

**3A EASTERN OREGON LEAGUE**

The additions of Burns and Irrigon will provide a boost to the level of competition in what already was a tough league to begin with. Defending champions Stanfield are still the team to beat, though, and bring back more starters and all-league selections than any other team. Returning 3A state Player of the Year Dylan Grogan leads a roster loaded with upperclassmen as the Tigers play their first year under Brad Rogers, who was elevated from assistant when longtime head coach Bryan Johnson stepped down.

**Projected Finish**

- Stanfield Tigers
- Burns Hilanders
- Vale Vikings
- Irrigon Knights
- Nyssa Bulldogs
- Umatilla Vikings
- Joseph Eagles
- Riverside Pirates

**2016 Final Standings**

	Conf.	Ovr.
Stanfield	12-0	29-2
Nyssa	7-5	14-16
Vale	10-2	16-11
Joseph	4-8	7-16
Elgin	4-8	4-14
Umatilla	3-9	7-12
Riverside	2-10	3-20

**Returning All-League Players**

**Stanfield** — P/INF Dylan Grogan (POY), sr.; P/INF Brody Woods, jr.; C Thylor Monkus, sr.; 1B Ryan Bailey, sr.; INF Tony Flores, jr.  
**Nyssa** — C Blake Cleaver, sr.; OF JP Martinez, sr.  
**Vale** — P/INF Dawson Eddy, sr.; OF Marco Gomez, sr.; OF Dylan Kaschmitter, sr.;  
**Elgin** — INF Andrew Luse, jr.; UT Caleb Lathrop, jr.

**Umatilla Vikings**

**HEAD COACH:** John Garrett, 1st year  
**RETURNING STARTERS:** CF/3B Diego Soto, sr.; OF/1B Jesse Hernandez Dela-Paz, sr.; 3B/P Seth Cranston, jr.; 2B/C Cody Samson, jr.  
**OTHER RETURNERS:** OF/P Kole Keller-Morris, jr.; OF/C Andrew Kuffler, so.; 1B/INF Justin Johannbroer, so.; SS/OF Josh Brown, SS/OF



**2017 Schedule**

March 14	at Touchet (WA)	T 10-10
March 16	vs Touchet (WA) (2)	L/L
March 21	vs Union	4 p.m.
March 24	vs Heppner	4 p.m.
April 3	at Heppner	4 p.m.
April 7	vs Irrigon (2)*	1/3 p.m.
April 11	at Pilot Rock	4 p.m.
April 15	vs Burns (2)*	2/4 p.m.
April 18	at Riverside*	4 p.m.
April 21	at Vale (2)*	1/3 p.m.
April 28	at Nyssa (2)*	1/3 p.m.
May 2	vs Riverside*	4 p.m.
May 5	vs Stanfield (2)*	1/3 p.m.
May 12	at Joseph (2)*	1/3 p.m.



Irrigon pitcher Austin Rice follows through on a pitch during a game against Lost River last season in Irrigon.

