

Sports shorts

No. 1 Kentucky unanimous for third straight week

Kentucky won its two games last week to push its record to 25-0, matching the best start in school history.

The Wildcats' run has sparked debate about whether they can become Division I's first undefeated team since Indiana in 1976.

But before Kentucky closes in on that piece of history, another rare achievement is within sight: Wire-to-wire No. 1 in The Associated Press' Top 25.



The Wildcats were the preseason No. 1 ahead of the 2014-15 season and were still there on Monday, when they were the unanimous pick for the third straight week, receiving all 65 votes from a media panel.

Should Kentucky remain at the top over the next five polls, it will become the eighth team to stay at No. 1 all season and first since UNLV in 1991.

It doesn't figure to be easy. The Wildcats already have had some close calls, including one last week, and still have six regular-season games and the SEC tournament to get through before the final AP poll on March 16. — Associated Press

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Stoudemire goes to Mavericks after leaving Knicks

DALLAS (AP) — A person with direct knowledge of the talks says Amare Stoudemire has agreed to sign with the Dallas Mavericks



after taking a buyout from the Knicks.

The veteran forward can't make his verbal commitment official until he clears waivers on Wednesday.

The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal wasn't official, told The Associated Press on Monday night that Stoudemire could be available when Dallas returns from the All-Star break Thursday at Oklahoma City.

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"To the game of baseball: I started playing you when I was a kid and I'm leaving you a man. Thank you."

— Jason Giambi
Former MLB all-star on his retirement after 20 years in the game

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1967 — Philadelphia's Wilt Chamberlain hits the first of what would become an NBA record 35 consecutive field goals without a miss.

1994 — San Antonio's David Robinson records the fourth quadruple-double in NBA history with 34 points, 10 rebounds, 10 assists and 10 blocks in the Spurs' 115-96 win over Detroit.

2013 — Danica Patrick wins the Daytona 500 pole, becoming the first woman to secure the top spot for any Sprint Cup race.

Prep Wrestling

Dawgs win district title

By MIKE WEBER
For the East Oregonian

HOOD RIVER — The Hermiston Bulldogs won the day Saturday, taking both the Columbia River and Intermountain conferences to the mat for a District 4 championship at Hood River Valley High School.

Hermiston, guided by third-year head coach Shaun Williams, had 15 wrestlers qualify for the state tourney Feb. 26-28 at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland. The defending



More inside:
• Mac-Hi qualifies 14 for state. 2B

Hermiston notched a total of 347.5 points, ahead of runner-up Redmond at 299.

district and state champion Bulldogs won the 2015 District title at the conclusion of the nine-team, two-day event among the Columbia River Conference and Intermountain Conference schools.

"The kids all did a good job and everybody competed hard just like we expected them to do," said Williams. "I have to give a lot of credit to my assistant coaches (Kyle Larson, Jace Huston, Doug Tovey), who all did a good job working with the kids. We had our ups and downs, but we have a good wrestling program at Hermiston High School. I'm just helping us try to continue enjoying our success."

Williams said No. 1-ranked Sam

See WRESTLING/2B

District champs

Hermiston qualified 15 wrestlers for the state tournament. Below are the seven who won their weight divisions: John-Henry Line (182) Liam Tarvin (113) Andy Wagner (120) Bob Coleman (170) Brock McDonough (160) Sam Colbray (195) Jesse Rodelo (220)

ATHENA

Rockets lift off in second half

Pilot Rock beats WMHS to take district's top-seed

By ERIK SKOPIL
East Oregonian

ATHENA — Pilot Rock worked its way to the series sweep of Weston-McEwen Saturday.

The 61-49 victory on the TigerScots home court earned the Rockets the top-seed in the Columbia Basin Conference district tournament. The rest is still yet to be earned.

"We're not protected. We have to win Friday night to go to state," PRHS coach Butch Wilson said. "I just told them right now, enjoy this feeling, but we haven't accomplished our goal yet. Friday is huge."

If nothing else the triumph provided retribution from last season's game at WMHS. In what would prove the only Rocket league loss a season ago, the TigerScots Kegan Shepard went the length of the court to drill a buzzer beater.

But when the clock rolled down Saturday, the TigerScots (15-7, 8-2 CBC) weren't close enough to steal another.

"We played really well," said Pilot Rock center Madison Dave, who led the way with 18 points and 10 rebounds. "It's rare that we come out play like this. It was

real fun."

After a slow start, Pilot Rock (13-6, 9-1 CBC) shot the lights out. They finished 22 of 43 from the field — the second best shooting night of their season.

