

BRIEFLY
High school sports participation continues to rise

The National Fderation of State High School Associations (NFHS) announced in a press release on Thursday that student participation in sports increased to over 7.8 million in 2014-2015. It marks the 26th consecutive year that participation has risen across the board, which is great news for NFHS executive director Bob Gardner.

“Despite other out-of-school opportunities that exist in some sports, this year’s survey is yet another confirmation that our model of of education-based sports within the high school setting is the No. 1 choice for boys and girls nationwide,” said Gardner.

“We applaud the more than 19,000 high schools across the country for continuing to provide these important programs despite the funding challenges that exist in some areas.”

Football remains the top sport of choice for boys, with over one million participants, followed by outdoor track and field, basketball, baseball, and soccer.

For girls, track and field takes the top spot with over 478,000 participants, with volleyball, basketball, soccer, and fast-pitch softball close behind.

EOU Volleyball picked to win CCC

The Cascade Collegiate Conference announced Thursday that Eastern Oregon University volleyball was chosen No. 1 in the CCC as selected by a vote of conference coaches.

EOU finished 30-6 overall and 16-2 in the CCC last season, splitting the conference title with Southern Oregon.

The Mountaineers return a strong group of players from that 2014 team, but face a tough task in trying to replace CCC Player of the Year Casey Loper.

The College of Idaho and Southern Oregon were the only other teams that received first place votes.

Gomez named Player of the Month

MiLB announced Salem-Keizer’s Miguel Gomez as the Northwest League player of the month for July.

Gomez led the league in batting (.393), hits (44), and RBI’s (30) while touting a .927 OPS. Gomez also tallied a franchise-record 19-game hitting streak that ended on July 25.

—East Oregonian

RODEO: Bull riding comes front-and-center on Thursday

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Latham for fourth place.

In saddle bronc, Zeke Thurston’s 85 from Wednesday held up. In a difficult day that didn’t see any scores in the 80s, Rusty Allen, riding Weekend Departure, and Jesse Bail, on Weary Joke, posted identical 79s to split the go-round win. It was only good for an overall third place, though, as Thurston and Isaac Diaz (80) sit ahead of them.

Kimmie Wall went first in barrel racing, and never saw a time slower than hers. The Utah native completed the circuit in 17.05 seconds, narrowly besting Callie DuPerier’s 17.09 from Wednesday night. Hermiston’s Kara Philippi knocked over the second barrel, all but ending her night and Hermiston’s Callahan Crossley couldn’t catch Wall, posting a respectable 17.46.

It was another rough night with young cattle. With still fresh calves and steers, team roping, bulldogging and tie down roping were again a struggle. Three different bulldoggers were unable to pull down a steer, with Jordan Luenella and Hunter Cure coming up a bit lame after being run over by a steer. After the dust settled, Battle Ground, Washington’s Nik Hamm had the fastest time at 5.0, and had a cut-up shirt to show for it. Hamm’s traveling partner, Justin Resseman, had the same steer and didn’t record a time

in the morning, but Hamm, with Resseman as his hazer, got the steer down quickly. Luke Branquinho’s 4.4 still leads with Hamm in second.

Tie down roping went much smoother Thursday night. After only a handful of ropers recorded times Wednesday, only a handful didn’t on Thursday.

The best time again went to the first man up: Cade Swor. He roped his calf in 8.3 seconds, but had to sweat as Cimarron Boardman and Timber Moore offered times of 8.5 seconds. Swor took the overall lead over Caleb Smidt, who is now in the three-way tie with Boardman and Moore behind Swor.

A couple of local pairs were in Thursday’s team roping event, and one pair walked away happy. In the slowest event of the night — with just two teams posting times — Clayton and Chase Hansen, who grew up attending Farm-City, managed the best time: a 9.5. Shane Crossley, father of barrel racer Callahan, failed to record a time with his parter, Guy Gregg.

The third performance of the Farm-City Pro Rodeo begins at 7:45 p.m. on the Umatilla County Fair Grounds.



Staff photo by Sam Barbee
Scottie Knapp of Albuquerque, New Mexico rides Cowboy Up for 82 points and a go-round win Thursday night at Farm-City Pro Rodeo in Hermiston.

