

SPORTS SHOTS



Kathy Aney/East Oregonian

Jacqlyn Albert, of Weston-McEwen, returns the ball to Riverside's Sariah Thomas on Thursday, April 7, 2022, in Athena. Albert won the match 8-3.



Kathy Aney/East Oregonian

Mac-Hi's Cooper Yensen pitches to a Baker batter on Wednesday, April 6, 2022, in Milton-Freewater. The Baker Bulldogs won the doubleheader 15-3 and 10-0.

Fishing:

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I tried to point out that if he went on the trip I proposed, and that he was well able to afford, he would acquire the skills he wanted with the help of the guides and the fish. Along the way he would catch big trout and medium size trout and even a few small ones.

"Maybe I'll go on a trip around here and get the skills, I need," he said.

Do you think he did? I don't either.

There are always people that will tell you not to go fishing. I got grounded from fishing when I was in ninth grade because my algebra scores fell off. I got up earlier in the morning than my parents on a Saturday morning and went anyway.

Ask my dad if you bump into him on the river this season. Was it more important to Gary's future that he improve his grades from Cs to Bs in algebra? Or was fishing more important? Dad will say I did pretty good in geometry, especially the part that deals with the angle.

One time I was on the Kalama River in the middle of an epic steelhead bite and the office called my grandparents' house and wanted me to come in. Do you think I came off the river before dark? No. Did they fire me? No. I quit a month later. No one needs that kind of pressure.

I am not a fly-fishing guide but I find myself in the position of teaching

people to fly-fish every season. Lots of times it's 11-year-olds or spouses of friends or people who show up on trips I'm on. The thing I spend the least amount of time on is the casting. Truth is, anyone who can pick up a fly rod and keep it off the ground is equipped to catch fish on small streams or still water. What they need is work on presentation, on theory, on line control. If they like fly-fishing, they can get a casting lesson next week. Think I'm wrong? Watch someone with a 7-foot tenkara rod. They can't cast more than 12 feet at best, but they can catch fish all day long on good water.

People pick up fly-fishing for a lot of reasons. Catching fish may not be at the top of the list, but it is important enough a person should go fishing when they want to.

What do you want from fly-fishing. Are you getting it? If not, go out and demand it. Want to be a better caster? Go fishing. Then get a casting lesson. Want to learn more about bugs? Go fishing and turn over rocks. Want to multiply your fishing skills? Hire a guide.

If someone tells you not to go fishing for whatever reason — your health, your grades, their status or their money, you are better off going fishing anyway. Just get up earlier in the morning.

Gary Lewis is the author of "Fishing Central Oregon," "Oregon Lake Maps and Fishing Guide" and other titles. To contact Gary, visit www.garylewisoutdoors.com.

Coaches:

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Dong and his wife Jessica have four children, Addie, Aubrey, Titus and Paxton.

Dong began his teaching career 14 years ago in Filer, Idaho. He taught physical education, was the athletic director, coached basketball and football.

"I was there for 10 years and wore many hats over the years," he said.

It was a former colleague at Filer that let him know the Kimberly job was open.

"I wasn't really looking," Dong said. "We happened to be talking one day, and she mentioned (athletic director) Kirby (Bright) was retiring."

Dong spent four years as a physical education teacher and basketball coach

at Pendleton.

He led the Bucks to two 5A state playoff appearances in 2019 and 2020, and one trip to the Elite 8 in Corvallis in 2019. Led by senior Tyler Newsom, Pendleton went 0-2 at state with losses to Wilsonville and Crater. Newsom was named to the all-tournament second team.

"I was super blessed that those teams were so talented and I got to enjoy the successes

with those guys," Dong said. "The last two years have been fun too, in different ways. It has been good even though the wins and losses haven't been the greatest. I am going to miss the boys."

Through four seasons, Dong had a record of 13-23 in the IMC and 37-45 overall. The Bucks had a poor 2021-22 season, going 0-10 in Inter-mountain Conference play and 1-21 overall.

People with HIV are our neighbors.

More than half of Oregonians with HIV live outside Portland, often in suburbs or small towns like this one.

But with today's advances, HIV isn't what it used to be. People with HIV are living longer, healthier lives, with the help of medication. By talking about HIV, we can support our community. Testing and early treatment protect you and your partner. Help is available if you're HIV+.

Learn more and find free testing at endhivoregon.org



ON THE SLATE

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

Prep baseball
Sherman at Heppner (2), 11 a.m.
Pilot Rock at Union (2), 11 a.m.
Lyle at Weston-McEwen (2), 11 a.m.
Dufur at Stanfield/Echo (2), 11 a.m.

Prep softball
Pendleton at Wilsonville (2), noon

Prep tennis
Stanfield/Echo at Sherman, 10 a.m.

Track and field
Ione at St. Paul Buckaroo Roundup, 10:30 a.m.

College baseball
Blue Mountain at Yakima Valley (2), 1 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 11

Prep golf
Pendleton girls at Birch Creek, 11 a.m.

Prep tennis
Hood River Valley boys at Pendleton, 3 p.m.
Pendleton girls at Hood River Valley, 3 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

Prep baseball
Irrigon at Umatilla, 4 p.m.
Pilot Rock at Riverside, 4 p.m.
Weston-McEwen at Stanfield/Echo, 4 p.m.
Southridge at Hermiston, 4 p.m.
La Grande at Pendleton, 4:30 p.m.

Heppner at Grant Union, 4:30 p.m.

Prep softball
McLoughlin at Echo/Stanfield (2), 3 p.m.
Pendleton at La Grande, 4 p.m.
Irrigon at Umatilla, 4 p.m.
Pilot Rock at Riverside, 4 p.m.
College Place at Weston-McEwen, 4:30 p.m.
Hermiston at Kennewick, 5 p.m.

Boys soccer
Hermiston at Pasco, 7 p.m.

Prep tennis
Hermiston at Southridge, 4 p.m.
Weston-McEwen at Ione/Heppner, 3:30 p.m.
Stanfield/Echo at McLoughlin, 4:30 p.m.

College softball
Blue Mountain at Columbia Basin (2), 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

College baseball
Blue Mountain at Treasure Valley (2), noon

Prep tennis
Pendleton boys at The Dalles, 3 p.m.
The Dalles girls at Pendleton, 3 p.m.

Prep golf
Echo at Burns Invite, Valley Country Club, TBD
Pendleton girls at Hood River, noon

