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# SPORTS

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## Athletes of the Week



**TYLA LITTLE**  
 Warrenton

The Daily Astorian

In her final game as a Warrior, Little made six 3-pointers and scored a game-high 26 points in Warrenton's loss at Coquille Feb. 23. In the process, she surpassed 1,000 points for her career. Little finished with 1,004, placing her fifth on the school's all-time scoring list, behind Brooklyn Campbell (1,983), DeeDee Arnall, Meredith Claterbos and Staci Hanna. Little is also the career leader in 3-point attempts (615) and second in made 3-pointers (156). She attempted a school record 262 3-pointers this season, making 73, one short of the school record (Claterbos was 74-for-224 in 2002-03).



**ELI TAKALO**  
 Knappa

Krissy Barendse-Goodman/For The Daily Astorian

The sophomore scored 20 points and sparked an early rally for the Loggers in Knappa's 81-35 win Feb. 23 over Reedsport. After falling behind 4-0, Takalo scored on an offensive rebound, made a 3-pointer on the next possession and later scored off a steal in a 12-0 run. Then, in a 19-4 run to start the second half, he made two 3-pointers as Knappa's lead reached 59-28. The week before, Takalo was one of seven players named to the Northwest League's first team all-league squad.

## Tacoma Baptist tops Naselle boys in a thriller

The Daily Astorian

SPOKANE, Wash. — A great start by the Naselle boys basketball team turned into a gut-wrenching finish Wednesday morning for the Comets in a first-round game of the Class 1B boys basketball state tournament.

Tacoma Baptist rallied from an 11-point deficit in the first half, took the lead in the third quarter and held on for a 50-47 win over Naselle.

It was a loser-out game for the Comets, who finished the season 18-7 overall.

Naselle's Kolby Glenn and Antonio Nolan both knocked down 3-pointers in the opening minute for a quick 6-0 lead, then the Comets increased it to 11-2.

After the Crusaders rallied back to within 15-12, Donny Edwards scored back-to-back hoops, and Naselle pushed the lead back to 25-14.

The Crusaders rallied again towards the end of the first half, and opened the third quarter with a 10-3 run that gave Tacoma a 32-30 advantage.

Naselle quickly regained the lead on a Corey Gregory 3-pointer, and missed free throws by the Crusaders kept the Comets in front after three quarters, 36-33.

In the fourth, a three-point play by Tacoma pulled the Crusaders even again at 38-38, and a 3-pointer moments later put Tacoma in front, 41-38.

The Comets staged a brief rally of their own when Cole Dorman scored following a timeout. A basket by Edwards brought the Comets to within 43-42 with 1:35 left, and after a Tacoma turnover, Jacob Eaton made one free throw to tie it at 43-43 with 1:00 remaining.

But the Crusaders answered with a 3-pointer from Bradley Swillie — Tacoma Baptist's eighth-grade phenom — then scored again and converted a three-point play for a 49-43 lead with just 32 seconds left.

Eaton's late basket led Naselle within 49-45, but Tacoma made 1-of-2 free throws to secure the win.

Edwards led the Comets with 13 points, while P.J. Talen scored 24 for Tacoma Baptist, with Swillie adding 15.

The Crusaders (23-5) advance to play No. 1 seed Sunnyside Christian in a Thursday quarterfinal.



AP Photo/Ted S. Warren

Hollywood producer Jerry Bruckheimer, billionaire David Bonderman, and Oak View Group Chief Executive Tim Leiweke, from left, take part in a TV interview Wednesday in Seattle.

## Backers of NHL team in Seattle hope for decision in June

By GENE JOHNSON  
 Associated Press

SEATTLE — Hollywood producer Jerry Bruckheimer has been hosting hockey games for a quarter-century. Now he wants to do it on a much bigger scale.

The filmmaker of "Flashdance," "Beverly Hills Cop" and "Top Gun" fame joined his partners — billionaire David Bonderman and Oak View Group Chief Executive Tim Leiweke — on Wednesday in discussing for the first time publicly why they're trying to bring a professional hockey

team to Seattle.

One answer, they said, is that the city deserves one: It's been more than a century since the old Seattle Metropolitan won the Stanley Cup, and a decade since Seattle's last major men's professional winter sports franchise, basketball's SuperSonics, bolted for Oklahoma City. Seattle is the biggest market in the nation without a major winter sports team.

But Bruckheimer has also been a big hockey fan since The Great One — Wayne Gretzky — moved from the Edmonton Oilers to the Los Angeles Kings in the early 1990s. Bruck-

heimer met Gretzky at a party, and Gretzky arranged for him to get season tickets. Having season tickets, Bruckheimer decided to take skating lessons. And having taken skating lessons, he decided to get some friends together to play hockey on Sunday nights. They've been playing ever since.

