

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2015

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Sports shorts

Daytona offers flag exchange program

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Daytona International Speedway will not ban the Confederate flag from track property this weekend, but will offer the American flag to those who wish to fly it on property.

Daytona President Joie Chitwood said Tuesday the speedway will offer an exchange program in which fans can trade a flag for the American flag. Daytona hosts NASCAR races on Saturday and Sunday nights this weekend.

"We are celebrating the American flag this weekend, it is our nation's birthday," Chitwood said. "Going forward, we're really going to have to take a look at where that other (Confederate) flag goes because it doesn't have a place in our sport."

Blazers strike as free agency opens

PORTLAND (AP) — The Portland Trail Blazers appear to be entering a period of change, so one of general manager Neil Olshey's first calls during free agency went to a familiar face.

The Blazers quickly agreed with veteran Al-Farouq Aminu, reuniting the defensive-minded forward

with the man who drafted him with the Los Angeles Clippers in 2011.

"Headed to Portland with my guy Neil Olshey, who believed in me since day one," Aminu tweeted. "Much love Rip city here I come."

The four-year deal is worth \$30 million, a person with knowledge of the agreement told The Associated Press on Tuesday night. The person requested anonymity because the deal has not been announced.

"It's 9:01pm PT and Mitch Kupchak is walking in to meet with @aldridge_12 #LAtOLA."

— Los Angeles Lakers
Announcing on Twitter that Trail Blazers free agent Lamaricus Aldridge was taking his first visit of free agency in Los Angeles. The Trail Blazers are not expected to be able to retain the services of Aldridge, who is regarded as one of this season's top available free agents.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1859 — Amherst defeats Williams 73-32 in the first intercollegiate baseball game. The game is played by Massachusetts Rules, a wide-open form of the sport commonly known as round-ball and Amherst wins by reaching the pre-established score of 65 runs. Amherst exceeds 65-run limit during a 10-run 26th inning.

1920 — Suzanne Lenglen of France becomes the first player to win three Wimbledon titles in one year, taking the singles, doubles and mixed doubles.

1995 — The NBA locks out its players, the first work stoppage in league history.

Contact us at 541-966-0838 or sports@eastoregonian.com

IRRIGON

Titles won in runaway fashion

Pendleton, Grant County softball all-stars earn state berths

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

IRRIGON — The Pendleton and Grant County Little League softball all-stars will carry plenty of momentum into their state tournaments after runaway district championships on Tuesday.

Pendleton defeated Milton-Freewater 22-0 to win the 9/10-year-old District 3 championship in the day's first game at Bill Cooley's Memorial Field, then Grant County beat Hermiston 15-5 for the Juniors title in the evening capper.

It will be the first time either group of girls has played at the state level, but both look to make some noise after impressive district

See TITLES/2B



Hermiston's Alex Pollock misses the tag on Grant County's Madi Madden at home plate on Tuesday in Irrigon. Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Women's World Cup

Lloyd shuts out noise, lifts US to finals



United States' Carli Lloyd (10) scores on a penalty kick against Germany during the second half of a semifinal in the Women's World Cup soccer tournament, Tuesday, June 30, 2015, in Montreal, Canada. The United States won 2-0.

Penalty kick gets Americans on board in win over Germany

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

MONTREAL — Carli Lloyd remembers putting the ball on its spot and shutting out the noise of more than 51,000 anxious fans.

Then she blasted that ball into the back of the net.

Lloyd's penalty kick got the United States on the board, and the Americans went on to a 2-0 victory over top-ranked Germany in the semifinals of the Women's World Cup on Tuesday night.

"That's exactly what I did, shut out everything around me and focused on what I needed to do," she said.

Lloyd's penalty kick in the 69th

minute went into the right side of the goal less than 10 minutes after Celia Sasic shot wide on a penalty kick for Germany. Kelley O'Hara came in off the bench and scored in the 85th minute, delighting the pro-American crowd.

Hope Solo posted her fifth straight shutout, continuing a dominant run for the American defense. The second-ranked United States has gone 513 minutes without conceding a goal.

The victory captured the attention of President Barack Obama, who posted his congratulations on his Twitter account. Actor and musician Justin Timberlake also cheered on the U.S., tweeting "USA! USA! USA!!!!!"

