

EOU begins recruiting for new degree

Ag entrepreneurship will be introduced in fall 2022

By **GEORGE PLAVEN**
Capital Press

LA GRANDE — Eastern Oregon University is recruiting students for a new major in agriculture entrepreneurship to train the next generation of farm leaders and professionals.

The four-year program will be introduced in fall 2022 and combines elements of agricultural science and business — including courses in marketing, finance and human resources, alongside courses in biology, chemistry and intensive farming.

“Agriculture is a big part of what Oregon is,” said Ed Henninger, dean of the College of Business at EOU. “Certainly, that marriage of bringing the business side and entrepreneurship side to agriculture was very intriguing to me.”

The university in La Grande recently hired Chad Mueller to lead the program, and he is making the rounds to attract students interested in pursuing careers in agriculture.

“I’m going to be out visiting high schools, talking to a variety of agriculture teachers, initially focusing on the eastern part of the state for the first year but then we’ll be reaching out across the state,” Mueller said.

Mueller’s own background is in beef cattle production. He came to Oregon State University in 2004, and has taught at EOU since 2008 as part of a cooperative agriculture and natural resources



East Oregonian, File

A harvester cuts standing wheat on a farm east of Echo. Eastern Oregon University, La Grande, is recruiting students for a new major in agriculture entrepreneurship to train the next generation of farm leaders and professionals.

program between the two universities. “This opportunity arose as something that was very unique,” Mueller said. “We really see this as going across multiple levels of agriculture, and multiple entities.”

Henninger said the program is a first of its kind, not only for Oregon but the entire Pacific Northwest. It originally started as a concept in the College of Business, with faculty evaluating where there may be gaps in education.

The college heard from several major agricultural employers in the region, including Beef Northwest and the J.R. Simplot Co., that expressed a need for workers who can help identify problems and come up with innovative, cost-effective solutions.

“Entrepreneurship refers to the ability to problem-solve to prosper, manage and organize a new or existing business to earn profits,” Henninger said. “Agricultural entrepreneurs bring unique insights and innovative thinking into

growing a common vision for investment in their enterprise.”

For example, Mueller said agriculture continues to search for models to become more sustainable. At the same time, they must make financial sense for farms and companies to thrive in a competitive marketplace.

“The reality is that in agriculture, you need to have both the business know-how and fundamental science background,” Mueller said.

That is what the agriculture entrepreneurship program seeks to balance. Mueller said the college also is reaching out to companies where students could be placed in internships, providing a real-world setting to put these principles into practice.

“We want them to anticipate change,” Mueller said. “We want them to be able to look forward, and have those uncomfortable conversations about where agriculture is going and help plan those things out.”

Agriculture, food and fiber accounts for 9.1% of Oregon’s economy and 371,300 total jobs, according to a recent study by OSU.

Henninger said he anticipates roughly 20 students in the first cohort of agriculture entrepreneurship majors. As the program grows, he and other university leaders envision it will draw more attention to EOU, and attract students that might otherwise not consider attending college.

“We have all the confidence that this will become a signature program at EOU,” Henninger said.



Henninger



Mueller



Rosenblum

Oregon sues two counties to enforce new gun laws

By **KRISTIAN FODEN-VENCIL**
Oregon Public Broadcasting

SALEM — Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum sued two Oregon counties Friday, Oct. 1, to stop their efforts to get around Oregon’s new gun laws.

During the last legislative session, Oregon lawmakers required gun owners to securely store their weapons when not in use. The bill also banned the possession of guns in the state Capitol and at Portland International Airport and paved the way for public schools and universities to enact their own bans.

In response, Yamhill and Harney counties adopted new ordinances circumventing the state law.

Each county has declared itself a “Second Amendment Sanctuary,” in which the new state firearms laws are void. Their ordinances prohibit county officials from upholding the new state gun laws by imposing fines, criminal charges and even the possibility of civil suits for any enforcement action.

The Oregon Department of Justice lawsuit filed Oct. 1 asks the courts to void the local ordinances because state law

declares counties don’t have the authority to regulate firearms.

Rosenblum is not happy that officials, who enforce the state’s laws, might be prosecuted and subjected to private lawsuits.

“Gun safety laws exist to help keep guns out of dangerous hands and keep people safe.