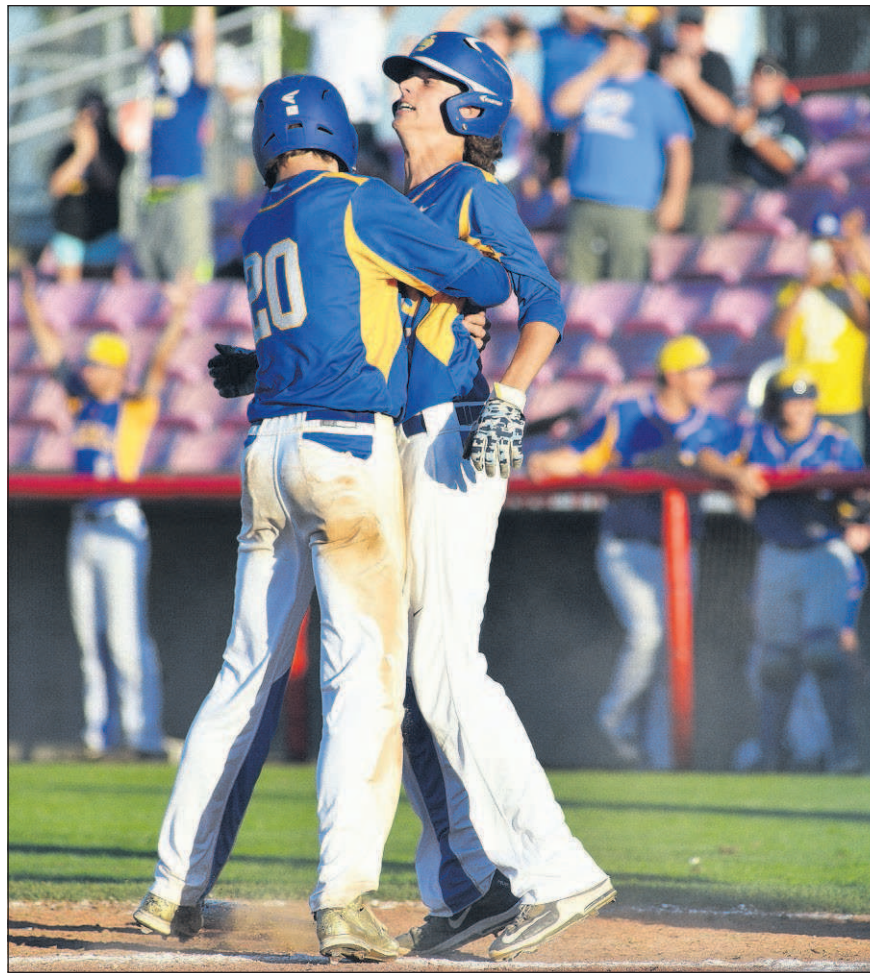
**Irrigon Knights**

**HEAD COACH:** Randy Henrichs, 3rd year  
**RETURNING STARTERS:** P/INF Austin Rice, sr.; OF Hayden White, sr.; INF Adrian Roa, jr.; INF Johnny Phillips, jr.; UT Nate Gumbert, jr.; INF Zack Henrichs, so.  
**OTHER RETURNERS:** INF Tanner Mills, jr.; OF Lino Covarrubia,



**2017 Schedule**

March 14	at Pilot Rock	W 9-5
March 21	vs Pilot Rock	4 p.m.
March 25	at Heppner (2)	11 a.m./1 p.m.
March 28	vs TBD	11 a.m.
March 28	vs TBD	12:30 p.m.
March 29	vs TBD	11 a.m.
March 29	vs TBD	2 p.m.
April 7	at Umatilla (2)*	1/3 p.m.
April 11	at Stanfield*	4 p.m.
April 14	vs Joseph (2)*	2/4 p.m.
April 21	at Burns (2)*	2/4 p.m.
April 25	vs Stanfield*	4 p.m.
April 28	vs Vale (2)*	1/3 p.m.
May 5	at Nyssa (2)*	1/3 p.m.
May 12	vs Riverside (2)*	1/4 p.m.



Stanfield's Dylan Grogan (20) and Brody Woods embrace at home plate after Grogan scored the go-ahead run in the top of the 10th inning of the Tigers' 5-4 win against Santiam Christian in the 2016 state 3A championship baseball game in Keizer.

EO file photo

**Stanfield Tigers**

A longtime assistant takes the reins as the defending 3A state champion Tigers look for another deep run in the state postseason. Senior pitcher Dylan Grogan was the state's Player of the Year in 2016, and is back along with 12 other upperclassmen to give the Tigers a formidable core lineup.



**HEAD COACH:** Brad Rogers, 1st year  
**ASSISTANT COACHES:** Scott Morris, 10th year; Trevor Morris, 3rd year; Derek Monkus, 1st year

**RETURNING STARTERS:** 1B/P Ryan Bailey, sr.; IF/P Dylan Grogan, sr.; SS/P Tony Flores, sr.; C/OF Thylor Monkus, sr.; OF Justin Keeney, jr.; UT Adrian Renner, jr.; IF/P Brody Woods, jr.

**OTHER RETURNERS:** 1B/OF Shayne Keltz, jr.; UT Makiah Blankenship, jr.  
**IMPACT NEWCOMERS:** OF/P Klay Jensen, sr.; 1B/P Hunter Barnes, sr.; 3B/2B T.J. Smith, jr.

**SEASON GOALS:** Improve every day, win league and district championships, and make a push in the playoffs.

**ROGERS' KEY TO THE SEASON:** "Getting better every day, regardless

of opponents and weather. There are a lot of things that we will not be able to control, but we will focus on the three things that we can: attitude, concentration, and effort."

