ side, senior Gema Juarez enters as the top singles player.

Dave Boor is back coaching tennis at Riverside High School after a decade-long layoff, and he thinks his boys team will be fairly competitive.
“I don’t know (the players) too well in terms of tennis, but I know them well from being in my classroom,” Boor said. “I’m just trying to shift through to see if they’ll be better at singles or doubles.”
Juniors Adolfo Bedolla (singled) and Bryan Altamarino and Austin Thompson (doubles) enter the season in the No. 1 spots.

2016 SCHEDULE		
March 15	at Sherman	4 p.m.
March 17	vs. Stanfield	4 p.m.
March 29	vs. Ione	4 p.m.
March 30	vs. Mac-Hi	3:30 p.m.
March 31	at Umatilla	4 p.m.
April 4	at Condon	4 p.m.
April 5	at Griswold	4 p.m.
April 7	vs. Umatilla	4 p.m.
April 12	at Wes.-McE.	4 p.m.
April 14	at Stanfield	4 p.m.
April 21	vs. Wes.-McE.	4 p.m.
April 23	at Mac-Hi Tourney	TBD
April 26	at Ione	4 p.m.
April 28	vs. Sherman	4 p.m.
April 30	at Griswold	9 p.m.
May 7-8	at Sub-Districts	TBD
May 13-14	at Districts	10 a.m.

UMATILLA BASEBALL

COACH: David Dever, 1st year
2015 SEASON: 1-18, 1-9 EOL (6th)
POSTSEASON STORY: The last time the Vikings made the state postseason was 1993.
LOSSES: None
KEY RETURNERS: SS/RHP Josh Dever, sr.; 3B/ RHP Diego Soto, jr.; U/RHP Brylee Dufloth, soph.; OF Jair Adrande, jr.; OF Aaron Garza, sr.; 1B/U Tristen Sanguino sr.; CF/RHP Kole Keller, soph.; U/RHP Cory Landon, sr.; 2B/OF Cody Samson, soph.

The Umatilla Vikings didn’t graduate a single player from last season’s 1-19 campaign, and now are under first-year head coach David Dever. The build the Viking program, Dever first wants his players to focus on the academic end, which has caused Umatilla some problems in recent seasons. With talent righties Josh Dever, Diego Soto and Cory Landon, plus transfer Seth Cranston, Dever is confident his bunch can compete in the tough 3A Eastern Oregon League. Senior first baseman Tristen Sanguino will have surgery soon and my not play this season.
“The first step is to build the student. I have a lot of these students in my (shop) class. That makes a big difference. You build the student, you get their positive attitudes going, then you work on their work ethics.”
“My expectations this year are to be competitive. I want to be competitive. Whether we win a lot of games, lose a lot of games, my philosophy is get out there and play well. If we do that, we’re winners, regardless of what the end results are.”



2016 SCHEDULE		
Mar. 18	vs. Dufur (DH)	2 p.m.
Mar. 24	at Pilot Rock (DH)	11 a.m.
Mar. 29	vs. Sherman	4 p.m.
April 1	at Stanfield (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 5	at Sherman	4 p.m.
April 8	at Vale (DH)*	2 p.m. (MT)
April 12	at Touchet (WA)	4 p.m.
April 15	vs. Nyssa (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 19	vs. Joseph (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 21	vs. Irrigon	4 p.m.
April 28	at Irrigon	4 p.m.
May 6	at Riverside (DH)*	1 p.m.
May 13	vs. Elgin/Imbler (DH)*	1 p.m.
*League game		

UMATILLA SOFTBALL

COACH: Kylee Lete, 1st year
2015 SEASON: 0-20, 0-14 EOL
POSTSEASON STORY: The Vikings last made the state playoffs in 2007.
KEY RETURNERS: Courtney Dohman, sr. Bridgette Dohman, soph., Millie Rodriguez, Destiny Trujillo.

The Umatilla softball program was resurrected recently, but hasn’t seen much success yet. Former Hermiston softball coach Kylee Lete takes over the program after intending to take a year off to spend time with her year-old son, and has started building a winning culture in Umatilla already.
“First, the girls and I have talked a lot about buying into and respecting the program. We gotta start there. I think so far they’ve done a pretty good job of that. They want to turn things around, I just don’t think they knew how.”
“I expect the girls to compete, regardless of our experience. They still know how to compete, and I expect them to do that. Whether the outcome is a win or loss I expect them to come out and compete every game. Things fall into place when you do that.”



2016 SCHEDULE		
Mar. 17	at Heppner	4:30 p.m.
Mar. 29	vs. Walla Walla Acad. (WA)	4 p.m.
Mar. 31	vs. Heppner	4:30 p.m.
April 1	at Echo/Stanfield (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 5	at Irrigon (DH)	3 p.m.
April 8	at Vale (DH)*	2 p.m.
April 12	at Touchet	4 p.m.
April 15	vs. Nyssa (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 19	vs. Enterprise (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 26	vs. Weston-McEwen (DH)*	1 p.m.
April 29	vs. Grant Union (DH)*	1 p.m.
May 2	at River View (WA)	4 p.m.
May 6	at Riverside (DH)*	1 p.m.
May 13	vs. Elgin/Imbler	1 p.m.
*League game		

GOOD LUCK TO RIVERSIDE PIRATES!

Go Get ‘Em Pirates!

RIVER LODGE & GRILL

6 Marine Dr NE
Boardman, OR
541-481-6800
www.riverlodgeandgrill.com

MT. VALLEY LAND CO.
www.mtvalleylandco.com
LEE DOCKEN, Principal Broker
P.O. Box 50, 101 • SW Kinkade Ave., Boardman, OR • leed@eotnet.net
Office: 541-481-6251
Cell: 541-571-0052
Fax: 541-481-6262

- Interested in seeing your sports photos in print?
- Have a youth sports story or team photo you'd like us to run?
- We realize there's more going on in the area than our reporters and photographers can cover and welcome submissions from community members!
- Send your submissions to sports@eastoregonian.com

Go Vikings!

JAVA JUNKIES

1510 6th St. • Umatilla, OR
541-567-4181
www.javajunkiesumatilla.com

HERMISTON REALTY

Go Umatilla!

541-567-2121
2372 N. 1st (Hwy 395) Hermiston
www.hermistonrealtynow.com

Best of Luck Vikings!

JOHN L. BALLARD
Attorney at Law

125 SW 3rd St. • Hermiston
541-564-2574

Good Luck Vikings!

Columbia Harvest Foods
We Honestly Care!

1411 6th St • Umatilla, OR
541-922-3001

Good Luck Vikings!

EAST OREGONIAN Hermiston Herald