



Hermiston Herald

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2015

YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

HERMISTONHERALD.COM

Lomas named Miss Cinco de Mayo

Pageant court will participate in Sunday festival

BY SEAN HART
 HERMISTON HERALD

The winners of Hermiston's first Miss Cinco de Mayo Pageant will participate in Sunday's festivities in downtown Hermiston.

Pageant Chairperson Clara Beas Fitzgerald said the contest, which took place Sunday at Armand Larive Middle School, went well for its first year, and she was impressed by the contestants.

"It was very interesting to see their reactions and their self confidence and the way they conducted themselves," she said. "They are a very well-rounded group of young ladies."

SEE PAGEANT/A6

TODAY'S WEATHER



Sunny
 High: 76° Low: 40°

OUTLOOK

- SUNDAY Sunny High: 74° Low: 42°
- MONDAY Sunny High: 83° Low: 44°

A complete weather forecast is featured on page A2.



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FOR LOCAL BREAKING NEWS

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Cinco de Mayo celebration Sunday



JESSICA KELLER PHOTO

A family walks through the carnival set up in downtown Hermiston Friday evening. The carnival is just one of the attractions of this year's Cinco de Mayo festival, which takes place Sunday. The carnival will be open through the weekend, however.

Downtown event featuring carnival and entertainment

BY SEAN HART
 HERMISTON HERALD

Dancing horses, a carnival and a full schedule of entertainment are planned at this year's Cinco de Mayo festival in downtown Hermiston Sunday.

Eddie De La Cruz, president of the organizing committee, said he is excited for this year's event.

"Everything is a lot better than last year," he said. "We're expecting to have a bigger crowd, and we've got more stuff than last year."

The festival kicks off at 11:30 a.m. with a parade that begins at the Hermiston Conference Center and travels north on Second Street to Gladys Avenue — where the festival takes place — before

returning back to the conference center on Third Street.

De La Cruz said about two dozen dancing horses will be in the parade, and afterward, near the stage in front of Hermiston City Hall, about eight to 10 will compete in a dancing horse competition.

"They're pretty impressive," he said. "It caught my attention the first time I saw them."

A carnival will be set up in the parking lot south of East Gladys Avenue, which will be closed between First and Second streets, where a variety of vendors' booths will be situated. Second Street will be closed between Main Street and Gladys Avenue to accommodate a stage in front of City Hall where entertainment will take place from noon to 8 p.m.

The queen and princesses from the first Miss Cinco de Mayo Pageant will be presented on the stage at 1 p.m., and

SEE CELEBRATION/A14

HODGES REDRAWNS THE MAP



Hip problems sideline coach, the program will carry on

BY SAM BARBEE
 HERMISTON HERALD

Seven years ago when Hermiston was in the market for a new football coach, then-athletic director Mike Kay had a name in mind — Mark Hodges from Fernley, Nevada.

The two has worked together at North Medford. Kay knew Hodges and the type of football coach he was.

"Mark has an incredible understanding of the spread offense and probably one of the best offensive minds I've ever been around," Kay said.

Hodges was selected, and about a month in he was sitting with Kay and others and said, "This is a great place to win a state championship. We have all the pieces here, we just gotta put them together."

Seven years later, those pieces were

fit together and Hodges led the Bulldogs to the 5A state championship. He put Hermiston Bulldog football on the Oregon state map.

"He brought it to a state level," longtime public address announcer Joe Thompson said of Hodges and the football program Thursday. "He brought it to a level of winning a state championship. He brought it to a level of being the best — obviously in the eastern section of the state, but statewide. You talk about down in the valley, be it Portland or wherever, (if) you mention Hermiston you better lace 'em up tight. He brought it to a level of respect."

...

The decision to retire came as a shock to some. Thompson said he was surprised, but the reasons and rationale given by the coach put it in perspective for him. Erick Olson, radio voice of Bulldog football who broke the news

SEE HODGES/A6



RECORD AT HHS 46-28, 2 league championships, 1 state championship

2008: 7-4, 2nd in Intermountain Conference, lost to Glencoe 30-27 in quarterfinals of state playoffs

2010: 3-7, 4th in Columbia River Conference, lost to Jefferson 55-6 in Play-in Round of state playoffs

2012: 5-3, 2nd in Columbia River Conference, lost to Marist 68-22 in quarterfinals of state playoffs

2014: 12-1, 1st in CRC, beat Silverton 34-12 for state title

2009: 7-4, 3rd in Intermountain Conference, lost to Crater 31-14 in Round 2 of state playoffs

2011: 6-5, 2nd in Columbia River Conference, lost to Sherwood 59-22 in Round 1 of state playoffs

2013: 6-4, 1st in Columbia River Conference, lost to Dallas 41-35 in Round 1 of state playoffs



Smile: HPD now recording some incidents

New technology holds police, public accountable

BY SEAN HART
 HERMISTON HERALD

With new mandatory officer-worn cameras, the Hermiston Police Department hopes to avoid the same public scrutiny some law enforcement agencies in the nation are facing after allegations

of officer misconduct.

Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston said the \$71,000 investment for body cameras and data storage for five years will provide accountability for officers and also the people with whom they interact.

"Someday, we're probably going to have to release something where we're not in the right," he said. "... The reality is people are recording us already."

Edmiston set the department

SEE SECURITY/A14

Officer finds body camera a helpful policing tool

BY SEAN HART
 HERMISTON HERALD

Hermiston patrol officers are adapting to using the department's new mandatory body cameras, but the initial response has been positive.

Sgt. Scott Clark said, while wearing the device is not cumbersome, he is still getting into the



Clark

habit of turning it on during traffic stops and determining the best way to wear it.

"It works pretty good," he said. "It's just getting used to having a camera with you all the time."

The body camera system consists of a 12-hour battery and data storage unit the officers wear on their belts that is connected by a cord to a small camera. Officers

SEE CLARK/A14

Hermiston Herald \$1.00



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