

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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1B

## HERMISTON

# Bulldogs' Neal catches on quick

Hermiston junior having breakout season after switch to receiver

By MATT ENTRUP  
East Oregonian

Hermiston junior Dayshawn Neal had been trying to convince his coaches he shouldn't be a quarterback for two years, but it wasn't until this season he got a chance to show them what he was talking about.

Seven games after a switch to his desired position, the 6-foot-1, 180-pound wide receiver is proving his point as he enters Friday's game against Pendleton ranked first or second in Class 5A in every major receiving statistic.

"It started freshman year, I told them I couldn't play quarterback, then like midway through the season somebody quit and I ended up having to play (junior varsity) quarterback," Neal said. "They liked it, so sophomore year I was like, 'Well we've got (2016 graduate) Nathan Hunsaker, he can play

quarterback, I can play wide-out."

No dice.

After a preseason quarterback competition, Hermiston head coach David Faaeteete installed Neal as the varsity starter for the defending 5A state champions.

"We put him at quarterback because he's a great athlete and he can throw the ball, and we wanted to do some things," said Faaeteete.

"If that's where they need me, I'll play," Neal said.

It lasted just five games. Hunsaker  
See NEAL/2B



Staff photo by E.J. Harris  
In this Sept. 2, 2016, file photo, Hermiston's Dayshawn Neal goes up for the catch in the Bulldogs' 36-14 loss to Union in their season opener at Kennison Field. Neal finished with 12 catches, 212 yards and three touchdowns in his varsity debut at wide receiver.

## PENDLETON

# Timberwolves come up short

BMCC's Kristin Williams (12) unleashes a spike during Wednesday night's game against North Idaho College at the McCrae Activity Center.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney



# Blue Mountain losing grip on final playoff spot after loss

**Volleyball**  
North Idaho 3  
Blue Mountain 2

By ERIC SINGER  
East Oregonian

The Blue Mountain Timberwolves stayed toe-to-toe with the North Idaho College Cardinals through five sets, but in the end the T-Wolves just did not

have enough.

The Cardinals won their fourth straight game on Wednesday night, knocking off the Timberwolves in five sets at Mosby Court, 30-32, 25-19, 25-22, 21-25, and 15-12. The loss gave a hit to the T-Wolves (17-15, 6-5 East)

playoff standing, as the team's lead on fifth-place Columbia Basin in the NWAC East fell to a half game with four games left to play.

The Timberwolves were obviously disappointed with the result.

See T-WOLVES/2B

## Prep Roundup

# Sanchez claims only state berth for local runners

Hermiston XC third at CRC district meet

East Oregonian

HOOD RIVER — Hermiston junior Isaac Sanchez earned his third trip to the 5A OSAA cross country state championships by placing fourth at the Columbia River Conference district meet hosted by Hood River on Wednesday. Sanchez crossed the finish line

seven seconds ahead of Hood River's Connor Truax in a time of 17:25.36, but for the first time he will have to compete at state alone as Hermiston placed third in team points.

Only the top two teams and top five individuals from each the boys and girls 5K qualified for the state finals Nov. 5 at Lane Community College in Eugene.

Hood River won both the boys and girls teams titles and dominated the podium in both races as well.

Hood River senior Jesse Wiley

won the boys race in 17:08.32 and five Eagles finished in the top 10 for 23 points. Senior Daisy Dolan won the girls' race in 20:14.40, and was joined by five more Eagles in the top 10 for 18 team points.

Thomas Alberti was Pendleton's only placer in 10th in 18:09.43, and Melany Solorio placed seventh in 21:46.05 as Hermiston's only girl in the top 10.

## VOLLEYBALL

1A PLAY-IN ROUND — The

season ended on Wednesday for the Ione Cardinals and Helix Grizzlies as they both fell on the road in the 1A play-in round.

Ione lost 3-1 at Joseph with scores of 25-14, 25-16, 23-25, 25-12.

Helix was swept 3-0 at Adrian by scores of 25-21, 25-22, 25-16.

No further information was available at press time.

Arlington earned a bye by winning the Big Sky district tournament. The No. 3 Honkers will host No. 14 Elkton in the first round on Saturday.

## Sports shorts

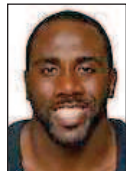
### Seahawks part ways with Spiller

RENTON, Wash. (AP) The Seattle Seahawks released veteran running back C.J. Spiller on Wednesday and signed fullback Will Tukuafu.

Spiller was signed on Sept. 28 but became expendable after the return of rookie C.J. Prosise, who was targeted to be Seattle's third-down running back from the start of the season but was sidelined after the season opener by a broken bone in his hand.

Spiller caught an 8-yard touchdown pass in his first game with the Seahawks against the New York Jets on Oct. 2. He had just three carries in two games and was inactive for Sunday's game against Arizona.

Tukuafu is in his second stint with the team this season. Tukuafu was signed in Week 2 by Seattle and released the following week.



Spiller

"I was angry, extremely, extremely angry, and disappointed and honestly brought to tears by all of it. It broke my heart."

— Sevyn Streeter

R&B singer after she was told she would not be allowed to perform the national anthem prior to Wednesday night's Philadelphia 76ers game because she wore a jersey with the words "We Matter" on the front. A member of the 76ers dance team stepped in to perform the song at the last minute.

### NBA begins season with record 113 international players

NEW YORK (AP) — The NBA begins its season with international players making up one-quarter of the league.

The 113 international players come from 41 countries and territories. A maximum of 15 players are allowed on the 30 NBA teams.

The Utah Jazz lead the way with seven international players. Every team has at least one such player. Canadians are most represented for the third straight year. Eleven players from Canada are on NBA rosters, followed by France at 10, Brazil at nine, and Australia and Spain at eight.

The Portland Trail Blazers have just one international player this year, with center Festus Ezeli hailing from Nigeria.



## World Series

# Rizzo, Zobrist lead Cubs' outburst

Chicago knots series at one each

By WILL GRAVES  
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — After getting shut out in their first World Series game since 1945, the Chicago Cubs stressed it was no time to panic.

Their at-bats were good, the Cubs insisted. The

balanced lineup that propelled them to a National League championship and the best record in the majors was just a swing away. Three swings, as it

turned out.

The first by Kris Bryant with one out in the first inning Wednesday night, a sharp single to center field off Cleveland Indians starter Trevor Bauer that gave the Chicago dugout and the sea of blue-clad fans scattered throughout Progressive Field a needed jolt.

The second came seven pitches later, a double to right from Anthony Rizzo that sent Bryant racing home with the Cubs' first World Series run in 71 years.

The third was in the fifth, a triple to right by Ben Zobrist that gave starter Jake Arrieta all the cushion he needed in a 5-1 victory that tied the Fall Classic at one game apiece heading back to Wrigley Field on Friday.

Perhaps it's only fitting the outburst was started by three players who represent the various stages of Chicago's renaissance under general

See WORLD SERIES/2B

## THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1984 — Washington State's Rueben Mayes sets an NCAA record with 357 yards rushing, 197 in the first half, and scores three touchdowns in a 50-41 victory over Oregon.

2002 — Emmitt Smith breaks the NFL career rushing yardage record held by the late Walter Payton. Smith has 109 yards and a touchdown in Dallas' 17-14 loss to Seattle and ends the game with 16,743 career yards, 17 more than Payton gained.

2007 — Weber State beats Portland State 73-68 to set an NCAA all-division football record for points in a game.

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