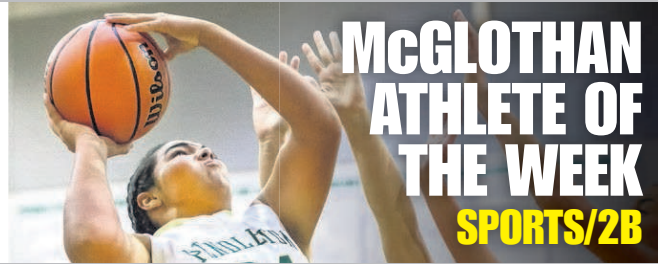




**TIGERS
DEFEAT
GRANT
UNION**
BASKETBALL/1B



**ASTRONAUT
JOHN GLENN
DIES AT 95**
RECORDS/5A



**McGLOTHAN
ATHLETE OF
THE WEEK**
SPORTS/2B

EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2016

141st Year, No. 39

WINNER OF THE 2016 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

And the snow keeps on coming

Snow flurries fall as drivers navigate the winter driving conditions on Main Street on Thursday in Pendleton.

Farmers contend with sagging wheat prices

Increasing world production lowers crop value

By **GEORGE PLAVEN**
East Oregonian

Umatilla County wheat farmers are tightening their belts in the face of slumping prices, driven by a surge in global grain production and increased competition overseas.

As of Wednesday, soft white wheat — the dominant local variety — was selling at \$4.65 per bushel out of Portland, which Tyson Raymond said makes it

tough for growers to break even.

“I think it’s definitely casting a shadow over the agricultural economy right now,” said Raymond, who farms near Helix. “You just have to be responsible, and make sure the decisions you make aren’t going to put you in a bind.”

That might mean deferring maintenance on equipment or cutting back on fertilizer and weed killer, though Raymond insists quality needs to remain

at the forefront.

“In my opinion, the only way to counter below-average market prices are above-average crops,” he said.

Oregon winter wheat yields certainly rebounded in 2016, with the U.S. Department of Agriculture forecasting 43.7 million bushels in August, up 27 percent over 2015. However, global production is also on the rise in countries like Australia, Ukraine and Russia, which has

See **WHEAT/10A**

Your Weekend



- “Elf” and free popcorn at the Vert Auditorium
- Breakfast with Santa at Boardman Senior Center
- “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” at PHS

For times and places see **Coming Events, 3A**

Weekend Weather

Fri	Sat	Sun
27/24	37/33	39/27

Watch a game



Pendleton vs. Walla Walla
Friday, 7 p.m., at Pendleton



Visit the Pendleton Chamber of Commerce for a free charm trail starter bracelet

The Chamber means business!
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Raymond Penrod of Pendleton makes his bed while getting settled at the Neighbor 2 Neighbor warming station on Thursday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

New homes for the winter

Hermiston, Pendleton warming stations set up shop in new locations

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
East Oregonian

Warming stations in Hermiston and Pendleton are in a good place this year — literally.

The volunteers behind both shelters are loving their new locations. The Hermiston Warming Station is at a house at 1075 S. Highway 395 and Neighbor 2 Neighbor Pendleton moved into the former Pioneer Relief Nursery building at 715 S.E. Court Ave.

Trish Rossell said the Hermiston Warming Station is seeing about 14 regular guests this season, with an

“It’s nice, the kind of community participation that’s been taking place.”

— **Chris Clemons**, executive director of Neighbor 2 Neighbor

average of seven to 10 staying each night. She said that’s an increase from previous years. Many of the guests are regulars, but Rossell said there are also people who come just for a night or two.

“Some people check in because

See **WARM/3A**



Volunteer Carolyn Clemons stirs a crockpot full of soup while preparing dinner for guests Thursday at the Neighbor 2 Neighbor warming station in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris



Staff photo by Gary L. West

Juan Delgado, a grounds maintenance employee for Hermiston School District, mops up water from a floor at Hermiston High School on Thursday, Dec. 8, after a water break at the school. Because of the leak, school was dismissed early on Thursday and there will be no classes at Hermiston High on Friday.

Water line break closes Hermiston High School

East Oregonian

Hermiston High School closed down Thursday afternoon after freezing temperatures caused a water line break that flooded parts of the northwest corner of the school.

The school will be closed Friday and Saturday to assess and repair damages, and schools in rest of the district will be closed as well due to inclement weather.

Communications officer

Maria Duron said the district does not have any snow days built into the district-wide calendar, so there will need to be a make-up day scheduled for later in the school year.

Athletic events will go on as scheduled Saturday at the discretion of the athletic department.

The winter storm that moved into the area Thursday afternoon left several inches of snow and snarled traffic in the evening.

Hermiston School District sent out a press release shortly after 2 p.m. Thursday stating that students who had their own transportation or were within walking distance were being released immediately, while those who rode the bus would be waiting in the gymnasium or auditorium for their regular 3:35 p.m. bus pick-up.

Umatilla County Fire District 1 responded to water break after it set off a commercial alarm.



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