## **Athletes shine for Shrine**

By ERIC SINGER STAFF WRITER

BAKER CITY — The last time Logan Grieb had stepped foot on a football field, it was a day full of disappointment.

It was the Class 2A state semifinals in Hillsboro in November 2016, where his Heppner Mustangs came up short against the eventual state champion Regis Rams by a 26-3 score. To make matters worse, Grieb was injured in the game and watched the majority of the second half from the sideline.

However, on Saturday night Grieb got one more chance for a positive final memory from the game he has played for so long. Grieb was one of 60 Class 1A-4A prep football seniors from the Class of 2017 that hit the gridiron under the lights for the 65th annual Oregon East West Shrine All-Star Game at Baker High School's Memorial Stadium.

'One more football game is great because that's something you can't do for the rest of your life," Grieb said after the game, wearing a wide smile. "And getting to play one more time with these new teammates, it was awe-

Grieb's former teammate and all-state defensive lineman Kevin Murray had similar feelings for being able to strap on the helmet and pads one more time to play the game he loves, and knew he wanted to make the most of this extra opportunity.

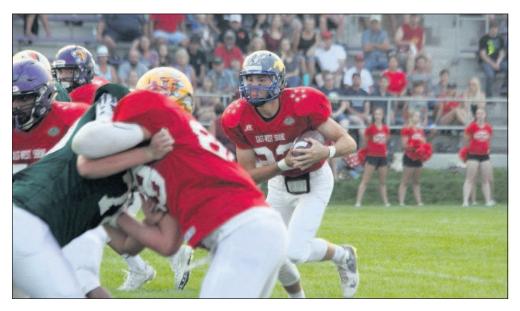
"It's unbelievable, I can't even describe how awesome it is to come out knowing you have one more game," he said. "You have one more chance to give it your all every single play and that's how I played, like every one was my last. I went in thinking 'I'm getting pulled after this play, so make it great' that was my mentality.

Grieb and Murray were joined by three other football stars from Umatilla and Morrow counties on the East team, including former Stanfield duo of Dylan Grogan and Thyler Monkus, and Mac-Hi's Riley Chester. Like the boys from Heppner, both Monkus and Grogan were happy to get one more chance to play football after their senior seasons ended in the championship game loss to Regis.

"This game is going to stick with me forever," Monkus said. "I met a lot of great people and after losing that state championship game it didn't feel too good and ending on a win in the Shrine game feels pretty good."

All five players were key contributors to their East team that ground out a 29-23 victory in the game. Murray, Grogan and Chester all got the majority of the snaps on defense, with Monkus and Grieb playing almost exclusively on offense.

Murray was perhaps the defensive MVP





of the game, as he picked up nine tackles with two sacks and one fumble recovery, along with numerous QB hurries. His fumble recovery came early in the third quarter which set up a touchdown for the East, and his second sack came on a third down play late in the fourth quarter which helped seal

the East's victory. "I knew it would happen," Grieb said of his friend's performance. "Kevin is such a great player, especially defensively and it's been awesome playing with him for the past few years. He always made me look good back at (defensive back)."

Grogan registered four tackles from his hybrid linebacker/safety spot, including a chasedown tackle that surely saved a touchdown in the second quarter. He also played three snaps at quarterback where he ran the ball twice for 13 yards before losing a fumble.

This week was better than what I expected because of the people I was with," said Grogan. "All of my teammates are just awesome and honestly and I would rather stay and hang out with them more, we created a family with all these guys. I'm glad I got to end with a win now, especially with this

Monkus was one of two primary offensive weapons that East deployed, lining up in his familiar slot receiver spot and doing

ABOVE, Stanfield's Dylan Grogan runs a QB keeper during the first half of Saturday's 65th annual Oregon East West Shrine All-Star football game in Baker City. Grogan's East team won 29-23. LEFT, Stanfield's Thyler Monkus gets tackled by Banks' Trevor Thiessen during the fourth quarter of Saturday's 65th annual Oregon East West Shrine All-Star football game in Baker City. STAFF PHOTOS BY ERIC SINGER

a lot of damage off of jet sweeps where he picked up 73 yards on 10 carries. He also caught two passes for 45 yards, one of which was a 42 yard touchdown reception for the East's first points of the game early in the third quarter.

"It felt good to be back out here," said Monkus. "I really missed it and I'm really going to miss playing under these lights and playing with my brothers."

Chester got a lot of playing time at corner back and on the kickoff coverage unit, where he registered three total tackles. He said being able to play in the atmosphere of the Shrine Game is something he'll never

"The crowd was awesome, the players were awesome, it felt like a state championship win," he said. "I'll never play football again and one last chance to play with all these awesome people, the best of Oregon, it was awesome.'

And aside from the game, the players were all happy to help out the Oregon Shriners who put on the game to help raise money for the Shriners Hospital for Children in Portland. According to the game website, it is the No. 1 fundraiser of its kind in North America for the Shriners Hospitals where they raised approximately \$2.5 million through the first 64 years.

## Hermiston gets 1 win in tourney

Local team eliminated from Junior League regional after getting one win in tourney

HERMISTON HERALD

The Hermiston junior league baseball team's run to a spot in the Junior League World Series came up just a few steps short on Thursday after-

Hermiston, playing as Team Oregon, could not hang on to a late lead as Hawaii knocked Oregon out of the Junior League West Regional by handing it a 10-7 loss at Pioneer High School in San Jose, California. Trailing 5-3 in the top of the fifth, Oregon's offense awoke as 4-5-6 hitters of Ethin Randolph, Gavin Hunter, and Trevor Wagner each smacked RBI hits to give Oregon a 7-5 lead.

However, Hawaii battled right back in the bottom of the fifth to score three runs to take a 8-7 lead and then scored a pair of insurance runs in the sixth to seal it.

Rustin Edmiston led the Hermiston team with three hits out of his leadoff spot, while Randolph, Hunter and Wagner all had two hits apiece. Wagner had two triples and three RBI, while Randolph and Hunter each added a double. Sam Schwirse started the game at pitcher and struck out two in five innings while allowing eight hits and eight runs, though only five were earned. Randolph tossed the final frame and gave up two runs and two hits and struck out two.

Oregon opened up the game in a big way, as Hunter's RBI single and Wagner's two-RBI triple opened up a 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning. Hawaii chipped away a bit in the bottom of the first with two runs, and then took a 5-3 lead in the bottom of the second.

Oregon finishes the regional with a 1-2 record.

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