

3A EASTERN OREGON LEAGUE

Vale and Nyssa have been the kings of the EOL for the past several years, but Umatilla has the makings to crash the party this season. The top two teams earn an automatic playoff berth, with the third having a shot at an at-large bid.

Projected Finish

- Vale Vikings
- Nyssa Bulldogs
- Umatilla Vikings
- Burns Hilanders
- Irrigon Knights
- Riverside/Ione Pirates

(Rankings based on coaches and media votes)

2016 Final Standings

	Conf.	Ovr.
Vale*	5-0	6-4
Nyssa*	4-1	5-4
Burns*	3-2	6-4
Umatilla	2-3	6-3
Irrigon	1-4	2-7
Riverside	0-5	1-8

*-made postseason

1A SPECIAL DISTRICT 4

Arlington Honkers

Head coach: Ben Tucker, 1st year
Assistant coaches: Will Homer
Key returners: Trey Homer, sr.; Cody McCullough, sr.; Liam Duerden, sr.; Tyler Longacre, jr.; Diego Valdez, jr.; Ethan Eakin, jr.
2016 season: 6-3 overall, 4-2 SD4; lost to Days Creek 56-12 in 1A first round.

2017 Schedule

Sept. 8	vs. Horizon Christian	6 p.m.
Sept. 15	at Perrydale*	7 p.m.
Sept. 22	vs. South Wasco	7 p.m.
Sept. 29	at Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler	4 p.m.
Oct. 12	vs. Dufur*	7 p.m.
Oct. 20	at Sherman*	7 p.m.
Oct. 27	at Pilot Rock	7 p.m.

*-denotes league game

Umatilla Vikings



In this 2016 photo, Trent Durfey (34), of Umatilla, evades a Vale defender in Umatilla.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

The goal is to allow players to defend more aggressively without too many adjustments based

on offensive alignments. All-league LB Durfey leads the charge in the Vikings' front seven.

Head coach: Dan Durfey, 2nd year
Assistant coaches: Kris Welch, 2nd year; Richard Payan, Steven Williams.
Key returners: Trent Durfey, RB/LB, jr.; Kaden Webb, QB/DB, sr.; Cody Samson, RB/S, sr.
On offense: The Vikings always look to establish a balanced offense, with senior QB Kaden Webb and junior RB Trent Durfey, who had a breakout 2016 season.
On defense: The Vikings will run a 4-4 swarm defense, which is growing in popularity due to its simplicity and versatility.

2017 Schedule

Sept. 1	at Union	7 p.m.
Sept. 8	at Rainier	7 p.m.
Sept. 15	vs. Enterprise	7 p.m.
Sept. 22	at Portland Christ.	7 p.m.
Sept. 29	at Burns*	7 p.m.
Oct. 6	vs. Riverside*	7 p.m.
Oct. 13	at Vale*	7 p.m.
Oct. 20	vs. Irrigon*	7 p.m.
Oct. 27	vs. Nyssa*	7 p.m.

*-denotes league game

2016 Results

Week 1	vs. Union	W 21-13
Week 2	vs. Pilot Rock	W 20-0
Week 3	at Enterprise	W 21-7
Week 4	vs. Portland Christ.	W 36-26
Week 5	vs. Burns	L 40-14
Week 6	at Riverside	W 34-0
Week 7	vs. Vale	L 41-7
Week 8	at Irrigon	W 33-13
Week 9	at Nyssa	L 55-6

Irrigon Knights

Head coach: Steve Sheller, 3rd year
Assistant coaches: Dan Verley, 6th year; Jody Saunders, 3rd year; Randy Henrichs, 5th year.
Returning starters: Omar Vera, DB, sr.; Daniel Vera, DB, sr.; Tanner Mills, OL/DL, sr.; Adrian Roa, WR/DB, sr.; Reece Sheller, C, jr.; Keith Fleming, LB, jr.; Alex Walls, LB, jr.; Lino Covarrubia, LB/RB, jr.
Other returners: Abe Gomez, WR, sr.
Impact newcomers: Jada Burns, QB/DB, sr.
On offense: Just like the majority of Eastern Oregon small-school teams, Irrigon is a run-heavy offense operating with the old-school Wing-T base formation that utilizes multiple



backs, receivers and a quarterback that is smart with the football.
On defense: Under Sheller, the Knights have developed a reputation for being stout on the defensive front, where their 4-3 swarm defensive alignment leads to a lot of pressure on the line of scrimmage with a goal of stopping the run.
Sheller's key to the season: "Our goal is the same every year. We want to play football at a high level. That standard is set by our physical, mental, and emotional abilities. Success happens when you play the game as well as you can."

2017 Schedule

Sept. 1	vs. Amity#	7 p.m.
Sept. 8	vs. Enterprise	7 p.m.

Sept. 15	at Tri-Cities Prep	7 p.m.
Sept. 22	vs. Lakeview	7 p.m.
Sept. 29	at Riverside*	7 p.m.
Oct. 6	vs. Vale*	7 p.m.
Oct. 13	at Nyssa*	7 p.m.
Oct. 20	at Umatilla*	7 p.m.
Oct. 27	vs. Burns*	7 p.m.

*-denotes league game #-played at Hood River Valley HS

2016 Results

Week 1	vs. Amity	L 26-13
Week 2	at Enterprise	W 19-14
Week 3	vs. Tri-Cities Prep	L 42-26
Week 4	at Coeur d'Alene JV	L 52-18
Week 5	vs. Riverside	W 26-6
Week 6	at Vale	L 34-28
Week 7	vs. Nyssa	L 41-26
Week 8	vs. Umatilla	L 33-13
Week 9	at Burns	L 46-20

Riverside/Ione Pirates

Head coach: David Boor
Assistant coach: Loren Dieter, 2nd year
Key returners: Mason Hegar, QB, sr.; Andruw Sorenson, WR/DB, sr.; Jose Mendoza, CB/WR, sr.; Aramis Corpus, S/WR, sr.; Felix Aparicio, WR/LB, sr.; Anthony Ramirez, RB/LB, sr.
Impact newcomers: Austin Morter, OL/LB, sr.; Nestor Ramirez, OE/LB, jr.; Junior Roque, RB/DB, soph.; Manuel Verduzco, RB/DB; Tyson Epperson, OE/DE, sr.; Matt Orem, OL/DE, soph.; Jake Heideman, OE/DE, soph.; Paul



Taylor, OL/DL, soph.; Hunter Padberg, QB/LB, fr.
Season outlook: Riverside will get an influx of talent this season after a late-season co-op agreement with Ione will add some depth to the Pirates roster.

2017 Schedule

Sept. 2	at Tri-Cities Prep (WA)	7 p.m.
Sept. 8	vs. Union	7 p.m.
Sept. 15	vs. Imbler	7 p.m.
Sept. 22	at Mac-Hi	7 p.m.
Sept. 29	vs. Irrigon*	7 p.m.
Oct. 6	at Umatilla*	7 p.m.

Oct. 13	at Burns*	7 p.m.
Oct. 20	vs. Nyssa*	7 p.m.
Oct. 27	at Vale*	7 p.m.

*-denotes league game

2016 Results

Week 1	at Tri-Cities Prep	L 38-0
Week 2	at Union	W 30-27
Week 3	at Imbler	L 34-23
Week 4	vs. Mac-Hi	L 41-26
Week 5	at Irrigon	L 26-6
Week 6	vs. Umatilla	L 34-0
Week 7	vs. Burns	L 44-13
Week 8	at Nyssa	L 50-8
Week 9	vs. Vale	L 60-8

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