

KEOL radio station space at EOU to become podcast studio

By DAVIS CARBAUGH
The Observer

LA GRANDE — The former student-run radio station at Eastern Oregon University, La Grande, is being revitalized to host a new medium.

The KEOL radio station at the university is currently in the works to become the KEOL podcast studio, which students can utilize to start up and host their own podcasts. After the radio station was disbanded in 2021, the space will now serve as a hub for creative talk shows for students, faculty and staff across campus.

“Students can graduate with some experience putting together podcasts and getting those published,” said Tim Seydel, Eastern’s vice president for university advancement. “It will be fun to see what gets generated out of there and what gets picked up. It will be exciting to see how the students utilize the space.”

The radio station, 91.7 KEOL, housed in the Hoke Union building, was voted away by the student fee committee, due to costs associated with FM licensing and the impact of lessened interest. With the utilization of a modern and affordable format, the podcast studio will not require student fees.

“We wanted to make sure we still had something exciting in that space for the students,” said Lacy Karpilo, vice president of student affairs. “It still allows for the spirit of what the radio station was, but utilizes the technology and expertise we have



Davis Carbaugh/The Observer

Equipment in the Eastern Oregon University podcast studio in the Hoke Union building stands at the ready on Friday, May 13, 2022. The former FM radio station space will be reimagined as a podcast studio for students, faculty and staff at Eastern by next fall.

without the same funding issues as with the radio station.”

The space will likely be used by the communication department, where students can gain real-world experience.

“What we wanted was something that could be tied to academ-

ics, while also giving the freedom to students and clubs for something they can access,” she said. “It was a very wonderful proposal to be able to support the co-curricular activities that we want our students to be able to engage with.”

Jesse Cimon, the website admin-

istrator at Eastern and co-owner of HQ on Depot Street, is spearheading the efforts to convert the radio station space into a fully functioning podcast studio. According to Cimon, the studio will be ready to use by the fall term at the latest — the pending ship date for the audio

interface could have the space ready for recording by this summer.

“We’re most of the way there, but have some stuff that is back ordered,” he said. “We’re hoping that comes in the next month or so and then expect to get it up and running.”

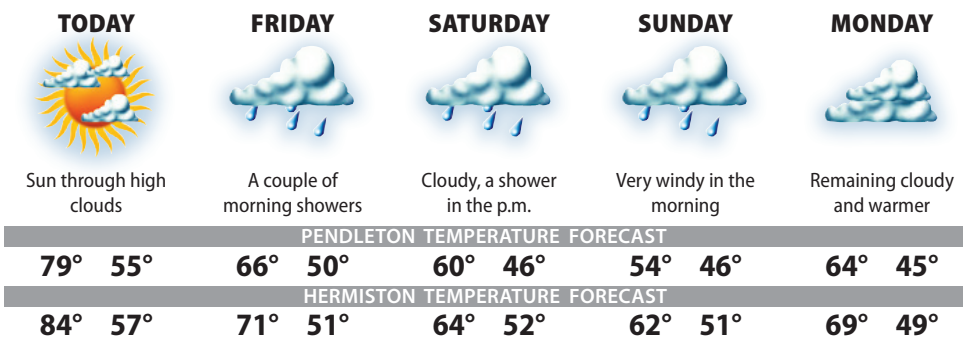
Along with Cimon, equipment system specialist Davon Dunajski is assisting in renovating the podcast studio. Dunajski has a background in live recording, modern equipment and the tools necessary in streamlining the project. Cimon and Dunajski have worked together in developing the procedures that will be utilized once the podcast studio is up and running.

Cimon noted that the priority is to have a studio for students interested in broadcast media production to use. He stated that the hope is making resources available will grow interest in podcasting among students, clubs, faculty and staff at the university.

Students will be able to record their podcasts and leave the space with their recording on file. Those involved with the transition from radio station to podcast studio are hoping to establish a cost-efficient venue that will allow students and faculty to have a voice in the community and sharpen their media production skills.

