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SPORTS

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Athletes of the Week



SOPHIE LONG
 Astoria

The Lady Fishermen won another league title May 12, picking up big points from a freshman runner. Sophie Long won the 800 meters in a personal best time 2:21.68, and also ran a leg on the winning 400-meter relay squad. Long is ranked third in the state in the 800, and could play a big role in helping Astoria in its quest for a state title this weekend. Runners from Astoria have now won three of the last four Cowapa League 800-meter titles (Kaylee Mitchell won in 2015 and '16).



RAFI SIBONY
 Seaside

The Seaside boys own the 800 meters at the state level. Brett Willyard won the event in 2013, and Jackson Januik was the champion from 2015-17. This year's hope is Rafi Sibony. The senior won the 800 league title May 12, and is ranked sixth in the state. His 2:00.05 ranks him seventh in Seaside history. He is also in the final season of his final sport. Sibony is said to be the only athlete in the history of the school to letter in four sports (cross country, soccer, basketball, track) all four years.

Photos by Gary Henley/The Daily Astorian

Fallout underway in Nassar scandal

Associated Press

DETROIT — Michigan State University's announcement Wednesday that it agreed to pay \$500 million to settle claims from more than 300 women and girls who said they were assaulted by former sports doctor Larry Nassar is seen as a step toward providing closure for those victims.

But it hardly ends the fallout and investigations into the worst sex-abuse case in sports history. Here's where things stand:

WHERE'S LARRY?

The central figure, Nassar, 54, pleaded guilty to molesting women and girls under the guise of treatment and was caught with child pornography. He is serving three prison sentences that will likely keep him locked up for life.

Federal Bureau of Prison records say he is at a prison in Tucson, Arizona.

INVESTIGATE, INVESTIGATE

Among the investigations that have been launched are ones by the U.S. Education Department and Michigan Attorney General's office, which are looking into how Michigan State University handled allegations of sexual assault against Nassar.

CONGRESS

Congress, which has ultimate oversight of the U.S. Olympic team via the Ted Stevens Amateur Sports Act, is getting more involved.

In January, it passed a bill that makes members of amateur sports organizations, including those that run Olympic sports, mandatory reporters of sexual abuse, and requires the organizations to implement standard protections for athletes.



AP Photo/Ted S. Warren

Texas Rangers pitcher Bartolo Colon throws against the Seattle Mariners during the first inning in Seattle.

44-year-old Colon dominant as Rangers handle Mariners

By TIM BOOTH
 Associated Press

SEATTLE — The line drive off the bat of Seattle's Jean Segura was estimated at 101 mph. As much as Texas starter Bartolo Colon tried to get his glove up and shift his body, there was no way he could avoid being struck.

After Colon picked up the loose ball and threw Segura out at first base, he laughed as the Rangers staff rushed to check on him.

"The important thing is we won the game and I was able to get the out," Colon said through an interpreter. "He got me on the side. It was not in the middle. And I have a big belly so I can (handle) it."

All kidding aside, Colon put together arguably his best performance of the season on Wednesday, allowing four hits in 7 2/3 shut-out innings and giving the Rangers a 5-1 win over the Mariners. On the cusp of his 45th birthday, Colon (2-1) was excellent spotting his fastball and using his breaking pitches to keep Seattle off balance, a night after the Mariners scored nine runs.

"Everything was working. My curve, my fastball, my slider — everything was working," Colon said.

It was the second time this season he pitched into the eighth, the previous against Houston when he was perfect through seven innings. Colon struck out two and threw 71 of 96 pitches for strikes.

"It's unbelievable. He's not tricking you. He just executes and gets the job done," Seattle's Kyle Seager said.

UP NEXT: MARINERS

Today, 7:10 p.m. in Seattle
 TV: RTNW RADIO: 1490 AM

LHP Marco Gonzales (3-3) makes his ninth start of the season as the Mariners open a series against Detroit. Gonzales has thrown six innings in each of his last four starts, but took the loss in his last outing also against the Tigers.

Offense was scarce for both teams. The Rangers took advantage of two key mistakes by Seattle in the ninth inning to earn a split of the brief series.

Delino DeShields gave Texas the lead with a two-out RBI double in the eighth inning that scored Isiah Kiner-Falefa. The Rangers added four more in the ninth, all after Ryon Healy's two-out error and two runs scoring on a wacky strikeout.

Ronald Guzman struck out swinging with the bases loaded and two outs, but catcher David Freitas couldn't handle the pitch from Marc Rzepczynski. Jurickson Profar scored from third on the passed ball and Kiner-Falefa from second after Freitas made an unnecessary throw trying to get Guzman at first base.

The Rangers added two more runs — one due to the hustle of Shin-Soo Choo reaching on an infield hit — to cap the sloppy inning by Seattle.

"I threw a slider and (Freitas) was thinking fastball. I'll just say that. We got crossed up and it ended up getting by him and cost us two runs," Rzepczynski said.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Rockets rout Warriors, 127-105

HOUSTON — James Harden and Eric Gordon each scored 27 points to lead a balanced attack and the Houston Rockets routed the Golden State Warriors 127-105 to even the Western Conference finals at one game apiece.

The Rockets didn't trail after the first quarter and led by double digits for most of the night. They head to Oakland, California for Game 3 on Sunday night feeling much better after rebounding from a deflating 119-106 loss in the series opener.

Bucks agree to hire Budenholzer as coach

MILWAUKEE — A person familiar with the search tells The Associated Press that the Milwaukee Bucks have reached an agreement with Mike Budenholzer to become the team's next coach.

The 2015 NBA Coach of the Year will replace Joe Prunty, the former assistant who went 21-16 in the regular season after replacing the fired Jason Kidd in late January.

Harden, James, Davis finalists for NBA MVP award

NEW YORK — Houston's James Harden, Cleveland's LeBron James and Anthony Davis of New Orleans are the finalists for the NBA's MVP award.

Harden, who led the league in scoring, has twice been a runner-up for the award, including last year when Russell Westbrook won. James has won the MVP award four times.

The winners will be announced on June 25 in Santa Monica, California during the NBA Awards show.

Misfits no more, Knights 2 wins from Cup final

LAS VEGAS — Jonathan Marchessault scored two goals — including an empty-netter in the closing seconds — to lead the Vegas Golden Knights to a 4-2 victory over the Winnipeg Jets in Game 3 of the Western Conference final.

Vegas took a 2-1 series lead and is now two wins from advancing to the Stanley Cup final. The Golden Knights improved to 5-1 at home in the playoffs, and host Game 4 on Friday night.

James Neal and Alex Tuch also scored for Vegas, while Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 33 shots.

— Associated Press

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

TODAY

Baseball — Lewis & Clark League playoff: Clatskanie at Warrenton, 5 p.m.

Softball — Lewis & Clark League playoff: Warrenton at Clatskanie, 5 p.m.

Track — OSAA State meet, 3A/2A/1A, Hayward Field, Eugene

FRIDAY

Baseball — Astoria at Rainier, 4:30 p.m.; Kennedy at Knappa, 4:30 p.m.

Softball — 4A regional play-in: Astoria at Elmira, 4 p.m.

Track — OSAA State meet (all classes), Hayward Field, Eugene

SATURDAY

Track — OSAA State meet, 6A/5A/4A, Hayward Field, Eugene