

SPORTS

CONTACT US

Gary Henley | Sports Reporter
ghenley@dailyastorian.com



FOLLOW US

facebook.com/
DailyAstorianSports

Coast winner qualifies for U.S. Senior Amateur

The Daily Astorian

PORTLAND — Eleven golfers advanced to the 2017 U.S. Senior Women's Amateur Championship — including the recent winner of the Oregon Coast Invitational — after qualifying was held last week at Waverley Country Club in Portland, the site of this year's Championship.

Waverley, located in southeast Portland on the banks of the Willamette River, will host its first U.S. Senior Women's Amateur Championship Sept. 9 to Sept. 14. In total, this year's championship will be the seventh USGA Championship that the country club has hosted.

The list of 11 includes Lara Tennant, who just recently won her 10th Oregon Coast Invitational Women's title.

Marcia Fisher of Molalla earned medalist honors in the Senior Amateur qualifying, firing a 6-over par 78. Her back nine included seven pars and just two bogeys, solidifying her position as the top qualifier by one shot.

In addition to Fisher and Tennant, nine others qualified, including five more OGA members — Anita Wicks (Roseburg), Loree McKay (Portland), Lisa Poritz (Portland) and Debbie Friede (Washougal, Washington). Leilani Norman (Eugene) is first alternate after a playoff for the final qualifying spot.

Wicks, Tennant, and McKay all tied for second place after Fisher, with all three shooting 79 on Monday.

Hole-in-one

Ken Littwin of Astoria scored a hole-in-one Tuesday at the Highlands Golf Club in Gearhart. Littwin aced the 199-yard, par 3 ninth hole using a 5-wood.

Hernandez out 3-4 weeks for playoff hopeful Mariners

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — In the midst of the AL wild card chase, the Seattle Mariners will be without starter Felix Hernandez for three to four weeks because of bursitis in his right shoulder.

General manager Jerry Dipoto gave the update on Hernandez on Tuesday.

Hernandez was scratched from his scheduled start last Saturday in Kansas City and placed on the disabled list due to discomfort in his pitching arm. He returned to Seattle and was examined by team physician Dr. Edward Khalfayan.

