## FOOTBALL

### **5A SPECIAL DISTRICT 1**

he Summit Storm ruled the IMC and Special District 1 for the past few seasons, but their reign may end this season. On paper, Hermiston looks to be the strongest team in the league, returning seven all-league players and 11 total starters. Mountain View should be strong again as well, and Pendleton could push for a postseason spot. The top four teams earn a playoff berth.

### **Projected Finish**

- Hermiston Bulldogs
- Mtn. View Cougars
- Pendleton Buckaroos
- Summit Storm 5
- Bend Lava Bears
- **Redmond Panthers**
- Hood River Eagles
- **Ridgeview Ravens**

(Rankings based on coaches and media votes)

### 2016 Final Standings

	Conf.	Ovr.
🗴 Summit*	7-0	9-2
🔕 Redmon	d* 5-2	6-5
💓 Hermisto	on* 5-2	5-5
💓 Mtn. Vie	w* 4-3	6-4
<i>ब</i> Bend	4-3	6-3
谢 Pendleto	on 2-5	3-6
🚡 Ridgevie	w 1-6	1-8
🦾 Hood Riv	ver 0-7	0-9
*-made nost	season	

\*-made postseason

### **Returning All-League**

Hermiston — Dayshawn Neal, WR, sr.; Andrew James, QB, jr.; Jonathan Hinkle, RB/LB, sr.; AJ Fernandez, OL, sr.; Joe Gutierrez, DB, sr.; Beau Blake, OL/DL, sr.; Tyler Rohrman, DB/WR, sr.

Hood River Valley — Wade Pickering, OL, sr.; Patrick Estes, LB, sr.

Pendleton — Shaw Jerome, WR/DB, sr.; Nick Bower, QB, sr.; Greg Lee, DL, sr.

## **Hermiston Bulldogs**



In this 2016 file photo, Hermiston quarterback Andrew James looks to hand off to Johnathan Hinkle in the Bulldogs' 36-14 loss to Union (WA) in Hermiston. With a lot of weapons back on offense, including James, the Bulldogs appear to be a team to beat in Special District 1 again this season.

Head coach: David Faaeteete, 3rd year (10th overall) Assistant coaches: Scott

Hammond (defensive coordinator), 7th year; Mike Mosher

(quarterback coach), 2nd year; Rick Wells (offense line coach), 2nd year; Gary Posten (linebacker, JV head coach), 2nd year; Jared



- Munsterman (freshman quarterback coach), 4th year; Nolan West (offensive line coach), 3rd year; Andy Hall (linebacker and freshman
- head coach), 2nd year; Travis Jones (running back coach), 3rd year; John Christy (offensive and defensive line coach), 1st year; Eddie Lopez

(defensive line coach), 7th year; Chris Gilchrist (wide receiver coach), 1st year

**Returning starters:** Taylor Arnold, OT, sr.; Beau Blake, OL/ DT, sr.; AJ Fernandez, OT/DT, sr.; Joe Gutierrez, DB/WR, sr.; Jonathan Hinkle, RB/LB, sr.; Jose Huato, OL, sr.; Tyler Hunter, DE, sr.; Dayshawn Neal, WR/DB, sr.; Tyler Rohrman, WR/DB, sr.; Eric White, TE/DE, sr.;

Andrew James, QB/LB, jr. **Returning lettermen:** Keaton Mikami, DE/TE, sr.; AJ Tuia, WR/ OLB, sr.; Peter Earl, RB/LB, sr.; Jacob Liebe, C/DT, jr.

