

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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## PENDLETON

# Smith, Bucks start hot

Pendleton on target, opens season with rout of Baker

By MATT ENTRUP  
East Oregonian

Caden Smith hit five three-pointers in a row to get the Buckaroos going, and Pendleton followed the lead of its senior captain to roll past Baker in its season opener on Wednesday night.

Smith finished 7-for-8 from distance, and the Buckaroos shot 56 percent from the field as a team to out-pace the Bulldogs

87-46 in nonconference boys' basketball at Warberg Court.

"It all started pre-game, just getting mentally ready for the first big game of the season, my boys hyping me up," said Smith, who finished with a game-high 32 points. "We just followed through and it was a good start to the season."

"I think it's good that Caden got those five threes right in the beginning. He just See BUCKS/2B



Baker  
46



Pendleton  
87



Pendleton Kaden Smith drives past Baker's Wyatt Akers in the Bucks' 87-46 win against the Bulldogs on Wednesday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

## College Volleyball

# Eastern sweeping through pool play

No. 6 Mountaineers 2-0 at NAIA championships

East Oregonian

SIOUX CITY, Iowa — The No. 6 Eastern Oregon volleyball team remained perfect in pool play at the NAIA National Championships with another sweep on Wednesday.

The Mountaineers notched their 30th win of the season by beating No. 24 Montana Tech 25-21, 25-22, 25-13 at Tyson Events Center.

That came after the Mountaineers opened pool play on Tuesday with a 28-26, 25-17, 25-20 sweep of Coastal Georgia to put EOU at the top of Pool F with one more match left before the top 16 teams (two from each pool) advance to bracket play.

Senior hitter Makayla Lindburg and junior outside hitter Amanda Miller have been leading the way at the net and have combined for 52 kills in the two matches. They each had 12 against Montana Tech and Lindburg opened with a double-double (15 kills, 11 digs) against Coastal Georgia.

Lindburg



Miller

Senior setter Rachelle Chamberlain brought her assists total to 77 with 34 against the Orediggers to help EOU remain the only undefeated team in their pool and one of six teams to make it through the early round of games at 2-0. Six more had a chance to do it in the late games.

The Orediggers had chances to force a different outcome late in each of the first two sets Wednesday before EOU took over in the third.

The Mountaineers (30-2) used a 13-6 run to take a 17-10 lead in the first set after two straight kills by junior middle hitter Kasandra Tuma (seven kills, four block assists), but couldn't keep the momentum as Montana Tech (24-10) fought back to within 23-20. An attacking error by Montana Tech brought up match-point, though, See EOU VOLLEYBALL/2B

## HERMISTON

# Dawgs leave good impressions

Hermiston's Maddy Juul passes to a teammate around Hannah Gilmore, of Walla Walla during Wednesday's non-conference game at The Dawghouse.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney



# Hermiston boys, girls both usher in new eras with victories

By ERIC SINGER  
East Oregonian

Wednesday night signaled the start of a new era in Hermiston varsity basketball.

The boys and girls varsity teams kicked off their respective campaigns at home against Walla Walla, marking the first games under first-year girls head coach Juan Rodriguez and first-year boys head coach Casey Arstein. And after a combined 64 minutes of hard-fought action in both games, both coaches were happy to start off their head coaching careers 1-0 as the Bulldog girls put away Walla Walla 60-42 and the boys a

57-48 victory.

"It feels really good," Rodriguez said of the win. "It's been five months since I took over and we've been preparing for this game for a long time. I wasn't sure of what to expect with kind of a new team, but I'm very pleased with the way the girls played, especially defensively."

"I'm really happy for the kids," Arstein said with a grin. "It was a fun first game but we definitely have stuff to work on, but it's nice to get that first win out of the way." In the first game of the night,

## Girls Basketball



Walla Walla  
42



Hermiston  
60

— including a 3-18 mark from 3-point range.

"We were really happy with that effort," Rodriguez said. "That's what we preach, getting the other team out of their comfort zone and getting in the passing lanes and we did really well tonight."