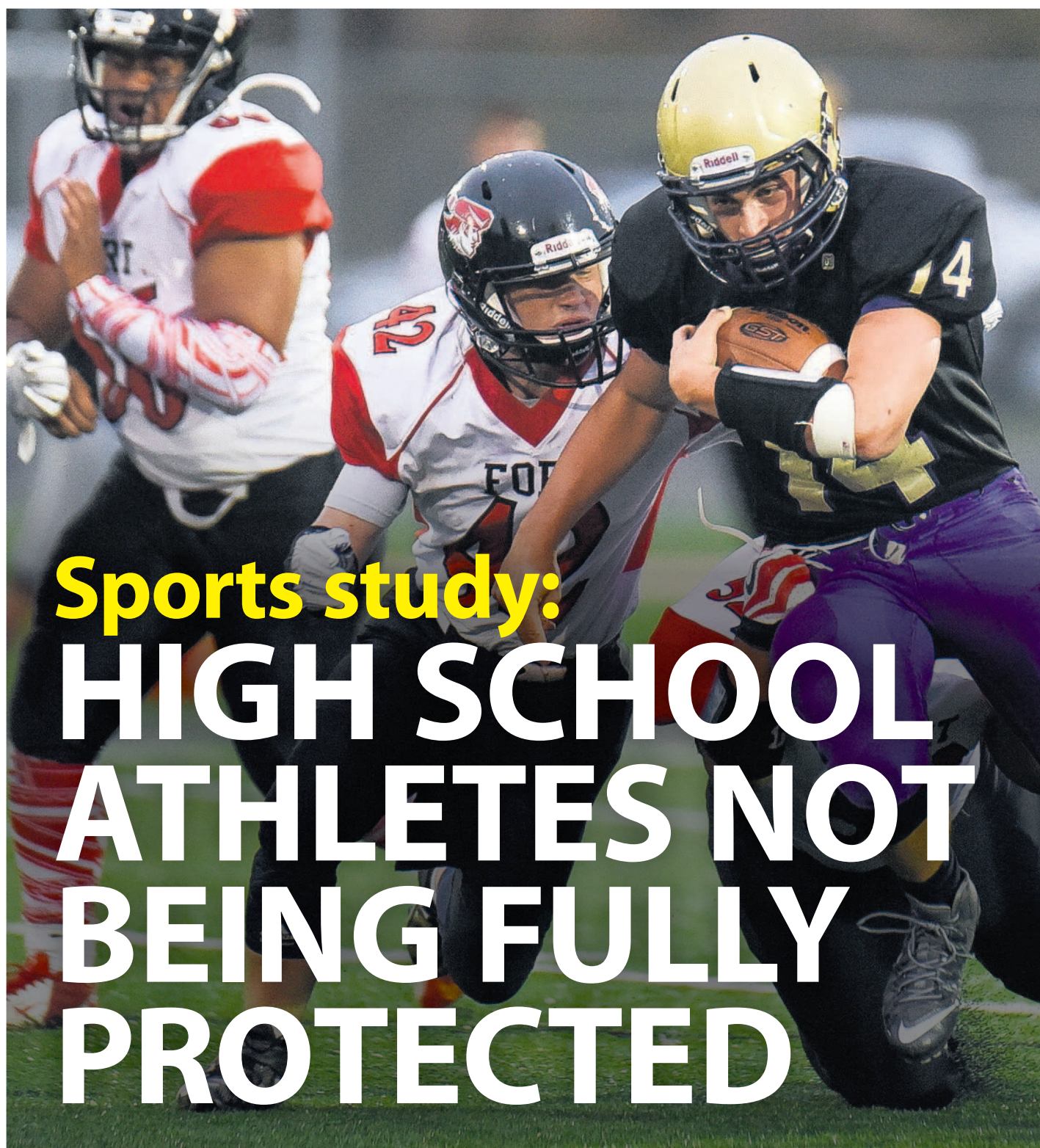
Marco Gonzales, acquired in a trade with St. Louis last month, took Hernandez's spot in the rotation. Hernandez is 5-4 with a 4.28 ERA in 13 starts this season. Hernandez missed nearly two months earlier this season because of shoulder inflammation.

"Obviously disappointed to lose Felix," Mariners manager Scott Servais said. "It's probably three to four weeks, but hopefully we can get that shoulder calmed down.

"We certainly need him in our rotation. We're going to be playing a lot of big ball games here in September and we'd love to get him back at that time, but he's going to have to work his tail off, get the arm strength back. Hopefully it won't be that long, but three to four weeks is a little bit of a blow there."

Seattle also placed right-handed reliever David Phelps on the 10-day disabled list with an impingement in his right elbow. He's expected to miss two to three weeks.

"I think it's positive on David Phelps," Servais said. "We'll get him back relatively soon, 10 days to two weeks. He did the right thing the other day kind of alerting us he didn't feel right so we got him out of the game before something else was worse."



Sports study:

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES NOT BEING FULLY PROTECTED

Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Astoria's Fridtjof Fremstad makes a run while Fort Vancouver's Bobby Shephard prepares to tackle as the Astoria Fishermen faced off against the Fort Vancouver Trappers last September. A new study suggests high school athletes are not being fully protected.

Oregon ranked 15th in the study

By BARRY WILNER
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A high school sports study conducted by the Korey Stringer Institute shows that many individual states are not fully implementing key safety guidelines to protect athletes from potentially life-threatening conditions, including heat stroke.

More than 7.8 million high school students participate in sanctioned sports annually. KSI announced the results Tuesday at a news conference at NFL headquarters. The league partially sponsors the institute.

The state-by-state survey of all sports played in high school showed North Carolina with the most comprehensive health and safety policies at 79 percent, followed by Kentucky at 71 percent. At the bottom were Colorado (23 percent) and California (26 percent). Oregon (53.5 percent) ranked 15th among states. Those scores were based on a state meeting best practice guidelines addressing the four major causes of sudden death for that age group: cardiac arrest, traumatic head injuries, exertional heat stroke and exertional sickling occurring in athletes with sickle cell trait.

