

## What a day to be a Pirate

Riverside is part of record-setting game amid bussing issues

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian



Riverside's Tyler Thomas hits the ball April 8, 2022, against Irrigon. Riverside was part of a record-setting game Friday, May 6, at Nyssa, with the two teams combining for 66 runs in one game.

"With the inexperience, it has been a pretty up and down year," Davis said. "I was a little worried how they would respond. We hadn't given up 11 runs in an inning."

Riverside pitchers combined to throw 291 pitches, and simply ran out of arms down the stretch as the Bulldogs hung on for a 36-30 victory in a game that lasted nearly four hours.

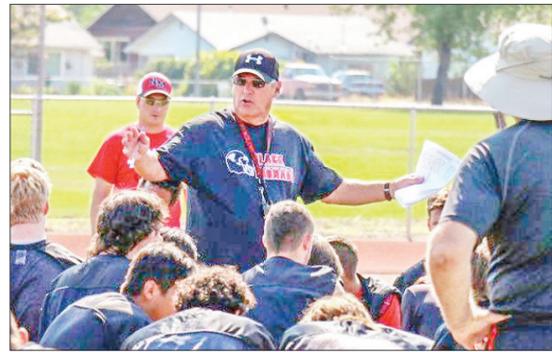
"They did as good as I could have hoped for a bunch of freshmen with little experience."

Riley Lantis led the Pirates with three doubles, five runs scored and seven RBIs. Will Killion added four hits, five RBIs and three runs scored.

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Riverside runner Riley Lantis crosses home plate while playing Irrigon on April 8, 2022. Plenty of Riverside players made it to home Friday, May 6, on the road against Nyssa — losing 36-30, a state record for most runs by a losing team.



Mike Mitchell/Contributed Photo

Former Hermiston football coach Mike Mitchell, shown here during his stint at North Medford High School, where he coached 2012-17, is the new football coach at Caldera High School in Bend.

## Former Hermiston coach on the sidelines in Bend

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University, where he was a backup quarterback for the Beavers.

BEND — Former Hermiston football coach Mike Mitchell is returning to the sidelines in Oregon, this time as the coach at Caldera, Bend's newest high school.

"This is a really good opportunity, and I decided to come back and put this together," Mitchell said.

Caldera, which opened last year and played a junior varsity schedule, will make its varsity debut this year. Mitchell replaces Neil Fendall, who stepped down to become the defensive coordinator at Southern Oregon University.

Mitchell grew up in Des Moines, Washington, and went to Mount Rainier High School. He played football at Idaho for one year under Dee Andros, then followed Andros to Oregon State

His first job out of college was as the offensive coordinator at Corvallis High School, where he coached a young Mike Riley, who would later coach at Oregon State University.

The following year in 1969, at just 23 years old, Mitchell accepted the coaching job in Hermiston. At the time, he was the youngest coach in the state, and was inheriting a program that had gone a combined 0-32 the previous three years.

"Jack Jenkins was the principal at the time," Mitchell said. "I told him I wasn't ready to be a head coach yet. He told me I had to get ready sometime. Best thing that ever happened to me."

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Something powerful and beautiful is rising from the ashes across our state. Our communal hardship has rekindled in us one of our greatest and most unifying strengths — **kindness**. So elemental, yet so brave. Awakened by an urgent need for connection and compassion. Kindness has inspired us to listen. To learn. To lend a hand. To take care of each other. Now we have the opportunity to keep it lit. Let's not let it smolder. Let's fan the embers in our hearts. Let's keep kindness at the forefront of our lives, and live as open examples of it. Kindness inspires kindness. And here, in our Oregon, that is what makes us —

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