Never were the Rockets more in sync than to start the second half. Leading by one at the break, PRHS made its first five shots of the second half to take a 36-28 lead. The Rockets hardly missed in the crucial third. They made 7 of 9 tries from the field and were a perfect 5-or-5 from the free throw line on their way to a 20-point period.

"We shot a high percentage. I mean 58-percent, we don't shoot that high. We shoot in the high 30's," said Wilson.

"It seemed like they weren't missing much," said Weston-McEwen coach Amber Doremus.

In the first quarter that was Doremus' TigerScots. Weston-McEwen opened the game with 6 of 8 shooting to take a 15-10 first period lead. A Matison Aby top of the key triple made the advantage eight points early in the second. That was as large a lead the Tiger-

Girls Hoops



Pilot Rock 61



Weston 49

More inside:
• Girls basketball scores. 2B



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Bailey Weinke (21), of Pilot Rock, dribbles down the court during Saturday's game in Athena.

Boys prep basketball

TigerScots pull away from Rockets



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Rockets and TigerScots jockey for position under the basket as they reach for a rebound during Saturday's game in Athena.

Linton McAllister led Weston-McEwen with 13 points, 14 rebounds

East Oregonian

ATHENA — The Weston-McEwen TigerScots pulled away from the Pilot Rock Rockets for a 49-29 win on Saturday, but the Rockets won't have to wait long for their shot at redemption.

The two teams meet again in Hermiston on Wednesday in the play-in round of the Columbia Basin Conference district tournament.

The winner will face No. 1 Irrigon at Pendleton Convention Center on Friday night.

The Rockets (6-13, 2-8 CBC) will certainly want to find a way to limit Linton McAllister the next time around. He led Weston-McEwen (10-13, 4-6) with 13 points, 14 rebounds and five steals on Saturday.

Jarett Bousquet added another 13 points and 10 rebounds, though, and Alex Finifrock provided a big boost in the second half scoring all seven of his points and grabbing four rebounds in the third quarter.

The TigerScots extended their lead

Boys Hoops



Weston 49



Pilot Rock 29

from eight point at halftime to 13 headed into the final quarter.

No Rocket reached double digits in scoring.

WESTON-MCEWEN 49, PILOT ROCK 29
PRHS (6-13) 12 9 5 3 — 29
WMHS (10-13) 13 16 10 10 — 49
PILOT ROCK — B. Pierce 9, D. Hasher 8, J. Willingham 5, L. Thieme 3, D. Fritz 2, A. Weinke 1, Postma 1, J. Pierce, Warner, Roe, 9-52 FG
WESTON-MCEWEN — Linton McAllister 13, Jarett Bousquet 13, A. Finifrock 7, G. Zerba 6, Shylar 4, E. Reger 3, B. Dearing 2, B. Speed 1, S. Broncheau, J. Cogswell, G. Monroe, C. Hall, 17-45 FG
3-point field goals — PRHS 0-6, WMHS 1-7 **Free throws** — PRHS 11-24, WMHS 14-30 **Fouls** — PRHS 24, WMHS 18. **Fouled out** — Fritz, J. Pierce (PRHS)

HEPPNER 76, CULVER 21 — Eleven Mustangs spent at least 10 minutes on the court for a big team win on Saturday in Columbia Basin Conference play.

Heppner ended the regular season with a 76-21 rout of Culver and will enter next weekend's district tournament having won six of their last seven.

Kevin Murray led Heppner (16-4, 7-3 CBC) with 18 points and Ross Cutsforth added 15.

No player scored more than six points for Culver (2-12, 0-10).

HEPPNER 76, CULVER 21
CHS (2-21) 8 6 2 5 — 21
HHS (16-4) 13 22 18 23 — 76
CULVER — Bogart 6, Basl 5, Rumsberger 3, Beeler 3, Reyes 2, Knepp 2, Sledge, Olivares, Mendoza, Mueller, Jiminez, 8-33 FG
HEPPNER — Kevin Murray 18, R. Cutsforth 15, P. Collins 12, W. Putman 7, J. Corbin 7, K. Currin 6, J. Petzoldt 4, L. Grieb 4, C. Hedman 2, C. Kindie 1, J. Lindsay, 28-51 FG
3-point field goals — CHS 4-12, HHS 2-10 **Free throws** — CHS 1-1, HHS 18-23 **Fouls** — CHS 19, HHS 9 **Fouled out** — none.

See BOYS/2B