"The bottom line is that many simple policy changes can have a massive impact when a life is saved," says Dr. Douglas Casa of KSI. "That is the goal of KSI in releasing these rankings, to prevent needless deaths in high school sports. We have had countless conversations with loved ones who have lost a child/sibling/grandchild/athlete. If these rankings can get more kids home

for dinner instead of to a hospital or morgue, then we have succeeded."

The institute is a sports safety research and advocacy organization located at the University of Connecticut and named after the former Vikings star who died from exertional heat stroke in 2001.

Sudden cardiac arrest is the leading cause of death for the age range.

Casa notes that progress is slow because most states only make a change after a tragedy. But he stresses that the policies KSI promotes are not difficult to adopt.

"At least one state has adopted each individual item, and for many items, more than half of the states have the policy in place," he explains. "So this tells us it is feasible (to maximize protection). Now we need to collectively get states to learn from their colleagues and adapt these (programs) in their own state. Our top state is at about 80 percent, showing that, with effort, these policies can be implemented."

Bob Gfeller lost his son, Matthew, at age 15 in 2008, after a traumatic brain injury while playing in his first high school football game. Gfeller is an executive vice president at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center and the executive director of the Childress Institute for Pediatric Trauma. He found the wide range of results by state "enlightening."

Asked what can be done to get states to adopt more of the guidelines to protect high school athletes, Gfeller says: "Sharing of best practices amongst the state high school professionals. For each state to study where they are gapping and what other states who

are scoring high are doing, so then to be able to determine how to close their gap."

In his field of expertise, exertional heat stroke, Casa notes that states that have adapted significant changes to heat acclimatization policies have not had such a death when the policies have been followed.

"Keep in mind these policies are for the phasing in of initial practices in August," Casa says. "Some of these states have still had exertional heat stroke deaths during summer conditioning in June/July or other times of the year, because they lack policies that govern these other circumstances."

To prevent death from EHS, it comes down to three things:

— Prevention — heat acclimatization, modifying work/rest ratios based on environmental conditions, hydration, body cooling, etc.;

— Recognition — being aware, acting quickly, rectal temperature;

— Treatment — cold water immersion, cool first/transport second.

Casa adds that the monetary cost of reaching the desired preventive measures is not high.

"To be honest, you could get to 90 percent implementation with very little cost and effort," he says. "Spending probably less than \$5,000 per school could get you close to 90 points. You also would probably need a two-day meeting with the key state association officials to refine the details of the changes.

"It is matter of convincing people that these issues are important and that they need attention."

Disney to launch streaming services

Associated Press

NEW YORK — With new streaming services in the works, Disney is trying to set itself up for a future that's largely been framed by Netflix: Providing the stuff you want to watch, when you want to watch it.

The Magic Kingdom is launching its own streaming service for its central Disney and Pixar brands and another for live sports. That would allow it to bypass the cable companies it relies on — and Netflix — to charge consumers directly for access to its popular movies and sporting events.

"They're bringing the future forward. What they talked about were things that looked inevitable, at some point," said Pivotal Research Group analyst Brian Weiser. What's less clear is if Disney will be able to make big bucks from it, he said.

This is important as the decline in cable households and the shift to smaller, cheaper bundles pressures the profitability of Disney's cable networks. Fewer subscribers and fewer viewers mean less money. In the nine months through July 1, cable networks' operating income fell 13 percent from the year before, to \$4.12 billion.

Sports

Disney had already said it would be launching a streaming ESPN service. It's not meant to compete with the company's TV channels.

The sports service is coming in early 2018, a little later than previously announced, and will air baseball, hockey and soccer games, tennis matches and college sports through ESPN's popular mobile app. Notably, ESPN will not be streaming pro football or basketball, at least initially.

Customers will also be able to buy fuller streaming packages from the baseball, hockey and soc-

cer leagues, and watch them on the ESPN app.

"Ultimately, we envision this will become a dynamic sports marketplace that will grow and be increasingly customizable, allowing sports fans to pick and choose content that reflects their personal interests," Iger said on a conference call with analysts.

Disney will have to be careful that it doesn't transfer too much sports programming from its TV channels to the app. Getting the balance wrong could upset cable companies and weigh on the price they pay Disney for ESPN, Weiser said.