

# SPORTS

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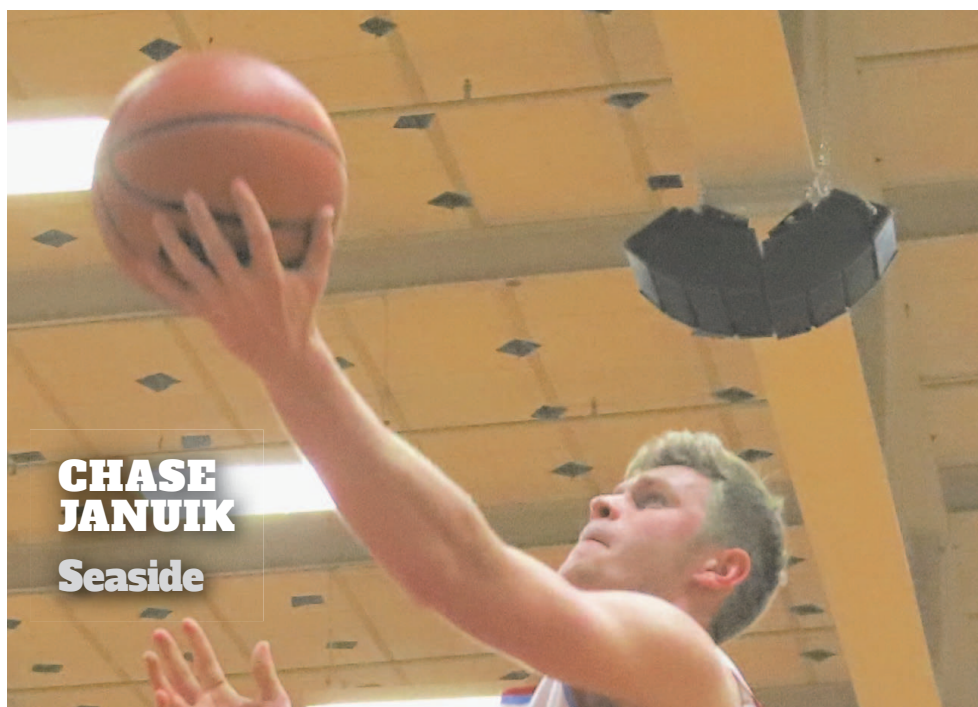
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## Athletes of the Week



**EBBY  
 MCMULLEN**  
 Ilwaco

The Lady Fishermen had already clinched their fifth-straight Pacific League title, but it took an overtime win over Ocosta Jan. 30 to keep their league win streak alive, now at 37 straight. McMullen banked in a shot from 10 feet behind the half-court line to end regulation, sending the game to overtime. Ilwaco eventually won it, 56-53. McMullen, a senior point guard, finished with 18 points. Two days before, she scored 17 (11 in the first quarter) in a 60-52 win over Willapa Valley to clinch the league title.



**CHASE  
 JANUIK**  
 Seaside

In addition to his long-distance buzzer beaters, Seaside's senior is also scoring lots of points. Januik erupted for 33 in a 70-43 win at Astoria, which included a 12-0 run by him in the first quarter. Three days earlier, he and the No. 1-ranked Gulls posted their biggest win, 60-51 over previous No. 1 Banks. Januik scored 16, and had the shot of the night with a 3-pointer just beyond the midcourt line to end the first half. He made the ESPN top 10 with his 80-foot shot in Tuesday's win over Valley Catholic.

## Rebuilding Cavaliers trade Hood to Trail Blazers

By TOM WITHERS  
 Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Rodney Hood made minimal impact on the Cavaliers' postseason run last season. He'll get a chance to do more with Portland.

Hood was traded Monday by the Cavaliers, who acquired guards Nik Stauskas and Wade Baldwin — and their expiring contracts — along with second-round picks in 2021 and 2023 from the Trail Blazers.

Before the trade could be completed, the Cavaliers needed Hood to agree to the deal because he signed a one-year \$3.4 million qualifying offer this summer. The 26-year-old waived his no-trade clause to join the Blazers, who are 32-20 and have the fourth best record in the Western Conference.

Hood will give Portland some more scoring punch and can take some pressure off guards Damian Lillard and CJ McCollum. He is averaging 12.2 points and 2.5 rebounds this season.

The Cavaliers acquired Hood at the trade deadline from Utah last season, and they envisioned him being another scoring option to complement LeBron James and Kevin Love. However, the 6-foot-8 forward never fully fit in with the Cavs, and after starting Cleveland's first playoff game, he was pulled from the rotation by then-coach Tyronn Lue.

The rebuilding Cavaliers are collecting draft assets following a four-year run to the Finals. It is possible they will deal Alec Burks or J.R. Smith before Thursday's trade deadline. Stauskas and Baldwin have expiring contracts, which will allow the Cavaliers to clear more salary-cap space to pursue free agents.

## SCOREBOARD

### PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE TODAY

**Girls basketball** — Astoria at Tillamook, 6 p.m.; Livingstone Adventist at Jewell, 5:30 p.m.  
**Boys basketball** — Astoria at Tillamook, 7:30 p.m.; Livingstone Adventist at Jewell, 7 p.m.

### FRIDAY

**Girls basketball** — Knappa at Seaside, 6 p.m.; Rainier at Warrenton, 7:30 p.m.; Jewell at C.S. Lewis, 5:30 p.m.  
**Boys basketball** — Knappa at Seaside, 7:30 p.m.; Rainier at Warrenton, 6 p.m.; Jewell at C.S. Lewis, 7 p.m.  
**Wrestling** — District 1/4A, at Newport, TBA  
**Wrestling** — District 1/4A Regionals, at Tillamook, TBA

### SATURDAY

**Swimming** — District 1/4A, at Newport, TBA  
**Wrestling** — District 1/4A Regionals, at Tillamook, TBA

## Mariners begin spring with overhauled roster

By TIM BOOTH  
 Associated Press

SEATTLE — The running joke is that when the Seattle Mariners arrive for the first day of spring training everyone will need to wear “Hi, my name is” nametags.