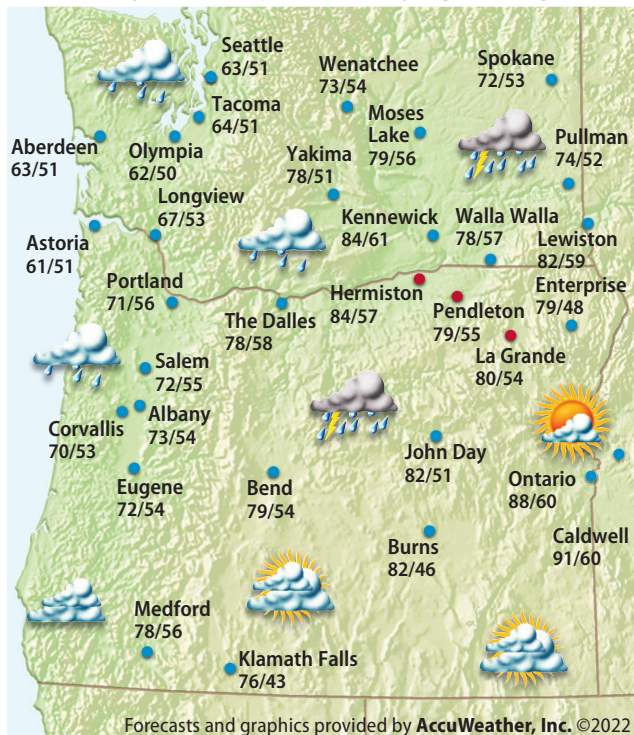
“The main overhead with the radio station was FCC licensing,” Cimon said. “There are obviously depreciating assets involved with the podcast studio, but because we’re not broadcasting the podcasts over FM airwaves, it’s quite a bit more affordable to produce content.”

Forecast for Pendleton Area



OREGON FORECAST

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



ALMANAC

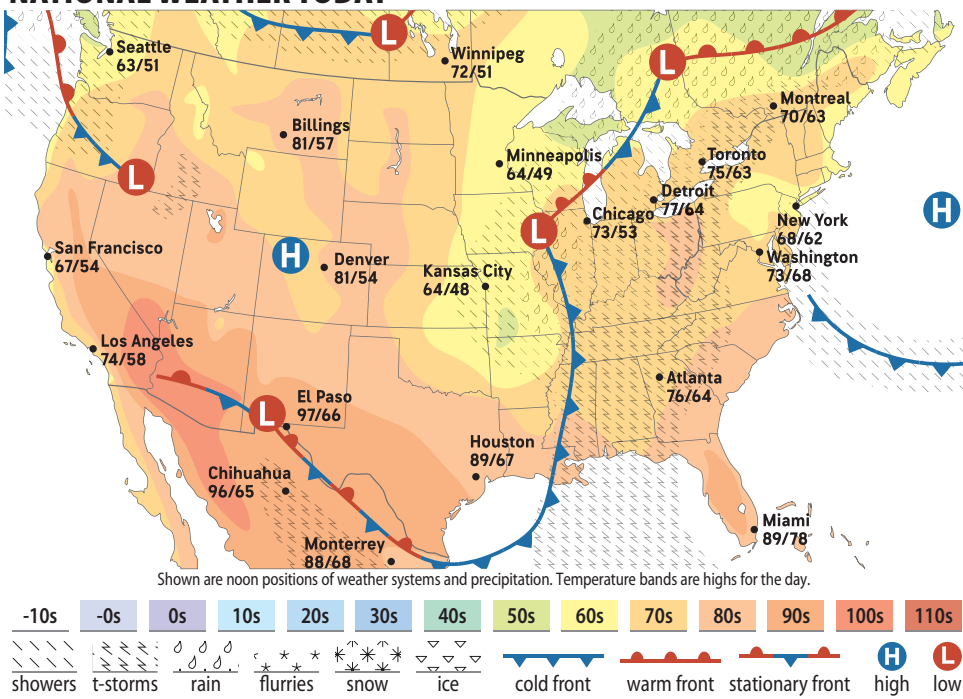
PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.		
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	76°	52°
Normals	74°	49°
Records	98° (1928)	30° (1918)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	Trace	
Month to date	1.51"	
Normal month to date	1.17"	
Year to date	7.13"	
Last year to date	4.01"	
Normal year to date	6.51"	
HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.		
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	79°	52°
Normals	78°	49°
Records	99° (1928)	33° (1964)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	Trace	
Month to date	0.88"	
Normal month to date	0.65"	
Year to date	4.77"	
Last year to date	2.23"	
Normal year to date	4.20"	
WINDS (in mph)		
Today	Fri.	
Boardman	N 4-8	WSW 8-16
Pendleton	N 6-12	W 7-14
SUN AND MOON		
Sunrise today	5:13 a.m.	
Sunset tonight	8:31 p.m.	
Moonrise today	3:36 a.m.	
Moonset today	4:52 p.m.	

NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)

High 105° in Needles, Calif. Low 17° in Climax, Colo.

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



OHA warns Jif peanut butter recalled

East Oregonian

PORTLAND — Oregon Health Authority is warning the people of Oregon to be on the lookout for Jif brand peanut butter that may be contaminated with salmonella bacteria.

J.M. Smucker Co., the parent company for the peanut butter brand, issued a voluntary recall Friday, May 20. The Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local partners are investigating this outbreak.

The recalled peanut butter was distributed in retail stores and other outlets through-

out the country. It includes creamy, crunchy and natural varieties.

Jif peanut butter was included in food boxes distributed through OHA's food box program. OHA has investigated further and determined the recall lot does include the Jif peanut butter that was distributed in the food boxes. This only impacts the peanut butter product inside the food box, which can be exchanged for a replacement or refunded.

Starting May 24, staff with the Oregon Health Authority began visiting all OHA food hubs and inspecting respective food boxes to substitute

any recall product for new. This work will require the remainder of this week to accomplish.

“All warehoused Jif products that are waiting to be distributed have been thoroughly inspected and replaced,” according to the announcement.

To see if a jar of Jif peanut butter is being recalled, check the lot number that is printed below the “Best if Used by” date on the label.

The recall applies to products with lot codes 1274425 – 2140425, with the digits 425 in the fifth to seventh position. This information is printed on the back label of the jar.

La Grande man arrested for murder

The Observer

LA GRANDE — A La Grande man faces felony murder charges after police responded a residence Monday, May 23.

Mamas Genagritits, 53, faces second-degree murder in the slaying of his girlfriend, Deanna Lee Badgley, at the couple's La Grande home on Robbs Hill Road home. According to police, he bludgeoned her to death.

According to a probable cause declaration, around 7:30 p.m. Genagritits called Union County Sheriff Cody

Bowen asking for help and “stating that he killed her.”

When police arrived at the home, Genagritits met officers in the driveway yelling, “help me. I killed her, I hit her with (a) hammer,” according to the declaration.

Police took Genagritits into custody and officers noticed blood on Genagritits' hands and clothes. Officers then found Badgley's body inside the home with multiple wounds to her body. Police stated it appeared she had been dragged from a bedroom into the kitchen area of the home. Police located

a “blood coated hatchet,” according to the court document.

Resources from the sheriff's office, La Grande Police, Oregon State Police, the Union County District Attorney's office, the Union County Medical Examiner and the OSP crime lab all responded. The OSP is taking the lead on the case, according to Kelsie McDaniel, Union County District Attorney.

Genagritits, who also faces a first-degree assault charge, is in the Union County Jail. He is set to be arraigned at 1:15 p.m. May 25.

IN BRIEF

Crash of stolen truck claims lives of two men

COLLEGE PLACE — A La Grande man died Tuesday, May 24, in College Place in a head-on crash involving an allegedly stolen work vehicle.

Jeremy S. Richards, 48, died at the scene, according to the press release from Washington State Patrol.

Anthony M. Stalder, 28, of Richland, Washington, was the other driver and died at Providence St. Mary Medical Center, Walla Walla.

The crash occurred at 10:57 a.m. and involved a stolen U.S. Linen work truck, according to Washington State Patrol Trooper Chris Thorson. The crash occurred on State

Route 125 near milepost 3 in the small town a few miles from the Oregon border.

“Prior to the collision, we were notified of a stolen U.S. Linen work truck,” Thorson told the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin. “That stolen truck and that suspect ended up on the highway, driving the wrong way.”

Stalder drove the stolen truck south on the northbound side of the road and collided head on with Richards' SUV, Thorson said.

Richards was wearing a seat belt, according to Washington State Patrol, but Stalder was not.

WSP also reported the Union County Sheriff's Office handled notifying Richards' relatives and the crash remains under investigation.

—EO Media Group

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