

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

WEEKEND, APRIL 15-16, 2017

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## ALL-EO BOYS BASKETBALL

# Smith cements legacy

### Pendleton senior leaves as one of Buckaroos' best ever

By ERIC SINGER  
East Oregonian

As a junior, Caden Smith elevated himself into one of the top basketball players in the state of Oregon.

This season as a senior,

Smith not only further solidified his spot among the best, he also helped elevate his Pendleton team into one of the best as well. The 6-foot-3 senior tallied his second straight Columbia River Conference Player of the Year award, helped his team to another conference title and later a fourth place finish in Class 5A at the state tournament — the school's first state trophy since 1959.

"To know there's been a lot of good players and a lot of good teams that have come through Pendleton High School but couldn't make that next step of getting to the state tournament and winning a game there and we did it," Smith said. "It's never left my mind ever since that last game against Summit. It's something I'll remember for ever and cherish and just always remember."

**"It was such an honor to play with all the guys that were on my team, it went by super fast to say the least but it was the best experience I've had by far playing basketball."**

— Caden Smith, Pendleton senior guard and All-EO Player of the Year for boys basketball.

"It was so surreal, our last game ever being on Gill Coliseum floor taking a trophy home which hadn't been done in a long time it felt really good."

For his leadership and constant standout play this season, Smith has been

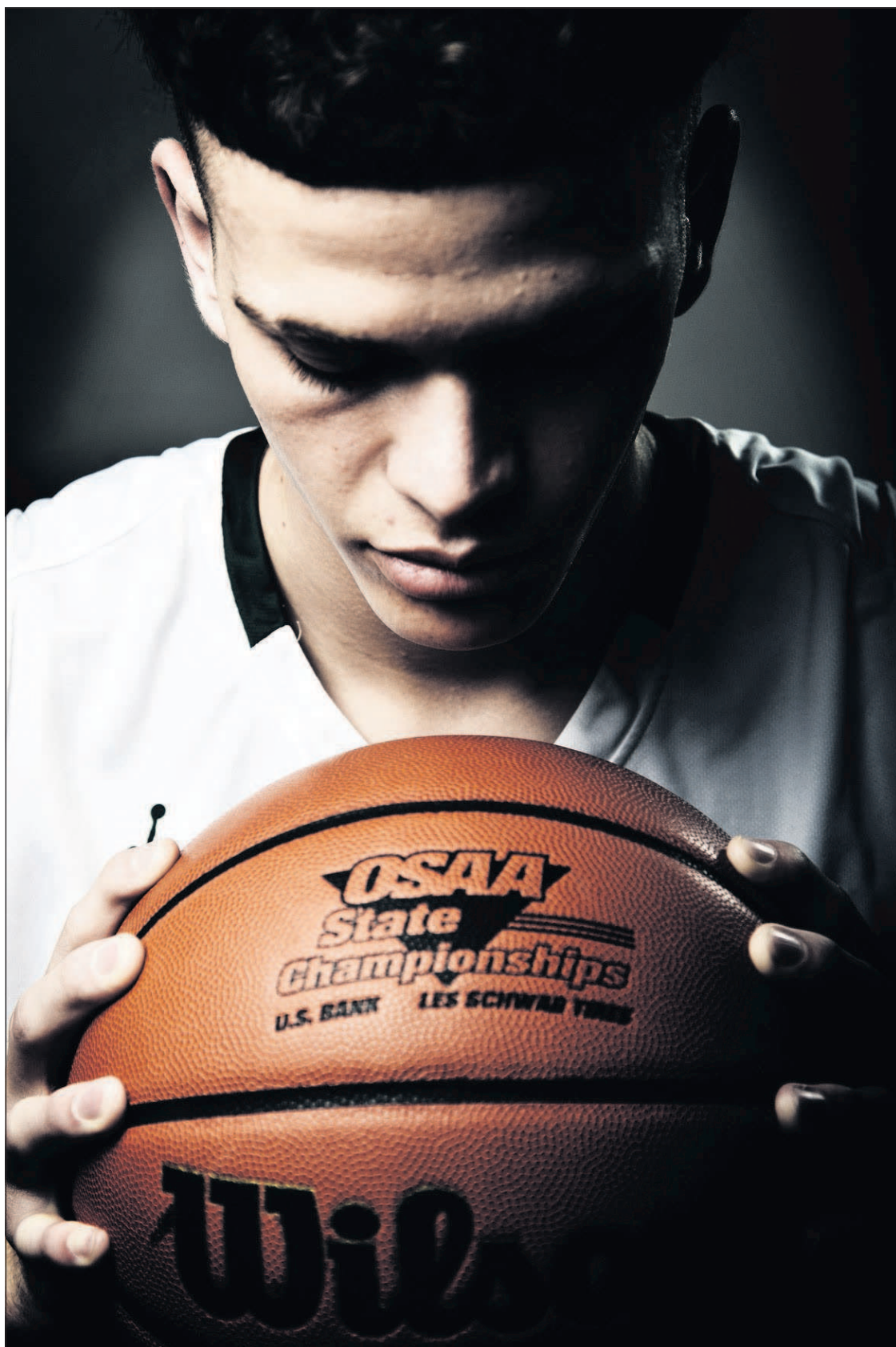
selected as the *East Oregonian* all-area boys basketball player of the year for the second consecutive year.