**BIGGEST STRENGTHS:** With so many upperclassmen, the Tigers are second to none in experience and have a great understanding of the intricacies of the game. That also gives them a deep bench and deep bullpen with nine players capable of throwing from the mound. They've been together since tee-ball, and Rogers said it's like a family in the dugout.

**Riverside Pirates**

Longtime basketball coach and athletic director Clair Costello will coach his fourth sport at Riverside this season. The Pirates have several returning starters and are looking for improvement after a three-win season in 2016.



**HEAD COACH:** Clair Costello, 1st year  
**ASSISTANT COACH:** Sean Shimer, 1st year  
**RETURNING STARTERS:** C Sterling Bither, jr.; OF Mason Hegar, jr.; IF Aramis Corpus,

jr.; IF Andrew Sorensen, jr.; OF Ulises Calvillo, jr.; OF Anthony Rodelo, so.

**OTHER SENIORS:** Marvin Calvillo, Kyle Sorensen, Marino Pena, Andrew Martinez

**SEASON GOALS:** Learning the game of baseball through fundamentals.

**COSTELLO'S KEY TO THE SEASON:** "To stay positive and play hard everyday."

**BIGGEST STRENGTHS:** The Pirates may not be a large team, but they're committed to a team-first attitude, staying positive and are willing to learn.

**2017 Schedule**

March 13	vs Dufur	4 p.m.
March 17	vs Kennedy	11 a.m.
March 17	vs Columbia (WA)	4:30 p.m.
March 21	at Daytonia (WA)	4 p.m.
March 24	at Columbia (WA)	3:30 p.m.
March 28	vs TBD (Columbia Bash)	1 p.m.
March 29	vs TBD (Columbia Bash)	11 a.m./2 p.m.
April 3	vs Mac-Hi	4 p.m.
April 7	vs Nyssa (2)*	1/3 p.m.
April 14	vs Vale (2)*	1/3 p.m.
April 18	vs Umatilla*	4 p.m.
April 21	at Stanfield (2)*	1/3 p.m.
April 28	at Burns (2)*	2/4 p.m.
May 1	at Mac-Hi	4 p.m.
May 2	at Umatilla*	4 p.m.
May 5	vs Joseph (2)*	1/4 p.m.
May 8	at Dufur	4:30 p.m.
May 12	at Irrigon (2)*	1/4 p.m.

**Heppner Mustangs**

The Mustangs have a new head coach and lot of new faces looking to make an impact in the lineup.



**HEAD COACH:** Andy Stelk, 1st year  
**ASSISTANT COACH:** Tim Wilkins, 1st year  
**RETURNING STARTERS:** 3B Tim Jaca, sr.; 3B Lane Wilhelm, sr.; SS Coby Dougherty, jr.; UT Kevin Smith, jr.; UT Wyatt Steagall, jr.  
**OTHER RETURNERS:** UT Beau Wolters, jr.

**OTHER SENIORS:** UT Kaden Corbin  
**IMPACT NEWCOMERS:** IF Payton Lehman, jr.; IF/OF Keegan Gibbs, so.; UT Matt Orem, fr.; UT Tyler Canter, fr.; UT Kannon Wilkins, fr.

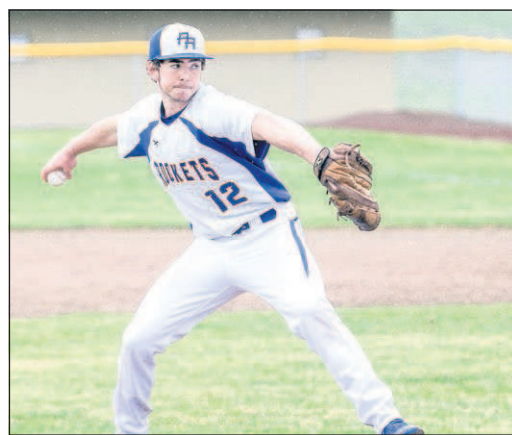
**SEASON GOALS:** Coming off a five-win campaign in 2016, the Mustangs are focusing on getting better every day and becoming more competitive in 2017.

