



**TWO STATE CHAMPS: PILOT ROCK SOFTBALL AND STANFIELD BASEBALL** **SPORTS/1B**

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## Oil train crashes in Gorge

By **GILLIAN FLACCUS**  
*Associated Press*

**PORTLAND** — A train towing a highly volatile type of oil derailed Friday in Oregon's scenic Columbia River Gorge, igniting a fire that sent a plume of black smoke into the sky and spurring evacuations and road

**Tank cars, carrying oil, are derailed Friday near Mosier in the Columbia River Gorge.**  
*Silas Bleakley via AP*

closures.

Eleven cars derailed Friday in the 96-car Union Pacific train and the railroad said several caught fire. The crash released oil alongside tracks that parallel the Columbia River.

All the cars on the train traveling to Tacoma, Washington, from Eastpoint, Idaho, were carrying Bakken oil, which is more flammable than other varieties because it has a higher gas content and vapor pressure and

lower flash point.

The accident immediately drew reaction from environmentalists who said oil should not be transported by rail, particularly along a river that is a hub of recreation and commerce.

"Moving oil by rail constantly puts our communities and environment at risk," said Jared Margolis, an attorney at the Center for Biological Diversity in Eugene.

It wasn't immediately clear if

oil had seeped into the river or what had caused the derailment. No injuries were reported.

Aaron Hunt, a spokesman for the railroad, did not know how fast the train was traveling at the time, but witnesses said it was going slowly as it passed the town of Mosier, about 70 miles east of Portland.

Response teams were using a drone to assess the damage, said

See **TRAIN/10A**

## Grads face tough call on college

Advisers say same path isn't for everyone, but more education needed

By **KATHY ANEY**  
*East Oregonian*

Jill Gregg knows the struggle of deciding which path to take after high school.

As Pendleton High School's ASPIRE Coordinator, Gregg works with seniors as they choose colleges and figure out how to pay for them. The process is grueling and definitely not one-size-fits-all. But some kind of post-high school education is necessary, Gregg believes. Once upon a time, people landed good high-salaried jobs with only a high school diploma, but those days are all but gone.

"You have to continue your education," Gregg said. "It doesn't have to be a traditional four-year degree. It can be a trade program or a certificate program, but something beyond a high school diploma."

Liz Marvin, who heads Hermiston High School's Project College Bound, echoes Gregg.

See **COLLEGE/10A**

## PROMISE & POTENTIAL



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

**Hepner High School graduate Patrick Collins, a standout athlete and student, will continue to combine athletics and academics on the Eastern Oregon University football team. He hopes to teach high school business.**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

**Hermiston High School graduate Laura Zepeda will be the first in her immediate family to attend college. She envisions a career as a pharmacist.**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

**Hermiston High School graduate Kodie Arnold hopes to inspire others as a high school Spanish teacher, and will go through the Oregon Commission for the Blind Independent Living Program in Portland.**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

**Hermiston High School graduate Laura Dewey dreams of one day having her own veterinary practice or partnering with another veterinarian.**

## Meet the future

More than 1,000 seniors from local high schools will cross the podium this month and step into the "real world," diverging paths leading to distinctive lives.

The next four years will be a defining time for them, and will look far different than the paths taken by their parents. College and the workforce change greatly from generation to generation, and this year's seniors have a unique set of options laid before them.

To explore those decisions and their effects, we have found eight seniors from local high schools from a wide variety of backgrounds to follow through the next four years. We're calling the series "Promise & Potential," and hope through these eight paths into the future to help readers understand what it takes to find success as a young adult in the early 21st century.

For more on these eight students, see **Page 9A**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

**Pendleton High School graduate CeCe Hoffman isn't entirely sure what she wants to do with a major in public health, but she sees herself helping people in rural areas.**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

**Pendleton High School graduate Emily Ross would like to translate a lifetime of babysitting skills into a day care business. She will get her start at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton.**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

**Pendleton High School graduate Ryan Lacey hopes to one day work in research and development at NASA as an aeronautical engineer.**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

**Hermiston High School graduate Monica Aguilar considered several career ideas such as baker, general surgeon and teacher, then chose the latter. What ties all the choices together is her desire to help others.**



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