



Contributed photo by Troy Blackburn

The Hermiston girls cross country team placed second Saturday at the Oregon City Invite. Runners include (from left) Cydney Sanchez, Lydia Shult, Alexia Serna, Emily Collinsworth, Ellie Ernst and Ashley Treadwell.

# Hermiston girls second at Oregon City Invite

HERMISTON HERALD

Hermiston's girls cross-country team placed second with 104 points, and junior Amanda Nygard finished sixth overall Saturday at the Oregon City Invite.

Nygard crossed the finish line in 19:30.42, while sophomore Cydney Sanchez finished eighth with a time of 19:57.89.

"Every girl ran at least a minute and a half faster than they did last week (at Runners Soul)," Bulldogs coach Troy Blackburn said.

Rounding out the field for Hermiston were Ellie Ernst (29th), Alexia Serna (31st) and Emily Collinsworth (36th).

Franklin topped the team leaderboard at 46 points. The Dalles and Westview followed Hermiston at 116 points each, tying for third.

Franklin's boys also took first in the team standings with 30 points, while Hermiston's placed seventh with 187.

Senior Gregory Anderson was the Bulldogs' top runner for the day, placing 13th at 16:44.83.

Following Anderson were Logan Springstead (30th), Jackson Shaver (47th), Freddy Ibarra (55th) and Zachary Turner (59th).

"We're still working on improv-

ing," Blackburn said of the varsity boys. "But we still saw a lot of great improvements today. We're only getting faster."

### Girls soccer

WALLA WALLA 4, HERMISTON 1 — Cydney Lind knocked down a penalty kick in the 47th minute, but it wasn't enough to overcome Walla Walla on Saturday.

"We had great opportunities to score," coach Freddy Guizar said, "but we were overcommitted and shot over the goalie. We came in knowing it was going to be tough."

Hermiston will host its first home game of the season at 7 p.m. Tuesday against Kennewick. Guizar hopes to have keeper Lanie Gomez and midfielder Elizabeth Hernandez recovered from their injuries and back on the field.

"We want to take that big win," he said.

### Boys soccer

Alexis Ruiz netted a hat trick, and Emmanuel Arredondo and Carlos Mejia scored two goals each as Umatilla's boys soccer team trampled over Portland Christian 11-0 on Thursday evening.

"We expected more," Umatilla coach Pedro Ortiz said. "We expected

a stronger team. We gave it our best." Arredondo and Mejia gave the Vikings a hot start with two goals each in the first half, and Ruiz sank his first of three before the first 40 minutes were up, as well.

The sophomore forward recorded his final two goals in the second half to help complete Umatilla's road shutout.

Oliver Burman and Jose Alaniz also scored goals for the Vikings along the way.

"We controlled the tempo of the game," Ortiz said. "We did good work, but we still need to work on some mistakes that happened (today)."

On the girls side, Umatilla fell to the unbeaten Portland Christian Lions in a road loss Thursday.

### Volleyball

RIVERSIDE 3, UMATILLA 1 — Riverside took the Eastern Oregon League opener against Umatilla in four sets, 25-19, 25-14, 23-25, 25-17.

"We've just been struggling with coverage and communication on where everybody is supposed to be," Umatilla coach Desirae Zamudio said.

Umatilla's Danica Harseen connected on all 11 of her service attempts in the match, while Chantal Lemus also went 10-11 on services in the loss.

# Pac/West opens Hermiston hub

HERMISTON HERALD

Pac/West Communications moved into its new digs in Hermiston as part of the company's plan to expand government affairs and public relations services to Eastern Oregon and Washington.

The office is in the Columbia Professional Building, 1050 W. Elm Ave., Hermiston, and will serve as the company's regional base of operations.

"Our mission has always been to give a clear and influential voice to our clients, especially those who are overlooked by the powers that be," according to a statement from Pac/West Communications President Paul Phillips. "The Columbia Basin is a powerhouse of innovation, growth, and development in the Pacific Northwest. We're eager to enhance and promote that

work."

Pac/West will staff the Hermiston office with Phillip Scheuers and Daniel Wattenburger, two local professionals who have first-hand knowledge of the region and its issues.

Scheuers for the last 10 years has worked on government affairs and economic development, specifically in Eastern Oregon. Wattenburger was an editor at the *East Oregonian* newspaper for more than a decade and specializes in communication and understands rural Oregon politics, economy, natural resources, education and health care.

Ryan Tribbett, senior vice president of government affairs for Pac/West, stated, "Phil and Daniel have an authentic rural Oregon perspective and the know-how to convey those principles and priorities in Salem."

# Fall weather arriving on time

By JADE MCDOWELL  
NEWS EDITOR

A wet start to the week is ushering in the feeling of fall.

Jim Smith of the Pendleton office for the National Weather Service said it's not unusual to get rain in the middle of September.

"It's generally about this time we get the first decent fall storm for the year," he said. "It's definitely fall temperatures here through most of the week."

Rain was falling in Hermiston on Monday, and Smith said Monday morning that there was a 70% chance of more rain Tuesday, with a chance of showers Wednesday and a possibility of rain continuing beyond that.

"It's a pretty wet week," he said.

Temperatures are expected to rise again at the

end of the week after the rain moves through the area, but NWS also predicted a chance of snow in the highest elevations on Tuesday, with snow levels at 6,500 to 7,500 feet.

So far 2019 has seen a colder than usual February and March, followed by a warmer than usual spring and a relatively average summer, according to temperature graphs on the NWS website. Smith said it is hard to give precise forecasts weeks out, but Umatilla County residents can likely expect average precipitation for the month with warmer than average temperatures.

People can now access National Weather Service forecasts with the touch of a button by pinning mobile. weather.gov to their home screen on their iPhone or Android device.

# Hermiston School District launches "I Love My Bulldogs" tour

HERMISTON HERALD

Hermiston High School athletes were spreading the Bulldog spirit Friday with visits to Hermiston elementary and middle schools.

The first-ever "I Love My Bulldogs Day" brought about 200 student athletes to classrooms around the school district to inspire younger students with talks about hard work, commitment and community engagement, according to a news release from the district.

Athletic director Larry Usher said in a statement that the high schoolers enjoyed seeing how excited the younger students were to meet them. The athletes even signed a few autographs.

"It was an incredible opportunity for our high



Contributed photo by Hermiston School District

Highland Hills Elementary School principal Jake Bacon takes a selfie with Hermiston High School athletes visiting his school for I Love My Bulldogs Day on Friday.

school kids, even more than we thought," Usher said. "For the K-5 kids in particular, it was a powerful mentoring opportunity."

Athletes were able to say hi to younger siblings and their former teachers during the tour. During their Highland Hills Ele-

mentary stop, the athletes were able to help English Language Learner students in the Newcomers Class practice their English.

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