

Baggage they bring

Peterson one of players left in limbo by abuse ruling

BOSTON (AP) — There is a defensive end heading for free agency who had 15 sacks in his last full season. The kind of player a team can build a pass rush around, if he were spending more time on the football field and less in the courts fighting domestic abuse charges.

Greg Hardy's current team, the Carolina Panthers, isn't expected to make him an offer.

And then there's the recent NFL MVP, a running back who once topped 2,000 yards, whose team says it wants him back, but he's not so sure. If the Minnesota Vikings wouldn't support him after he was charged with beating his son, Adrian Peterson can probably find a team that will.

As NFL teams turn to free agency on March 10, there is more to consider this year than 40-yard dash times and vertical jumps. A few players who might otherwise attract a bidding war now have to convince teams they are talented enough to justify the baggage they bring along.

And that's making what was already an imperfect science even more difficult.

"It all makes it rough on the football people," said Bill Polian, a 2015 Pro Football Hall of Famer who built the Bills, Panthers and Colts into Super Bowl teams. "(Hardy) would be a marquee free agent if not for these other issues."

Peterson is still under contract with the Vikings. But he has said he is uneasy about returning to the team that distanced itself from him after he was charged with a felony for disciplining his child to the point of injury. He missed 15 games — seven with pay

while on the exempt list and the last six while suspended under the enhanced personal conduct policy Commissioner Roger Goodell announced after his initial two-game punishment for Ray Rice angered almost everyone.

But U.S. District Judge David Doty ruled last week that Goodell could not suspend Peterson under a policy that was created after the original crime. (Peterson pleaded no contest to a reduced assault misdemeanor). The case goes back to NFL-appointed arbitrator Harold Henderson, who is likely to tell Goodell to review the case under the old policy that in most cases maxed out at a two-game suspension.

"Like Tinker to Evers to Chance, this is going to go from Doty to Henderson to Goodell," said Daniel Wallach, a sports litigator in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

In the meantime, the NFL has appealed and it is likely to ask for a stay of Doty's ruling until then, said Wallach, of the firm of Becker and Poliakoff.

"That will go a long way toward clarifying Adrian Peterson's status," he said. "If Peterson loses the stay issue, NFL free agency advances without him. And what does that do to his market value? It's going to diminish it tremendously."



AP Photo/Charlie Neibergall, File Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson gives his son Adrian Jr. a kiss following an NFL football training camp practice in Mankato, Minn., in 2014. A federal judge has cleared the way for Peterson to be reinstated.

Astoria alum Johnson takes over Tillamook football



Daily Astorian File

Former Astoria quarterback Kye Johnson will now direct the Tillamook football team, after being named the Cheesemakers' new coach.

The Tillamook Cheesemakers have named Astoria High School graduate Kye Johnson to be their new varsity football coach, replacing Matt Dickson.

Johnson recently served as an assistant coach with Astoria and McMinnville, and as offensive coordinator at Yamhill-Carlton.

A statement on the Tillamook Athletics Facebook page stated "Coach Johnson has a great deal of football knowledge and expertise and he comes high-

ly recommended from his colleagues.

"He is extremely excited to start and ready to hit the ground running. We believe that his positive attitude, vision for the program, and his knowledge of football will help to build a strong football program for the Tillamook community."

A Class of 2006 graduate of Astoria, Johnson played football, basketball and baseball with the Fishermen, starting at quarterback his senior year.

The Cheesemakers were 2-6 last season, 2-3 in league play.

Soccer

Patterson moving on

In other coaching news, Astoria boys soccer Bill Patterson has resigned his position with the Fishermen to become the head coach for the Portland Community College women's soccer program, which will field a varsity team starting next season.

Patterson took over for

Jerry Boisvert as the Astoria coach in 2007, and in his eight years with the Fishermen (2007-14), Patterson had a record of 77 wins, 36 losses and nine ties. His teams were 57-10-7 in Cowapa League play, going 9-0-1 in 2009, 2012 and 2013.

Patterson took Astoria to the state playoffs in six of his eight years. The Fishermen missed the playoffs last season, after a loss to Gladstone in the Regional Play-in round.

Bill banning e-cigarette sales to minors moves to Senate

Most indoor smoking would also be banned

By PETER WONG
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Sales of e-cigarettes to teenagers would be banned, and use of e-cigarettes would be banned in most indoor settings, under a bill that has cleared the Oregon House.

A 56-2 vote Monday sent House Bill 2546 to the Senate.

The bill would ban sales of e-cigarettes — under the bill, they are known as "inhalant delivery systems" — to those younger than 18, similar to an existing ban of sales of regular cigarettes and other tobacco products to minors.

E-cigarettes do not con-



tain tobacco. They are battery-powered devices that create a vapor mix from liquid nicotine, flavorings and other chemicals, which are inhaled.

"Children are highly susceptible to the dangers of nicotine," said Rep. Kathleen Taylor, D-Milwaukie, the bill's floor manager and one of its chief sponsors. "We've been successful in decreasing the rate of tobacco use among youth, but teen use of e-cigarettes has risen and will continue to rise, threatening that success."

Rep. Bill Kenemer, R-Oregon City, said the devices prep teens to become smokers.