Wednesday also marked the varsity debut for freshman guard Jazlyn Romero, who led Herm-

iston with 14 points and sank 4-7 from 3-point range to leave Bulldog fans excited for what may come over the next four years.

"I was extremely pleased with Jazlyn, first varsity game and coming into a big atmosphere," Rodriguez said. "She hit a lot of shots and big shots at some timely points ... she kind of carried us there for a while."

Also hitting the double-digit scoring mark for Hermiston was Hayden Meyers and Maddy Juul, who each turned in 10-point performances. Hermiston snagged the lead early in the game at 4-2

See DAWGS/3B

Eastern Oregon quarterback Zach Bartlow scans the field while evading the Knights' rush in a 17-0 win over Marian in the NAIA FCS quarterfinals on Saturday, Nov. 26, in Indianapolis.

Photo courtesy of Marian University Athletics



## College Football

# EOU hopes to keep writing history

Mountaineers in semifinals for first time

East Oregonian

LA GRANDE — The Eastern Oregon Mountaineers football team penned another chapter of its historic 2016 season last weekend

by knocking off the No. 1 ranked Marian Tigers in the NAIA Football Championship Series quarterfinals.

The Mountaineers pulled off the road upset behind a defense that has been wreaking havoc on opposing offenses all season long, holding Marian scoreless for the first time in the program's 10-year history. The win improved EOU to 4-1 over top-10 opponents this season.

"We did have a really good game plan and the players played extremely hard," EOU coach Tim Camp told EOUSports.com on Tuesday. "And to get the defensive stops we did was huge, our special teams came up big, and the offense played a smart game."

The No. 9 seed Mountaineers now sit one win away from a trip

See EOU FOOTBALL/2B

## Sports shorts

### Owners, players agree on new CBA to avoid work stoppage

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Baseball players and owners reached a tentative agreement on a five-year labor contract Wednesday night, a deal that extends the sport's industrial peace to 26 years since the ruinous fights in the first two decades of free agency.

After days of near round-the-clock talks, negotiators reached a verbal agreement about 3 1/2 hours before the expiration of the current pact. Then they worked to draft a memorandum of understanding, which must be ratified by both sides.

As part of the deal, the luxury tax threshold rises from \$189 million to \$195 million next year, \$197 million in 2018, \$206 million in 2019, \$209 million in 2020 and \$210 million in 2021, a person familiar with the agreement told The Associated Press.



"I have not spoken to anybody at Oregon except for Mark Helfrich. I love everybody associated with the university, they were fantastic. But my thoughts are with (Helfrich) right now."

— Chip Kelly

San Francisco 49ers head coach and former Oregon coach when asked about a possible return to Eugene. Kelly said he has no interest in the job, and when asked if he was still happy in San Francisco simply offered, "Yep."

### Oregon hires firm to help in search for next football coach

EUGENE (AP) — It has been 40 years since Oregon fired a head coach. That was also the last time the Ducks went outside the program to fill the spot.

Now Oregon is again looking beyond its current staff following the dismissal of coach Mark Helfrich.

Athletic director Rob Mullens told players that he would be hitting the road on Wednesday and moving quickly to make a hire. Oregon has hired an executive search firm to aid in the process.

Among the possible candidates being mentioned for the Oregon job are Western Michigan's P.J. Fleck and Boise State's Bryan Harsin, as well as Florida's Jim McElwain and Penn State's James Franklin.



## THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1973 — Jack Nicklaus wins the Disney World Open to become the first professional golfer to surpass \$2 million in career earnings.

1990 — Ty Detmer of Brigham Young wins the Heisman Trophy. Detmer, who had set or tied 25 NCAA passing and total offense records, becomes the first BYU winner and third consecutive junior winner.

2000 — Indiana holds Vancouver scoreless in overtime for a 86-76 victory. It's the eighth time in NBA history that a team fails to score in an overtime period.

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