On offense: The Bulldogs work with a spread offense, using multiple formations and personnel

147 1 4		1 20 27
Week 1	vs. Union (WA)	L 38-27
Week 2	at Lewiston (ID)	L 38-13
Week 3	vs. Mtn. View	W 35-21
Week 4	vs. Summit	L 27-14
Week 5	at Hood River	W 36-6
Week 6	vs. Ridgeview	W 54-0
Week 7	at Bend	W 28-7
Week 8	at Redmond	L 26-14
Week 9	vs. Pendleton	W 13-12
Playoff	at St. Helens	L 12-7

#### 2017 Schedule

	IIVAAIV	
Sept. 1	at Union (WA) 4	:30 p.m.
Sept. 8	vs. Lewiston (ID)	7 p.m.
Sept. 15	at Mtn. View*	7 p.m.
Sept. 22	at Summit*	7 p.m.
Sept. 29	vs. Hood River*	7 p.m.
Oct. 6	at Ridgeview*	7 p.m.
Oct. 13	at Bend*	7 p.m.
Oct. 20	vs. Redmond*	7 p.m.
Oct. 27	at Pendleton*	7 p.m.

\*-denotes league game

groups throughout the game. **On defense:** With an even front team with multiple coverages, the Bulldogs stay in their base package and will blitz when they feel it gives them an advantage.

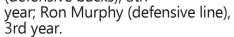
Primary goals for the season: Faaeteete wants the team to get better each day, and put in championship work every day. **Faaeteete's key to season:** "Trust the process. Preparation

every week is why great teams are great, and why they win. Prepare every week like it is the last game you will ever play in or coach and pay attention to the details — that is our key to victory."

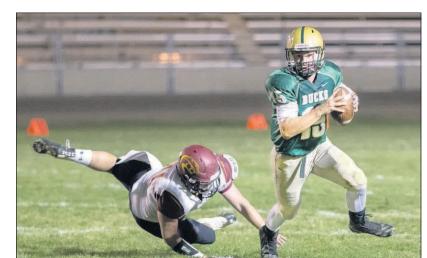
## **Pendleton Buckaroos**

Head coach: Erik Davis, 6th year Assistant coaches: Fred Phillips (Def. coordinator/linebackers), 10th year; Josh Linehan (offensive

line), 8th year; Aaron Schmidt (wide receivers), 8th year; Wes Armstrong (running backs), 2nd year; Drew Hubel (quarterbacks), 3rd year; Mark Sokoloski (defensive backs), 8th



Key returners: Nick Bower, OB, sr.; Shaw Jerome, WR/DB, sr.; Greg Lee,



Buckaroo quarterback Nick Bower avoids a tackle during a 2016 game against Redmond at the Round-Up Arena. Bower returns to lead Pendleton's offense as the Bucks look to get into the playoffs.

Staff photo by

Mountain View — Rylee Ettinger, DL/OL, sr.; Brandt Waller, OL, sr.

Redmond — Dillon Taylor, RB, sr.; Colton Mortenson, DB, sr.; Tyson Hester, TE, sr.; Brian Lopez, K, sr.

**Ridgeview** — Jace Reitz, LB, sr.

**Summit** — Ben Graziani, WR, sr.; Noah Turnbull, OL/DL, sr.; Cian Marderos, DL/OL, sr.; Evan Heimuller, LB, sr.

DL/TE, sr.; Tanner Stephan, WR/DB, sr.;

Impact newcomers: Willie Camp, WR, sr. (transfer from La Grande). **On offense:** The Buckaroos want to keep defenses guessing out of its spread formations, and senior QB Nick Bower will look to fellow senior Shaw Jerome to attack defenses downfield. On defense: The Bucks have some

holes to fill along the front seven, but return enough in the secondary to help balance it. They'll still look to keep opposing offenses out of rhythm and use aggressive pass rushes and coverages.

Head coach: Gary Robertson,

2nd year (3rd year overall)

Assistant coaches: Rory

Simpson (defensive

year; James Wilbourn

Offensive/Defensive

line), 1st year; Mike

**Returning starters:** 

Drew Birdwell, QB/DB, sr.;

Michael Breeding, DE/RB, sr.; Brandyn Chaney, LB/TE, sr.; Zach Crisman, WR/DB, sr.; Kyler Kelly,

OL/DL, sr.; Allen Mendoza, DB/

WR, sr.; Salvador Patino, LB/TE,

sr.; Alejandro Saldana, LB/OL, sr.;

Lesko, 1st year.