"It's something I get so much joy out of watching and doing," he said. "I'm still playing the sport — poorly — but I get out there with a bunch of the guys and do it every week. That's really nice, to carry something that long in your life."

## Blackmun resigns as CEO as USOC addresses wide sexual-abuse scandal

By EDDIE PELLIS  
 Associated Press

Scott Blackmun resigned as chief executive of the U.S. Olympic Committee on Wednesday, stepping aside so he can tackle his worsening bout with prostate cancer and to allow the federation to move forward under new leadership to address the sex-abuse scandal that has rocked gymnastics and other sports.

The 60-year-old CEO was diagnosed with prostate cancer in January and did not attend the Pyeongchang Games.

Blackmun leaves as calls for his ouster were growing louder — from two U.S. senators and, more notably, from a number of gymnasts and other athletes who said neither he nor the USOC at large reacted properly to cases including those involving

Larry Nassar, the doctor who sexually abused members of the U.S. gymnastics team.

The USOC is conducting an independent review of when Blackmun and others learned the details about abuse cases at USA Gymnastics and whether they responded appropriately.

Susanne Lyons, a member of the board, will step down from that position and serve as acting CEO while the search for Blackmun's replacement begins.

At a news conference to kick off the Olympics, chairman Larry Probst said Blackmun had served the USOC with distinction and the board found no reason to relieve him. In an interview with The Associated Press on Wednesday, Probst said Blackmun has since received more information about the treatment he'll need.

"We need a CEO in place who



AP Photo/Lee Jin-man

**Scott Blackmun, CEO of the U.S. Olympic Committee, speaks at Yongsan Garrison, a U.S. military base in Seoul, South Korea in August 2017.**

can (tend) to this current situation and work hard to get things back on a positive track," Probst said.

The USOC said it was starting several initiatives, including providing new funding and resources for Nassar victims and others in Olympic sports who have been subject to abuse; sex-abuse cases in swimming, taekwondo and speedskating have also occurred during Blackmun's tenure.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Mountain West in discussions with Gonzaga to join league

The Mountain West Conference could get a big addition, possibly next season.

Mountain West Commissioner Craig Thompson said he has spoken with six university presidents or athletic directors since August about joining the conference.

The only school Thompson identified was Gonzaga, one of the nation's top mid-major programs. Thompson said Gonzaga athletic director Mike Roth reached out to him last fall and that he's spoken with coach Mark Few about the possibility of the Zags leaving the West Coast Conference for the MWC.

The talks were first reported by the San Diego Union-Tribune.

### Washington says no knowledge of claims by Robinson

SEATTLE — Washington says it has no knowledge of claims made by former football and basketball player Nate Robinson of being offered money by a booster to return to playing football.

The school issued a statement on Wednesday in response to Robinson's claim he was offered \$100,000 by an unnamed booster to return to playing football at the school after he quit the sport to focus on basketball.

— Associated Press

## SCOREBOARD

### PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

#### TODAY

**Girls basketball** — Hardwood Classic (Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena), Saint George's vs. Ilwaco, 10:30 a.m.

**Boys basketball** — OSAA 2A State Tournament (Pendleton Convention Center), Vernonia vs. Knappa, 6:30 p.m.

#### BOYS BASKETBALL

**Tacoma Baptist 50, Naselle 47**  
 Naselle 15 12 9 11—47  
 Tacoma B. 12 10 11 17—50

**Naselle (47):** Donny Edwards 13, Corey Gregory 9, Antonio Nolan 8, Jacob Eaton 7, Cole Dorman 4, Ethan Lindstrom 3, Kolby Glenn 3, Ian Fontanilla, Chase Haataia, Jimmy Strange, Vince Fauver.

**Tacoma Baptist (50):** P.J. Talen 24, Bradley Swillie 15, Joey Pasqua 6, T. Nanbarnausythoff 5, Luke Wing, Logan Kitselman, Jeremiah Lynn.

**Field goals:** Naselle 20-44; Tacoma 19-42. **3-point FG:** Naselle 4-15 (Nolan 2, Glenn, Gregory); Tacoma 5-19 (Swillie 3, Talen 2). **Free throws:** Naselle 3-8; Tacoma 7-10. **Fouls:** Naselle 9, Tacoma 11. **Rebounds:** Naselle 25 (Eaton 7); Tacoma 31 (Talen 11). **Turnovers:** Naselle 10, Tacoma 4.