A county commission simply doesn’t get to override state law in this way,” Rosenblum said in a written statement. “The laws of Oregon remain fully in force — and fully enforceable —

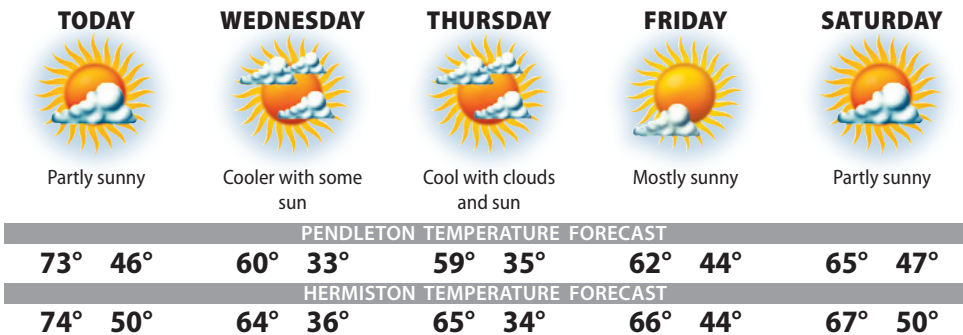
notwithstanding these invalid ordinances. No officials should be frightened out of properly doing their job by the threat of illegitimate criminal charges or bogus lawsuits.”

Harney County Judge Pete Runnels, the head of the county’s administrative branch, declined to comment on the state action.

Other Oregon counties have enacted similar ordinances. Rosenblum hopes suing Harney and Yamhill counties will block similar efforts elsewhere.

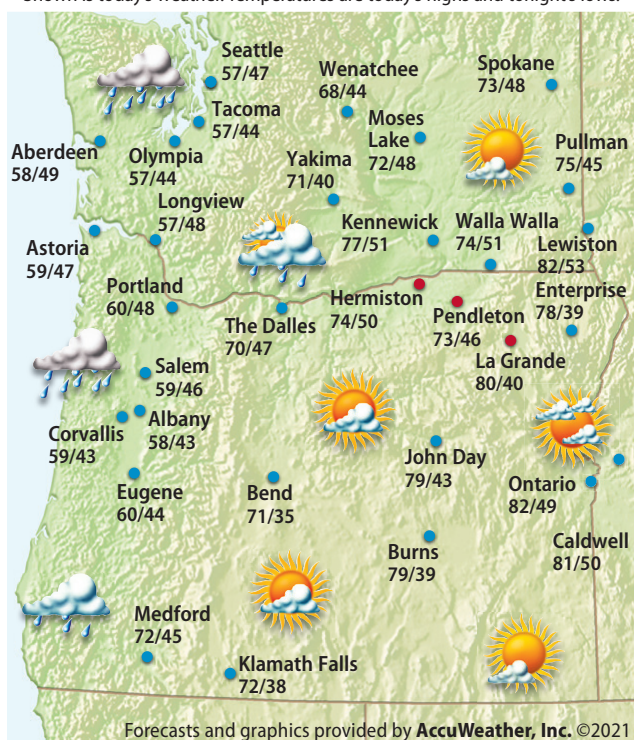
“These actions will hopefully send the message that we are prepared to preserve the rule of law across our state,” she said.

Forecast for Pendleton Area



OREGON FORECAST

Shown is today’s weather. Temperatures are today’s highs and tonight’s lows.