It might not be a bad idea for manager Scott Servais to consider.

“I'm very excited to go to spring training, to get with this group, and hit the reset button a little bit on our clubhouse and what we've got going,” Servais said.

Seattle begins spring training in a full rebuild mode — although “step-back” or “reset” have been the favored terms inside the front office. Instead of being a club contending for a wild-card berth and likely hovering in the 85- to 90-win range, the Mariners embraced the need to get younger, to relieve themselves of some hefty contracts, and to provide financial flexibility for the time when their crop of prospects are regular contributors.

Seattle should not be a terrible team. They aren't tanking. But they begin spring with a roster they hope won't be the same by midseason. In Seattle's perfect scenario, the handful of established veterans in the lineup will play well enough early in the season that they can be moved for more prospects.

The hope remains that the prospects they've acquired will be ready to contribute by the second half of the 2020 season, with some likely making their debuts this year. Much of spring training will involve seeing how a handful of them stack up already.

“We have a chance to grow into something special and we're gonna watch that happen. While we couldn't tell you definitively we're gonna win 100 games, I can tell you we're gonna try to win every single one that we play,” general manager Jerry Dipoto said. “We're not going out there with the intention to lose. I think that was one of the things that got lost in the weeds. So far back as two years ago when people started talking about rebuilding and restructuring and ripping it down. You don't have to rip it down to put yourself in a better position.”

Other things to watch as the Mariners start



New Mariners pitcher Yusei Kikuchi.

AP Photo/Elaine Thompson

reporting next Monday, ahead of the early season opener in Japan on March 20 against Oakland:

**NEW LOOK:** Gone are Robinson Cano, Nelson Cruz, Jean Segura, Mike Zunino, Ben Gamel, Guillermo Heredia, and with them a lot of the offensive production from recent seasons. The Mariners' offseason trades and roster decisions saw them bid farewell to the heart of their batting order in Segura, Cano and Cruz. Yet the drop-off shouldn't be significant at the plate. Seattle added speed in outfielder Mallex Smith and shortstop J.P. Crawford. They got a potential big bat in outfielder Domingo Santana and likely improved offensively behind the plate with Omar Narvaez.

One to watch in spring will be third baseman Kyle Seager. If he can rebound from a terrible 2018, Seattle will be similar offensively to what it was a year ago.

**THEY'RE SET:** The rotation could be good enough to keep the Mariners competitive. Marco Gonzales, Mike Leake and newcomer Yusei Kikuchi will be the headliners, although Seat-

tle will limit Kikuchi's innings during spring and through the regular season. Wade LeBlanc will have a spot after a solid 2018, which begs a question about Felix Hernandez. The former All-Star had the worst season of his career in 2018 with a 5.55 ERA and 27 home runs allowed, but Seattle insists he'll be in the rotation entering the final season of his current contract.

**THEY'RE NOT:** The bullpen is the biggest question mark. There are no jobs predetermined outside of perhaps Hunter Strickland having the inside track on the closer spot. Seattle is likely to have a fairly regular shuffle between Triple-A and the majors this season to help keep arms in the bullpen, especially on days where Kikuchi makes his short starts and it essentially turns into a bullpen day.

**ROOKIES TO WATCH:** Pitcher Justus Sheffield and Justin Dunn, infielders Shed Long and Evan White, and 18-year-old top prospect Julio Rodriguez all will get long looks during the spring. They will be key to Seattle's hopes of remaining competitive over the next few years.

## Oregon's recruiting class ranks atop the Pac-12

By ANNE M. PETERSON  
 Associated Press

The traditional signing day Wednesday merely padded Oregon's already stellar recruiting class, the best in school history.

The major ranking services all had Oregon's class in the top 10 nationally, which also put the Ducks atop the Pac-12 Conference.

Oregon got commitments from 21 prospects when the early signing period opened in December. Among them was five-star defensive end Kayvon Thibodeaux, who was ESPN's top overall prospect and the highest-ranked draftee ever for the school. The Ducks added three more recruits Wednesday, including defensive tackle Kristian Williams, a four-star prospect out of Memphis, Tennessee, who announced on Twitter last weekend that he had decommitted from Minnesota.

Oregon also added Jamal Hill, a



Oregon head football coach Mario Cristobal talks to the media on signing day Wednesday.

Chris Pietsch/The Register-Guard

safety from Morrow High School in Georgia, and cornerback DJ James from Spanish Fort High School in Mobile, Alabama.

“You think that a second signing day is a little anticlimactic, but it's not. It ended up being a really good start to the day. We were able to land

the exact prospect we wanted at the exact position that we needed. So for us it's been an extremely exciting and satisfying morning with the addition of Jamal Hill, DJ James and Kristian Williams,” coach Mario Cristobal said.

The Ducks went 9-4 last season

in Cristobal's first year. The team got a boost heading into the upcoming season when quarterback Justin Herbert decided to stay in Eugene for his senior year. One of the prospects that Oregon signed in December was Herbert's little brother, tight end Patrick Herbert.

### Washington gets defensive

Washington capped its recruiting class by landing two of the top defensive players on the West Coast. The Huskies signed safety Asa Turner out of Carlsbad, California, and linebacker Daniel Heimuli from East Palo Alto, California.

Landing Turner capped a lengthy recruiting battle. Turner was expected to commit in December, but decided not to sign then as he considered an offer to play linebacker for Notre Dame. Washington viewed Turner as a defensive back and that ultimately was a deciding factor.