What a game. What a season.



STAFF PHOTO BY E.J. HARRIS

Hermiston coach David Faaeteete gives a hug to quarterback Andrew James after the Bulldogs won the 5A state championship.

he Hermiston Bulldogs capped their time in the Oregon Schools Activities Association in style on Saturday, beating the previously unbeaten Churchill Lancers 38-35 in a game that kept both cheering sections on the edge of their seats throughout.

It was the second football title in the school's history, the first under head coach David Faaeteete. In 2014 the Bulldogs won their first and, due to the steady enrollment growth, has opted to join the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association next season.

It was a bittersweet moment in the stands for the Harkenrider family after the death of Frank Harkenrider, 90, known as "Hermiston's number one fan," in July. After decades of losing bets with Pendleton city officials over the outcome of Hermiston-Pendleton match-ups, Harkenrider was ecstatic when his favorite team won their first championship in 2014.

Daughter Marla Harkenrider said much of the family — including Frank's wife Beverly — were in the stands, and she

wore her dad's Bulldog jacket with "Harkie" embroidered on

"I just want the team to know that 'Harkie' was there with them in spirit," she wrote in a Facebook message. "Dad would have loved seeing the HUGE crowd there from Hermiston showing their support for their team and town ...

I am sure dad is still dancing a jig to the Hermiston fight song up in heaven!"

Hermiston Mayor David Drotzmann was also in the stands on Saturday night, and led the city council and audience in a round of applause for the Bulldogs during their meeting on Monday. He said the entire city should be proud of the team.

The whole community is welcome to join in the celebration on Thursday at the high school's main gym at 7:15 p.m. People are invited to meet the coaching staff and players, take photos with the team, get autographs and watch a video of the season's highlights. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more on the game, the coach, the players and the season, see our coverage in today's special sports section.

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BY THE WAY

Diner, cakery opens in Umatilla

Umatilla residents have a new dining option in **Rae's Dayz**, a diner and "cakery" that opened at 1290 Sixth Street last week.

Diners can get breakfast food, burgers, salads and sandwiches from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week, and can also order custom-made cakes for special events.

"Anything we can do homemade," owner **Raelynn Gallegos** said. "It's a good home-cooked meal."

Gallegos said has been involved in restaurant industry most of her life, and she and fiance Rosendo Campos-Ortiz decided to try opening in Umatilla because it seemed the city could use another sit-down restaurant. The building had several customers enjoying lunch on Tuesday, including two Umatilla city councilors.

The long-awaited final pieces of the playground at Hermiston's Sunset Park have finally arrived, according to parks and recreation director Larry Fetter. He told the city council Monday that the department would get started on installing the rest of the playground "right away." New equipment for Greenwood Park off Beech Avenue

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Hospital debuts Women's Center

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN STAFF WRITER

At a packed open house on Tuesday evening, Good Shepherd Health Care System showed off its new Women's Center and introduced the community to five new doctors.

The sleek new 11,000 square foot Women's Center, across from the old one, will have more space and give Good Shepherd the capacity to hire more providers, something Women's Center Medical Director Gary Trupp said was important for women's health in the area.

"The board gave me the approval to incorporate midwives into our practice," Trupp said. "We feel this is a big step for healthcare in Hermiston."

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The center, which cost \$10 million,

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STAFF PHOTO BY JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN.

Women's Center staff cut the ribbon on the center's new home in the Good Shepherd Health Care System expansion.