Oregon is one of just nine states that do not ban sales

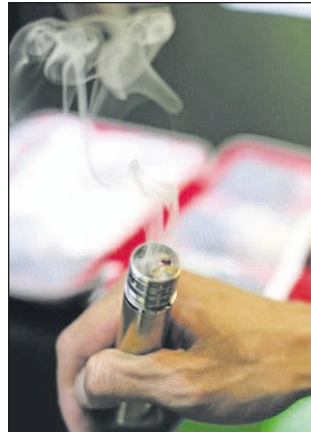
of e-cigarettes to minors, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

The bill also would bar use of e-cigarettes by adults where smoking is already banned under the Oregon Indoor Clean Air Act, which was extended to bars and taverns in 2009.

Some representatives raised questions about providing an exemption for shops where vaporizing devices are sold. They also say they do not want to discourage use of e-cigarettes by adults who seek to quit smoking.

"I don't want kids to buy it or have access to it," Rep. Bill Post, R-Keizer, said. "On the other hand, I don't want to classify it as a cigarette if it's a way to get people off cigarettes."

The bill also allows for specified facilities to allow use of vaporizers by medi-



File photo/Pamplin Media Group
A bill approved March 2 by the Oregon House would ban the sale of e-cigarettes to minors.

cal-marijuana patients, who hold state cards. Those vaporizers differ from e-cigarettes.

— The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.

On the record

Marijuana possession

• At 11:55 a.m. Wednesday, Astoria Police cited Adam Alexander, 18, Astoria, for possession of less than one ounce of marijuana on Florence Avenue, behind Astoria High School.

Delivery of controlled substance

• At 10:24 a.m. Thursday, Astoria Police arrested a 16-year-old boy at Astoria High School for delivery of a controlled substance. Police found 15 Oxycodone pills and other over-the-counter and prescription drugs in the boy's possession.

Disorderly conduct

• At 4:33 Feb. 24, Warrenton Police cited Jessie Anastatia Hart, 26, and Tyson James Ybarra, 33, both Warrenton transients, for disorderly conduct at the Warrenton Boat Basin.

Theft

• At 6:18 p.m. Thursday, Warrenton Police cited Kailani Margaret Tice, 41, Seaside, for second-degree theft. Tice was reported-

ly being abusive to staff at Maurices over a sweater she ordered, then she allegedly stole a tank top and blue jeans from the store. Tice then banged on the window at Human Bean coffee asking for a tool to remove the sensors off the clothing, police said. Police found Tice in the women's room at Taco Bell wearing the stolen clothing, valued at \$103.

Criminal mischief

• At 9:15 p.m. Saturday, Warrenton Police cited Jeffery Scott Wells, 46, Warrenton, for second-degree criminal mischief at Kampers West. Wells' vehicle was being repossessed Saturday, and he refused to get out of his vehicle.

DUII

• At 11:55 p.m. Monday, Warrenton Police arrested Jorge Zepeda-Padilla, 33, Hammond, for driving under the influence of intoxicants at the dump station in Fort Stevens State Park. Zepeda-Padilla's blood alcohol content was measured at 0.15, according to police.

Bill to give rural data centers tax break moves to House

By PETER WONG
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Data centers in rural areas would get a tax break, and telecommunications companies would have their property taxes clarified, under a bill that has cleared the Oregon Senate.

The 27-3 vote Monday sent Senate Bill 611 to the Oregon House.

The bill has several aims. It would exempt from central assessment by the state data centers such as those Google opened in The Dalles in 2006, Facebook opened in Prineville in 2011, and Apple has completed in Prineville. Amazon, the electronic retailer, also has data centers near Boardman.

But Apple and Amazon, among others, delayed plans for more data centers because of uncertainty over future tax policy. Lawmakers had passed a temporary fix for data centers in 2012.

"We can't risk losing the investment of companies like



Facebook and Apple," said Sen. Bill Hansell, R-Athena, whose district includes Boardman.

Those communities were seen as desirable because of their available land, drier climate and access to lower-cost power required to operate such centers.

"With SB 611 we have tackled an economic development challenge and agreed on a solution that will create jobs in rural Oregon while bolstering the state's reputation as a technology hub in the U.S.," said Sen. Mark Hass, D-Beaverton, chairman of the Senate Finance and Revenue Committee that originated the bill.

Under central assessment, the worth of a company's brand and other "intangibles" are taken into account in calculating how property taxes are assessed on data centers. The bill, how-



The Google data center in The Dalles.

ever, would not take into account the worldwide value of the data centers.

The bill also would exempt from central assessment Internet service providers with super-

fast computing, and substitute a different formula. It is seen as an incentive for Google Fiber to choose Portland for a high-speed Internet network.

Another part of the bill

would deal with the after-effects of a 2014 ruling by the Oregon Supreme Court, which defined Comcast's cable and Internet services as "data transmission services."

The Oct. 2 ruling subjected Comcast to central assessment, which the Oregon Department of Revenue shifted to in 2009, and led to increasing Comcast's taxable value from \$434 million to \$1.14 billion — and a subsequent increase in its property tax bills.

The court sided with the state agency, based on a 1973 law.

"The evidence in the record about the nature of Comcast's internet and cable transmission services is effectively undisputed and establishes that ... both services are 'data transmission services.'" Justice Virginia Linder wrote for the court.

The bill would cap the taxable values of Comcast and similar companies, based on their historical investment in Oregon.

According to the Legislative Revenue Office, which analyzes tax measures, the bill would cost local governments \$16.2 million in property taxes in the 2016-17 tax year, \$33.5 million in the following two-year cycle, and \$35 million in 2019-21.

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