coordinator), 3rd



<b>2017 Scl</b>	hedule		<b>20</b> 1
Sept. 1	vs. La Grande	7 p.m.	Wee
Sept. 8	vs. Putnam	7 p.m.	Wee
Sept. 15	vs. Summit*	7 p.m.	Wee
Sept. 22	vs. Ridgeview*	7 p.m.	Wee
Sept. 29	at Redmond*	7 p.m.	Wee
Oct. 6	vs. Mtn. View*	7 p.m.	Wee
Oct. 13	at Hood River*	7 p.m.	Wee
Oct. 20	at Bend*	7 p.m.	Wee
Oct. 27	vs. Hermiston*	7 p.m.	Wee

\*-league game

#### 16 Results

o.m.	Week 1	at La Grande	W 48-28
o.m.	Week 2	at Putnam	L 49-21
o.m.	Week 3	at Summit	L 55-17
o.m.	Week 4	at Ridgeview	W 29-25
o.m.	Week 5	vs. Redmond	L 49-21
o.m.	Week 6	at Mtn. View	L 35-18
o.m.	Week 7	vs. Hood River	W 33-23
o.m.	Week 8	vs. Bend	L 22-7
o.m.	Week 9	at Hermiston	L 13-12
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## **4A GREATER OREGON LEAGUE**

he Greater Oregon League was pretty balanced among the top three teams in 2016, with Ontario, La Grande, and Baker each tying for first place and making the postseason. However, all three teams lost a lot of players to graduation, which could allow for Mac-Hi to creep into the top three. La Grande should be the team this year with all-state QB and Utah State commitment Andrew Peasley leading the way.

**Projected Finish** 

La Grande Tigers

Baker Bulldogs

**Ontario** Tigers

Mac-Hi Pioneers

## **2016 Final Standings**

		Conf.	Overall
0	Ontario*	2-1	7-3
	La Grande*	2-1	4-6
1 an	Baker*	2-1	7-3
<b>M</b>	Mac-Hi	0-3	2-5
	*-made playoffs		

# **McLoughlin Pioneers**

Josh Torres, OL/LB, sr.; Spencer Wells, OL/DE, sr. **Other returners:** Wyatt Bamford, RB/DB, sr.; Alex

Doherty, OL/DL, jr.; Cruz Garcia, DL/OL, sr.; Wyatt Gilmore, QB/ DB, sr.; Alfredo Lopez, WR/DB, sr.; Joey Olson, OL/DL, sr.; Tristan Brennan, RB/LB, soph., Marcellus Brinkley, RB/DB, soph., Zach Hodgen, TE/DE, jr.; Alexis Perez, OL/DL, jr.; Dylan Quist, TE/LB, soph.

Impact newcomers: Hector Castillo, fr.; Andrew Ceja, fr., Nick Doherty, fr., Devin Humber, fr.;

Rafael Pereydn, fr.; Eli Springer,

fr., Kiez White, fr.

On offense: The Pioneers are a run/pass/option team that runs out of the spread formation with four wide receivers at a time. On defense: Mac-Hi goes with a stacked box on most plays, running a 4-4 base formation, and the Pioneers intend to up its aggressiveness in playcalling and utilize more blitzes and pressures.

Robertson's key to the season: "Health. If we can keep our starters healthy and continue to improve as we did last year, it'll be a good year."

### 2017 Schedule

Sept. 1 at Dayton-Waitsburg (WA) 7 p.m. Sept. 8 vs. DeSales (WA) 7 p.m. Sept. 14 at Weston-McEwen 7 p.m. Sept. 22 vs. Riverside 7 p.m. Oct. 6 vs. Ontario\* 7 p.m. Oct. 13 at La Grande\* 7 p.m. vs. Baker\* Oct. 20 7 p.m. \*-league game

#### 2016 Results

Week 1	vs. Waitsburg (WA)	W 14-7
Week 2	vs. Desales (WA)	L 28-27
Week 3	at The Dalles	L 36-0
Week 4	at Riverside	W 41-26
Week 6	at Ontario*	L 53-0
Week 7	vs. La Grande*	L 68-20
Week 8	at Baker*	L 48-7