

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

The head of a dead thistle plant is covered in spider webs in a field on the Oxbow property in Hermiston.

### BRIEFLY

## Gov. Brown renews call for transportation funding

EUGENE (AP) — During a visit to Eugene and Springfield, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown again called on state lawmakers to approve more transportation funding.

The Register-Guard reports that Brown has asked the Legislature to pass a major transportation funding package in 2017. It would be likely be paid for by higher gas taxes and vehicle registration and driver license fees.

During her visit, Brown took a short bus ride along Franklin Boulevard with local officials. The route is being considered for major upgrades and could receive money from the transportation package.

Springfield officials have long wanted to turn Franklin into an upscale development hub and Eugene officials want to improve the stretch of the road near the university. Brown wouldn't say how much money she supports raising for transportation.

## Intel to cut 784 Ore. workers

PORTLAND (AP) — Intel has notified Oregon officials it plans to lay off nearly 800 workers in Washington County.

The Santa Clara, California-based company announced last week it is shedding 12,000 jobs worldwide. The move is part of a restructuring caused by declining personal computer sales.

Intel is Oregon's largest private employer, with 19,500 workers in Portland's western suburbs. State law requires employers to give advance warning before a plant closing or mass layoff. The Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development said Tuesday it has received the warning from Intel. The company said in a letter it is firing 784 workers.

### Bill introduced to return Kennewick Man to tribes

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — A bill has been introduced in the U.S. Senate to require the federal government to give the bones of Kennewick Man back to the Indian tribes from which he descended.

It calls for the Army Corps of Engineers to repatriate the 9,000-year-old skeleton back to the tribes for reburial.

The remains were discovered in 1996 near the Columbia River in Kennewick, triggering a lengthy legal fight between tribes and scientists.

Kennewick Man is one of the oldest and most complete skeletons found in North America. Last year, new genetic evidence determined the remains were closer to modern Native Americans than any other population in the world.

## Hanford seeks possible leak in second tank

SPOKANE (AP) — Officials for the Hanford Nuclear Reservation are trying to determine if a second giant underground tank containing radioactive waste from the production of plutonium for nuclear weapons is leaking, the U.S. Department of Energy revealed on Tuesday.

Air monitors attached to an aging tank known as AY-101 recently found radiation at higher than normal background levels, the agency said.

A video inspection of the underground tank found no evidence that radioactive waste had leaked from the primary tank into the space between the two walls, Hanford officials said. While a new leak is a possibility, they have found no evidence of one.

"We want to discredit that potential before we make any statement," said Tom Fletcher, the U.S. Department of Energy's tank farms manager at Hanford.

A Hanford watchdog group on Tuesday contended the higher radiation found by the air monitors was evidence of a leak in a second tank. Hanford Challenge is based in Seattle.

"The presence of these radioactive materials in the outer shell of the tank, known as the annulus, is a solid indicator that the primary shell of the tank has failed and is leaking high-level nuclear waste into the outer shell," said Mike Geffre, a former Hanford worker now on the board of Hanford Challenge.

Earlier this month. Hanford officials revealed that a tank known as AY-102 had leaked several thousand

gallons of radioactive waste from its primary tank into the annulus.

It was the first of the double-walled tanks at Hanford to be found to have leaked. That waste is being pumped back into the primary tank.

The sprawling Hanford site is located near Richland, Washington, and was constructed during World War II to make plutonium, a key ingredient in nuclear weapons. The site is now engaged in cleaning up the leftover waste at a cost of more than \$2 billion per year.

The most dangerous wastes are stored in 177 underground tanks, most of them old, single-walled tanks, some of which have leaked. The double-walled tanks were presumed to be much safer.

U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, a frequent Hanford critic, said the situation there was urgent.

"In light of today's developments, I will also be asking the U.S. Government Accountability Office to examine what and when DOE knew about the leaks in these tanks, the adequacy of the department's tank safety efforts and responses to the deteriorating condition of all of the high-level waste tanks," Wyden said.

Fletcher, in a telephone interview with The Associated Press, said air samples checked on April 6 and April 14 showed some elevated levels of radioactivity within the annulus of tank AY-101, which is more than 40 years old and contains about

578,000 gallons of waste. They did a video inspection of the annulus and

found no evidence of a leak.