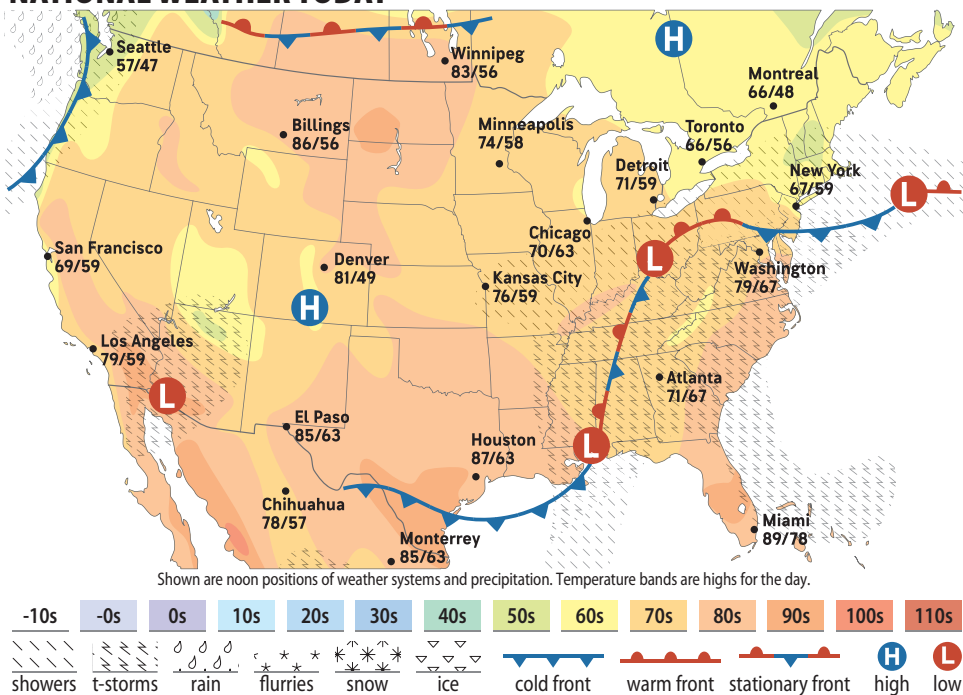
ALMANAC

PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.				
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW		
Yesterday	73°	46°		
Normals	71°	45°		
Records	90° (1892)	27° (1916)		
PRECIPITATION				
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"			
Month to date	0.00"			
Normal month to date	0.12"			
Year to date	5.00"			
Last year to date	8.82"			
Normal year to date	9.33"			
HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.				
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW		
Yesterday	74°	46°		
Normals	73°	43°		
Records	87° (2020)	26° (2012)		
PRECIPITATION				
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"			
Month to date	0.00"			
Normal month to date	0.08"			
Year to date	2.67"			
Last year to date	1.73"			
Normal year to date	5.75"			
WINDS (in mph)				
	Today	Wed.		
Boardman	WSW 6-12	WSW 7-14		
Pendleton	NW 6-12	WSW 7-14		
SUN AND MOON				
Sunrise today	6:59 a.m.			
Sunset tonight	6:28 p.m.			
Moonrise today	5:47 a.m.			
Moonset today	6:32 p.m.			
	New	First	Full	Last
	Oct 6	Oct 12	Oct 20	Oct 28

NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday’s National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 99° in Thermal, Calif. Low 18° in Daniel, Wyo.

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



Bust leads to largest seizure of meth in Oregon history

East Oregonian

EUGENE — A police operation targeting a Lane County drug trafficking cell led to the largest single methamphetamine seizure in Oregon history.

The U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Oregon in a press reported the Sept. 15 takedown of a drug trafficking leader and several associates netted 384 pounds of methamphetamine valued at more than \$1 million.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration was the lead while the Springfield Police Department, Eugene Police Department and Linn Interagency Narcotics Enforcement Team assisted in arresting the cell’s leader, Martin Manzo-Negrete aka Javier Cardenas-Manzo, 47, of Eugene. Federal prosecutors

charged him with possessing with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

Manzo-Negrete has a long history of drug trafficking, according to the press release, and previously served 14 years in federal prison. He made his first appearance in federal court on Sept. 16. The court detained Manzo-Negrete pending further proceedings.

Police during the operation also arrested four of Manzo-Negrete’s associates who also now face federal drug charges: Gustavo Manzo-Mares, 45; Candice L. Barrett, 52; John C. Willis, 59; and Nathan Lee Daniels, 46, all of Eugene. A fifth associate, Frank Buehler, 52, also of Eugene, has been charged, but remains at large. Law enforcement

executed federal search warrants at multiple locations in Lane County as part of the operation. In addition to methamphetamine, officers seized 14 firearms — some of which were stolen — and more than \$76,000 in cash.

According to the press release, the DEA and the Eugene Police Department Street Crimes Unit began investigating the Manzo-Mares cell in October 2020 for its role in trafficking large quantities of methamphetamine from California to Oregon for resale in and around Lane County. The cell transported large quantities of methamphetamine by car from Southern California to Oregon. Once in Oregon, the drugs were stored, divided and then distributed into the community.

IN BRIEF

Police: Shots fired in air near Walla Walla stadium

WALLA WALLA — Walla Walla police officials confirmed reports posted on social media of a gun being fired near Borleske Stadium at the tail end of a Walla Walla High School football game Friday, Oct. 1.

According to Walla Walla Police Sgt. Kevin Huxoll, officers were alerted to a report of shots being fired around 9:30 p.m. Oct. 1. They responded to East Cherry Street, about a block from the stadium’s parking lot.

Wa-Hi was playing against Hermiston High School at Borleske.

Huxoll said he knew somebody had chased after the suspect, a man, who fled the area, but police were not able to locate him.

Police scanned the area for any damage to property but couldn’t find anything. They did find a group of .40 caliber shell casings on the ground, Huxoll said.

Officers determined the suspect likely fired the gun into the air a few times because of the way the shell casings were grouped together, he said.

The investigation has been assigned to the Street Crimes Unit. No suspects have been identified, and the general public does not appear to be under threat, Huxoll said.

Coho salmon fishing season opens on Grande Ronde

ENTERPRISE — For the second consecutive year, anglers will be able to harvest coho salmon in the Grande Ronde River.

The season started Friday, Oct. 1, and the daily bag limit for adult coho salmon longer than 20 inches is two. For jack coho salmon 20 inches or less, the bag limit will be five with two daily limits in possession. The regulations are in place through Nov. 30 or until further notice from the Oregon-Washington border upstream to the Wildcat Bridge, approximately seven miles upstream from Troy.

Last year’s coho season was the first on the Grande Ronde since 1980.

Fish managers don’t expect to see coho being caught for a few more weeks.

— EO Media Group and Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

CORRECTIONS: The *East Oregonian* works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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