Next up for the U.S. is the winner of Wednesday night's match in Edmonton between defending champion Japan, ranked No. 4, and sixth-ranked England. Germany

See WORLD CUP/2B

Nike co-founder Knight will step down as chairman

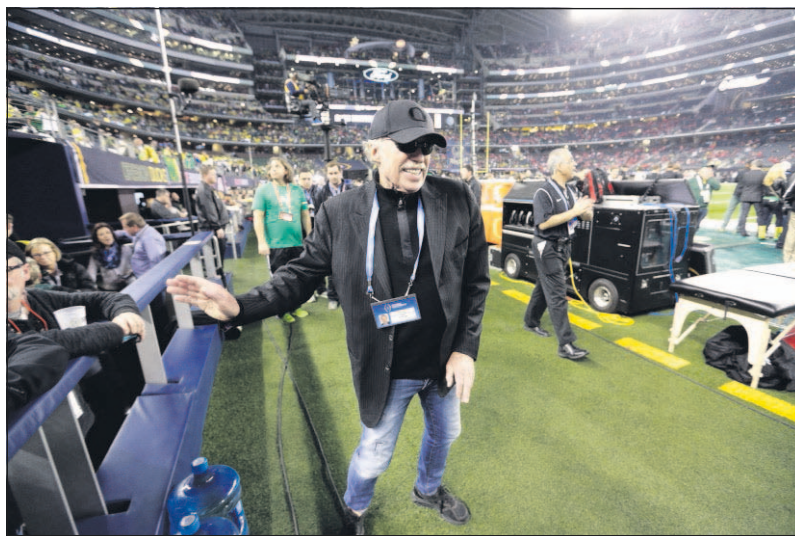
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Nike Chairman Phil Knight, who turned a business selling shoes out of the back of his car into the world's most valuable sports brand, has announced plans to step down as company chairman.

Knight, 77, was a middle distance runner in college who began the company in a handshake deal with Oregon coach Bill Bowerman in 1964, with each putting up \$500. With shrewd marketing campaigns built around celebrity endorsers like Michael Jordan and Tiger Woods, he made the swoosh one of the most recognizable logos around the globe.

That phenomenal growth also landed Knight on Forbes magazine's list of 50 richest people in the world, with a net worth estimated at \$24 billion.

"For me, Nike has always been more than just a company — it has been my life's passion," Knight said in a statement.



In this Monday, Jan. 12, 2015, file photo, Nike Chairman Phil Knight walks near the field before the NCAA college football playoff championship game between Ohio State and Oregon in Arlington, Texas. Knight plans to step down and says he wants Nike President and CEO Mark Parker to succeed him.

Knight said he wants Nike President and CEO Mark Parker, who has held those positions since

2006, to succeed him. No specific date was set for Knight's departure, though he said he plans to stay

involved in the business. Nike Inc. said it expects to name a new chairman in 2016.

Knight sold his first pairs of shoes out of an old Plymouth Valiant while traveling the same Pacific Northwest track circuit on which he once competed. The company was originally named Blue Ribbon Sports, but changed in 1978 to Nike — the winged goddess of victory in Greek mythology — on the advice of a friend.

Knight said at the time, "I don't love it, but it will grow on me."

By 1969, Knight was making enough selling shoes to quit his full-time job as an accountant and devote himself to the footwear company. Two years later, he paid \$35 to Carolyn Davidson for the original swoosh logo design now plastered across the uniforms and shoes of athletes from the World Cup to little leagues. Building the brand through shrewd advertising campaigns and top-flight celebrity

See KNIGHT/2B

M's rookie Montgomery throws second straight no-hitter

Seattle beats San Diego 5-0

By BERNIE WILSON
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Rookie left-hander Mike Montgomery took a no-hit bid into the seventh inning and finished with a one-hitter for his second straight shutout as the Seattle Mariners beat the San Diego Padres 5-0 Tuesday night.

Making his sixth major league start, Montgomery opened the seventh by getting Justin Upton on a fly to left. Yangervis Solarte hit Mont-

gomery's next pitch into the left-field corner for a double.

Until then, the closest the Padres came to getting a hit was Melvin Upton Jr.'s sinking liner to center, but Austin Jackson made a shoestring catch.

Montgomery, who turns 26 on Wednesday, was coming off his first career shutout, a five-hitter against Kansas City.

It was the seventh time a Mariners pitcher threw consecutive shutouts — Randy Johnson did it three times, including three straight in 1994, and Mark Langston did it twice. Montgomery is the 12th major league rookie, and second Mari-

ners pitcher, to do it since 1980. Langston pitched consecutive shutouts for the Mariners on June 26 and July 1, 1984.

Montgomery (3-2) struck out seven, walked four and hit a batter. He threw a career-high 113 pitches.

The Padres were shut out for the 12th time and have lost five of eight.

Brad Miller and Mike Zunino homered off Ian Kennedy (4-7).

Zunino hit a solo homer to left with one out in the third, his ninth. Miller's two-run shot cleared

See MARINERS/2B