Smith was Pendleton's go-to-guy on offense again, as the Buckaroo captain averaged a solid 19 points per game, with six rebounds, four assists and two steals while hitting 40 percent of his shots from 3-point range. His play earned him a spot on the all-state team for the third straight year, though this year he finally cracked his way

onto the first team roster.

"He's dynamite," Pendleton coach Kyle Tedder said of Smith in March. "He's a kid everybody wants to be around and as a kid you can trust and he really gave everything he had to this season not only just as a scorer and a player but as a leader. He's a guy you want in your foxhole no matter

See SMITH/2B



Pendleton's Caden Smith is the All-EO Player of the Year for the 2016-17 boys basketball season.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

### Smith's Stats

**1,476**  
Career points

**40**  
Percent 3-point shooting

**19**  
Points per game

**6**  
Rebounds per game

**4**  
Assists per game

**3**  
All-state selections

**2**  
Steals per game

### Prep Roundup

## Locals shine at River's Edge meet

Hayden Scott, of Weston-McEwen, races to first place in the 1500-meter run Friday in Umatilla at the River's Edge track meet.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney



Weston-McEwen's Hayden Scott, Irrigon's Ana Zacarias win two events

East Oregonian

UMATILLA — La Grande and Enterprise came over the mountains to claim the boys and girls team titles on Friday at the River's Edge meet in Umatilla, but that didn't mean it wasn't a day full of wins for local athletes.

Eight boys' events and six girls' were topped by locals, and two won multiple events.

Weston-McEwen's Hayden Scott won both the 800- and 1,500-meters for the second-place TigerScots boys. He timed in at 2:02.57 in the 800 to hold off Cove's Tim Stevens by three seconds, and 4:12.51 in the 1,500 to earn a four-second win over Heppner's Hunter Nichols.

He was the only boy to win multiple titles, and Irrigon's Ana Zacarias won the girls' 100 and 200 in 13.88 and 28.20. She nipped Pilot Rock's Abby Rigby at the line in the 200, but

See PREPS/2B

### MLB

## Hernandez's strong outing lifts Seattle past Texas

By JIM HOEHN  
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Felix Hernandez pitched 7 1/3 strong innings and Mitch Haniger settled for a tiebreaking RBI single instead of an apparent home run to lead the Seattle Mariners in a 2-1 victory over the Texas Rangers on Friday night.

With the score tied at 1, Seattle's Jarrod Dyson singled to open the seventh, stole second and moved to third on Guillermo Heredia's bunt single. Haniger followed with a drive that appeared to clear the left-field wall for a three-run homer, before bouncing back into the field of play.

After an umpire review of more than two minutes, the call was overturned, giving Haniger a single off Jose Leclerc (0-1), scoring Dyson to put Seattle up 2-1.

Hernandez (1-1) allowed one run and six hits, striking



See MARINERS/2B

### Sports shorts

#### NFL officiating chief resigns

NEW YORK (AP) — Officiating director Dean Blandino is leaving the NFL to spend more time with his family and explore other opportunities.

Blandino has been the league's vice president of officiating since 2013 and has overseen several changes in the way the game has been officiated, with an emphasis on player safety.

The 45-year-old Blandino has young children and the demands of his job have limited the time he has spent with them and his wife.

Blandino joined the NFL in 1994 as an intern and moved through the ranks. He was an instant replay official from 1999-2003 and worked two Super Bowls and two conference championship games. He managed the NFL's instant replay program from 2003-2009, and from 2007-2009 he was director of officiating, supervising day-to-day operations and the game officials' schedule under Mike Pereira.



Blandino

**"We've not been able to win with (Anthony) on the court at this time. I think the direction with our team is that he's a player that would be better off somewhere else and using his talent somewhere where he can win or chase that championship."**

— Phil Jackson

New York Knicks president on forward Carmelo Anthony in a press conference on Friday, making it clear that the rebuilding Knicks want to move on from the 32-year-old, 10-time All-Star.

#### NCAA adopts early signing period, 10th coach for football

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The NCAA has voted to allow high school football players to sign with colleges as early as December, make early official visits and put a two-year waiting period on Bowl Subdivision teams from hiring people close to a recruit.

If approved by the Board of Governors on April 26, the signing period change would take effect Aug. 1.

The other significant change to the recruiting calendar would allow recruits to make official visits between April and June of their junior year in high school.

The Division I Council also approved a measure to eliminate two-a-day practices. It would take effect immediately if approved.



#### THIS DATE IN SPORTS

**1918** — Babe Ruth pitched a four-hitter for Boston in the season opener and drove in two runs in a 7-1 win over Philadelphia.

**1991** — Magic Johnson sets an NBA record for career assists in a 112-106 victory over the Dallas Mavericks. Johnson, who needed nine assists to break Oscar Robertson's record of 9,887, gets 19.

**1998** — The first-ever AL-NL doubleheader is held in New York's Shea Stadium. The New York Yankees beat the Anaheim Angels 6-3 and the New York Mets edge the Chicago Cubs 2-1.

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