Fletcher said. "There are a number of potential sources this could come from," Fletcher said, including a leak that might have so far escaped detec-

Fletcher said Hanford officials will continue to study the problem, but he could offer no deadline for solving the riddle.

Hanford Challenge, quoting unnamed sources inside Hanford, said the monitor recorded above-background levels of Cesium-137 and plutonium in the annulus.

The possible failure of a second double-shell tank at Hanford is serious because Hanford is running out of space to store waste from leaking tanks, said Tom Carpenter, director of Hanford Challenge.

"There is no other realistic option but to begin building new tanks immediately, Carpenter said. Those tanks would take several years to build, the group said.

Hanford stores about two-thirds of the nation's high-level nuclear waste, Hanford Challenge said. Dealing with that waste is expected to take decades and cost billions of dollars.

## 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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- 541-278-2678 tbriggs@eastoregonian.com Davle Stinson
- 541-966-0806 dstinson@eastoregonian.com Stephanie Newsom
- 541-278-2687 snewsom@eastoregonian.com Audra Workman
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- 541-966-0802 cmcclellan@eastoregonian.com
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#### AccuWeather.com Forecast **SATURDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY TODAY SUNDAY** Breezy with Times of clouds Nice with clouds Mostly sunny Pleasant with and sun and sun periods of sun some sun PENDLETO TEMPERATURE FORECAST 63° 43° 46° 63° 43° 66° 39° 74° 43°

68°

45°

## **ALMANAC PENDLETON**

43°

74°

48°

through 3 p.	m. yesterday							
TEMPERA'	TURE							
	HIGH	LOW						
Yesterday	62°	43°						
Normals	65°	41°						
Records	86° (1904)	25° (1924)						
PRECIPITATION								

#### 24 hours ending 3 p.m. 1.00' Normal month to date Year to date Last year to date Normal year to date

#### **HERMISTON** through 3 p.m. yesterday **TEMPERATURE** HIGH LOW

Yesterday	65°	41°
Normals	68°	41°
Records	84° (2013)	25° (2008)
PRECIPITA	TION	
24 hours end	0.00"	
Month to date		0.28"
Normal mon	0.74"	
Year to date		2.98"

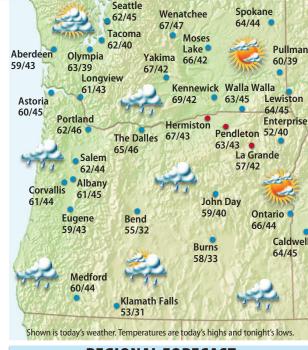
Apr 29

Sunrise to	oday		5:49 a.m.
Sunset to	night		7:58 p.m.
Moonrise	today	1	2:08 a.m.
Moonset	today		9:48 a.m.
Last	New	First	Full
			(2)

# 0.00" 0.37" 4.36 3.02" 5.00'

Last year to date 1.78' Normal year to date 3.88 **SUN AND MOON** north.

May 6 May 13 May 21



**72°** 

38°

**78°** 

42°

REGIONAL FORECAST Coastal Oregon: Mostly cloudy today. Showers; only in the morning across the

Eastern and Central Oregon: Mostly cloudy today. Showers around in the south and near the Cascades; rain and drizzle in central parts. Western Washington: Cloudy this morning, then clouds and sun this afternoon; a

Eastern Washington: Times of clouds and

Cascades: Cloudy today with a couple of showers. Mostly cloudy tonight

Northern California: A shower and storm in central parts; showers at the coast. Snow, up to an inch in the mountains.

#### 41 percent 38 percent

\*EZ Pay = one-year rate with a monthly credit or debit card/check charge

#### **REGIONAL CITIES** Today Thu. 60 45 pc 59 58

Hi Lo W Astoria 45 s 36 pc 32 sh Baker City 30 pc Bend 60 Brookings 47 sh 46 33 c 32 c 52 40 pc Enterprise 57 34 pc 43 r 40 c 41 s 41 pc 59 59 Eugene Heppner 66 43 c 40 r 31 sh 48 c 39 c 29 pc 67 59 53 74 63 62 Hermiston John Day Klamath Falls sh 40 La Grande 40 pc 44 r 45 r 47 r Meacham 38 pc 43 s 45 s 47 s Medford 60 68 57 Newport 56 57 North Bend 60 Ontario 41 pc 43 pc 46 pc Pasco 70 75 69 45 pc 46 p Pendletor 65 Portland 62 29 sh 44 r 29 p Redmond Salem Spokane 64 44 pc 45 pc 42 pc 42 s Vancouve 60 48 pc 44 pc Walla Walla 45 pc