**STELK'S KEY TO THE SEASON:** "Work hard every day and focus."

**BIGGEST STRENGTHS:** Stelk said not only are Mustangs working hard, they're working together and supporting each other off the field.

**2017 Schedule**

March 24	at Umatilla	4 p.m.
March 25	vs Irrigon (2)	11 a.m./1 p.m.
March 31	vs Kennedy (2)	Noon/2 p.m.
April 3	vs Umatilla	4 p.m.
April 11	at Dufur (2)*	2/4 p.m.
April 15	vs Weston-McEwen (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
April 18	at Culver (2)*	2/4 p.m.
April 22	vs Pilot Rock (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
April 25	at Grant Union (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
April 29	vs Elgin (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
May 6	vs Union (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.



**Pilot Rock Rockets**

**HEAD COACH:** Shane Leasy, 1st year

**ASSISTANT COACHES:** Kris Thieme, 1st year; Skylar Leasy, 1st year

**RETURNING STARTERS:** OF/1B Josh Willingham, sr.; C/OF Chris Weinke, jr.; P/SS Levi Thieme, jr.; SS/P Bryson Pierce, jr.; UT Sean Simmons, so.; 3B/P Braydon Postma, so.

**NEWCOMERS:** Joe St. Pierre, sr.; Cade Munkers, so.; Logan Weinke, fr.; Cody Hill, fr.; Austin Drake, fr.; Ty Dick, fr.; Payton Thurmond, fr.; Quinton Orr, fr.; Steven Bautista, fr.; Ben Combs, fr.; Michael Van Pelt, fr.

**PHOTO CAPTION:** The Rockets' Braydon Postma winds up for a pitch during a game against Joseph this season in Pilot Rock.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

**2017 Schedule**

March 14	vs Irrigon	L 9-5
March 17	vs Joseph (2)	W/L
March 21	at Irrigon	4 p.m.
March 23	at Stanfield	4:30 p.m.
April 8	at Weston-McEwen (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
April 11	vs Umatilla	4 p.m.
April 15	at Grant Union (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
April 18	vs Sherman (2)*	2/4 p.m.
April 22	at Heppner (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
April 25	vs Elgin (2)*	2/4 p.m.
April 29	at Dufur (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
May 6	vs Culver (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
May 12	vs Union (2)*	Noon/2 p.m.

**Weston-McEwen TigerScots**

**HEAD COACH:** Corey Thacker, 2nd year  
**RETURNING STARTERS:** OF Shaw Broncheau, sr.; 3B Brendan Dearing, sr.; C James West, sr.; 1B/P Hunter Sater, sr.; SS Brett Speed, jr.  
**OTHER RETURNERS:** 1B Jordan Rannels, sr.; SS Parker Munk, jr.; 1B Gavin Smith, jr.; C/OF Garrett Shell, jr.; OF/P Travis Hendley, jr.



**2017 Schedule**

March 21	vs Mac-Hi	4 p.m.
March 25	at Stanfield (2)	1/3 p.m.
March 28	vs Scio (at Riverside)	10 a.m.
March 29	vs TBD (at Riverside)	10 a.m.
April 8	vs Pilot Rock (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
April 11	vs Heppner (2)*	2/4 p.m.
April 15	at Sherman (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
April 18	vs Dufur (2)*	2/4 p.m.
April 25	at Union (2)*	2/4 p.m.
April 29	at Culver (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
May 6	vs Elgin (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.
May 13	at Grant Union (2)*	11 a.m./1 p.m.

**2A/1A SPECIAL DISTRICT 6**

Two small-school districts are combined for one nine-team league this season, and both league champions have moved up to Class 3A, which should create a lot of opportunity and excitement for the new league season.

**Projected Finish**

- Sherman Huskies
- Weston-McEwen TigerScots
- Pilot Rock Rockets
- Dufur Rangers
- Elgin Huskies
- Grant Union Prospectors
- Culver Bulldogs
- Heppner Mustangs
- Union Bobcats

**2016 Final Standings**

	Conf.	Ovr.
SD6		
Irrigon	10-2	18-6
Dufur	6-6	12-15
Sherman	8-4	17-8
Heppner	4-7	5-13
Culver	1-10	6-14
SD7		
Burns	12-0	25-5
Weston-McEwen	8-4	19-9
Pilot Rock	6-6	17-9
Grant Union	3-8	9-16
Union	0-11	0-19