

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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## Wildhorse to host Oregon Senior Open

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Wildhorse Golf Course will host the Oregon Senior Open Invitational for the 19th consecutive year from Tuesday through Thursday, July 27-29.

Defending champion Jeff Coston of Semiahmoo Golf & Country Club will be looking for his fifth consecutive title. Coston won the title from 2017-20, from 2011-12, and in 2009 and 2007.

Also returning for another chance to hold the champion

title once more are PGA Professional Joe Carranza of Overlake Golf & Country Club (2016), PGA Professional Billy Bomar of Prairie Falls Golf Course (2015), PGA Professional Chuck Milne of Vanco Driving Range (2010, 2005), PGA

Professional Rob Gibbons of Arrowhead Golf Course (2008), PGA Professional Fred Haney of Tigard, and PGA Professional Steve Stull of Richland, Washington (2001).

Since its induction in 1996, the Senior Oregon

Open has grown to be the premier senior golf tournament in the Northwest.

This event draws the best players 50 and older from all over the Pacific Northwest Section.

The Pacific Northwest Section includes 1,100 PGA

members and PGA associates in Washington, Oregon, Northern Idaho, Western Montana, and Alaska.

The Senior Oregon Open Invitational is one of three major senior championships conducted by the PNW Section.

## PADILLA RETURNS TO WEBER FIELD

### 1979 Hermiston graduate will coach the Bulldogs

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Dave Padilla still has a trophy he won for playing baseball as a young boy in Germany. His love for the sport has never wavered.

Padilla recently was named the head baseball coach at Hermiston High School, bringing him back to his playing days at Weber Field.

“The Hermiston School District is very excited to have coach Padilla back in our baseball program,” Hermiston Athletic Director Larry Usher said in a news release. “We are looking forward to him building connections with our community and youth program.”

Padilla replaced Kevin Moore, who stepped down after last season.

When the job came open, Padilla was intrigued, and his friends were supportive.

“I coached a lot of kids in Hermiston, and now their kids are 9 to 13, and I’ve helped them coach their kids,” Padilla said. “Justin Simmons, who played for Hermiston, passed away from cancer the day before Thanksgiving 2020. Justin and I were always doing baseball. I know he would have wanted me to put in (for the job). That was a deciding factor, and I knew the time

was right in my life, my age and what I have going on. I have a great support system. They are so pumped up that I put in for the job.”

Padilla already has his finger on the pulse of youth sports in Hermiston, having coached his three girls — Aubbree, Kallee and Kynzee — in ASA softball.

“I have been doing this a long time,” Padilla said. “Here, there and everywhere. When the girls were younger, I started coaching baseball and my girls would come to practice and take grounders and hit with us. I started ASA traveling softball with my girls and it was fun.”

In addition to coaching ASA softball, Padilla also has coached Little League, Babe Ruth and Legion baseball. He also has been an assistant for the Hermiston High softball team.

When his daughter Kallee was a junior in high school, she played for Umatilla High School. Padilla was an assistant coach for the team.

“Kallee a pitcher and third baseman, and I happened to have four of my ASA players on that team,” He said. “That year (2007) was the first time Umatilla had ever played in a state game.”

#### Baseball in his veins

When Padilla lived in Germany, he got his first taste of baseball playing for



Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian

New Hermiston High School baseball Head Coach Dave Padilla poses for a portrait Tuesday, July 21, 2021, at Weber Field in Hermiston.

the Giants at the Landstuhl Medical Center.

“We traveled all over

Padilla graduated from Hermiston High in 1979. He played football and wres-

ball at Treasure Valley Community College, Ontario, and Blue Mountain Community College, Pendleton, where he was reunited with his high school coach Larry Bartee.

He also used to play with the Oregon Outlaws out of Pendleton, and the team played in the Men’s Senior Baseball League World Series in Phoenix on a regular basis.

“I have a ton of friends in Pendleton,” Padilla said. “We had a good time.”

Padilla, who has been

a lineman for 27 years, is ready to get things going with the Bulldogs.

“I am pretty excited about getting going and getting on Weber Field again,” he said. “It will be exciting. I played there. It’s nice now. I did not want to go in there and coach at the middle school.”

He may help with slow pitch softball in the fall, but he hasn’t decided on that just yet.

“I really have a lot of work to do with baseball and I want to stay on top of it,” he said. “We will see.”

*PADILLA, WHO HAS BEEN A LINEMAN FOR 27 YEARS, IS READY TO GET THINGS GOING WITH THE BULLDOGS.*

Europe,” he said. “It was amazing. Even though I was young, I remember. I have been all over the world.”

tled through his junior year, and played baseball all four years.

He went on to play base-

#### SPORTS SHORT

### Brisbane picked to host 2032 Olympics without a rival bid

By GRAHAM DUNBAR  
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Brisbane was picked Wednesday, July 21, to host the 2032 Olympics, the inevitable winner of a one-city race steered by the IOC to avoid rival bids.

The Games will go back to Australia 32 years after the popular 2000 Sydney Olympics. Melbourne hosted in 1956.

“We know what it takes to deliver a successful Games in Australia,” Prime Minister Scott Morrison told International Olympic Committee members in an 11-minute live video link from his office.

When the award was later confirmed, with Brisbane winning the vote 72-5, Morrison raised both arms in the air and gave two thumbs up.

The victory led to a fireworks display in Brisbane that was broadcast to IOC members in their five-star hotel in Tokyo.

Brisbane follows 2028 host Los Angeles in getting 11 years to prepare for hosting the Games. Paris will host in 2024.

The 2032 deal looked done months before the formal decision at the IOC meeting, which was held ahead of Friday’s opening ceremony of the Tokyo Games.

The IOC gave Brisbane exclusive negotiating rights in February. That decision left Olympic officials in Qatar, Hungary and Germany looking blindsided with their own stalled bidding plans.

Though the result was expected, a high-level Australian delegation went to Tokyo amid the COVID-19 pandemic to present speeches, films and promises on stage.

The city of Brisbane sent Mayor Adrian Schrinner, the state of Queensland sent Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk and Australia’s federal government sent sports minister Richard Colbeck to woo Olympic voters.

They were joined by long-time Australian Olympic official John Coates, now an IOC vice president who shaped the fast-track selection process two years ago that now rewarded his Brisbane bid.

The first-time format was designed to cut campaign costs, give the IOC more control in dealing discreetly with preferred candidates and removed the risk of vote-buying.

The project was described by the IOC as “a passion-driven, athlete-centric offer from a sports-loving nation.” Events will be staged across Queensland, including in Gold Coast, which hosted the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Brisbane’s renowned cricket stadium, known as the Gabba, will be upgraded and may host the sport at the Games. Cricket was played once at the Olympics, at the 1900 Paris Games.



Jason O'Brien/AAP

People celebrate Wednesday, July 21, 2021, in Brisbane, Australia, following an announcement by the International Olympic Committee that Brisbane was picked to host the 2032 Olympics. The Australian city was the inevitable winner of a one-candidate race steered by the IOC to avoid rival bids.