## WORLD CITIES

Yakima

42 c

	To	day	Thu.			
	Hi L	_o W	Hi	Lo W		
Beijing	68 5	52 c	79	52 pc		
Hong Kong	85 7	76 c	85	72 t		
Jerusalem	73 5	52 pc	70	52 s		
London	52 3	34 t	52	42 pc		
Mexico City	84 5	51 pc	86	51 pc		
Moscow	58 4	19 r	62	43 c		
Paris	52 3	35 t	53	36 sh		
Rome	65 5	53 t	68	53 t		
Seoul	68 4	48 pc	70	48 pc		
Sydney	74 5	59 s	76	61 pc		
Tokyo	68 4	59 c	65	58 r		

## WINDS

(in mph) Today Thursday Boardman WSW 4-8 W 4-8 WSW 4-8 Pendleton

## **UV INDEX TODAY** 2 3 4 3 4 3 3 3 1

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. 3-5, Moderate 0-2, Low 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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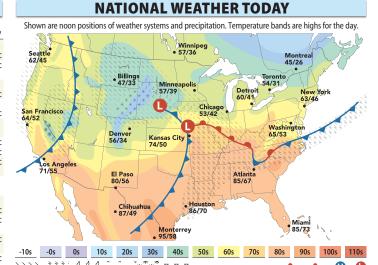
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Production Manager: Mike Jensen



warm front stationary front National Summary: Severe storms, including the risk of tornadoes, will be over most of the Mississippi Valley today. Storms will dot the Southeast; showers will occur in the West and rain will fall over the northern Plains.

cold front

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)

High 98° in Dryden, Texas Low 15° in Tuolumne Meadows, Calif.

NATIONAL CITIES											
	Т	oday	Thur.		r.		Today			Thur.	
	Hi	Lo W	Hi	Lo	W		Hi	Lo V	/ Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	70	44 s	69	41	t	Louisville	78	63 t	82	61	t
Atlanta	85	67 pc	80	64		Memphis	80	67 t	86	63	
Atlantic City	57	46 pc	56	47		Miami	85	73 s	87	72	pc
Baltimore	62	50 c	59	46		Milwaukee	49	39 c	46	39	r
Billings	47	33 c	47	33	-	Minneapolis	57	39 r	49	41	r
Birmingham	83	66 t	83		рс	Nashville	84	65 p		58	pc
Boise	63	43 pc	69	44	рс	New Orleans	87	73 t	85	73	pc
Boston	54	40 s	53	42	S	New York City	63	46 s	60	47	C
Charleston, SC	86	66 pc	84		рс	Oklahoma City	77	50 s	76	58	
Charleston, WV	77	59 t	80	57		Omaha	68	48 r	59	42	po
Chicago	53	42 r	51	43		Philadelphia	65	48 p		49	r
Cleveland	57	43 pc	54	46		Phoenix	85	61 s	76	59	
Dallas	83	58 pc	86		рс	Portland, ME	51	29 s	53	31	S
Denver	56	34 pc	52	35		Providence	59	38 s	59	40	pc
Detroit	60	41 pc	54	43		Raleigh	86	65 t	80	61	t
El Paso	80	56 s	84	56		Rapid City	39	27 si		29	
Fairbanks	55	36 pc	62	35	-	Reno	57	42 sl		40	C
Fargo	57	35 c	56	38	C	Sacramento	69	51 t	80	52	
Honolulu	86	73 sh	86	72	рс	St. Louis	77	61 t	75	54	-
Houston	86	70 t	86	71	рс	Salt Lake City	58	46 sl		43	-
Indianapolis	68	58 r	75	51	t	San Diego San Francisco	70 64	60 p 52 t		60 53	
Jacksonville Kansas City	86 74	64 s 50 t	87 65	67 47	рс	Seattle	62		69	47	
Kansas City	74 74		65	56	-		62 84	45 p 57 s	c 66 78	50	
Las Vegas Little Rock	82	55 pc 62 t	85	63		Tucson Washington, DC	65	57 S	62	51	
	71		71		pc	Wichita	62			51	
Los Angeles	71	55 pc	/ I	30	рс	VVICIIILD	02	46 p	C /I	31	5

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain,

sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.