Wilson, Seahawks back on field for 1st time since Super Bowl

By TIM BOOTH
Associated Press

SEATTLE — If this offseason for the Seattle Seahawks is about getting past what happened at the end of their Super Bowl loss to New England, then another step comes Friday night. It may just be preseason, but the Seahawks will finally get on the field

in their exhibition opener against Denver.

Don’t expect to see much of Russell Wilson, although he’s likely to throw his first pass since Malcolm Butler’s goal-line interception in the final seconds that preserved the Patriots’ 28-24 victory. And don’t expect to see Peyton Manning other than as a spectator on the sideline.

But there are important

areas to watch for with each team as the preseason begins:

LINE OF CONCERN: Both the Seahawks and Broncos have issues on the offensive line that’ll begin to shake out on Friday. The Broncos are working in an offensive line that includes three players with zero NFL starts: rookies Ty Sambrailo and Max Garcia

and Matt Paradis, who was on the practice squad all last season. The right tackle is veteran Ryan Harris and the stalwart of the line is Louis Vasquez, who returns to his natural position at right guard after serving as the team’s right tackle down the stretch last year. Manning has four newcomers and five players in new spots this season.

The Seahawks are only trying to fill two spots but they are vitally important. Veteran center Max Unger is now in New Orleans while left guard James Carpenter left in free agency. Lemuel Jeanpierre and Drew Nowak have taken the lead in the center competition, while as many as four players have run with the first-team at left guard.

IWAKUMA: Relishing the moment

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Four of the last five no-hitters in American League ballparks have come at Safeco Field. Prior to Hernandez’s perfect game, six Seattle pitchers combined on a no-hitter in June 2012 against the Los Angeles Dodgers and unknown Phillip Humber threw a perfect game for the Chicago White Sox against the Mariners that April.

The only other AL park to see a no-hitter since 2011: Angels Stadium, where Jered Weaver threw his no-hitter in May 2012, less than two weeks after Humber’s perfect game.

The NL streak was the longest streak of no-hitters in one league since the inception of the AL in 1901.

“There’s an obvious number one reason. That reason and probably just coincidence.” Texas manager Jeff Banister said Thursday. “I’ve got to

believe that an oddsmaker would say that it’s a little more challenging in our league. They are still pretty special, no matter what the circumstance or situation is. That’s why we celebrate them so much.”

Iwakuma was as unlikely a candidate as any to throw the fourth no-hitter of this season. He spent 2 ½ months on the disabled list after straining a muscle in his back and side in late April, another in a series of injuries that has made his career in the majors go in fits and starts.

He had pitched more than eight innings only twice in his career before Wednesday and had never pitched a complete game. He came close earlier this month against Minnesota, throwing 8 ½ innings before being lifted in a game that went to extra innings.

“I couldn’t help my team at all and that’s all I had in

mind, to come back and give it all I’ve got every start and make up for the lost time I’ve had the first half and do anything to contribute for the team,” Iwakuma said through an interpreter.

Iwakuma is the 17th pitcher since 1914 to have his first career complete game be a no-hitter and the first since Humber’s unlikely perfect game. McClendon would have picked Hernandez and right-hander Taijuan Walker as more likely candidates.

“I said about three weeks ago the ‘Bear’ was back and he’s only getting better,” McClendon said. “It’s nice to see because I think this is probably the longest stretch I’ve had him where he’s been truly healthy and the ball is coming out and the velocity is back. He can work down in the zone, he can elevate the fastball. That’s what makes him special.”

ADAMS: Duck at last

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tion to transfer in February, Adams was at first expected to wrap up his degree in recreation management in June. But he was still working toward his degree when fall camp opened for the Ducks on Monday.

Adams posted a statement to Instagram on Wednesday night, hours before his final.

“I just want EVERYBODY to know .. I never wanted ANY of this attention on me, good or bad. I wish I could have passed my math class the first time. But everything happens for a reason, right?”

Mariota set a Pac-12 single-season record for total touchdowns with 58, including 42 via pass, 15 on the run and one touchdown catch. He also set the conference mark for career touchdowns with 136.

Mariota declared his

eligibility for the NFL draft shortly after the Ducks fell 42-20 to Ohio State in the College Football Playoff championship game. Oregon finished the season ranked No. 2.

“I don’t think anyone can fill Marcus’ shoes — very few could do that — we’re just trying to be ourselves and do what we do best,” Lockie said of Oregon’s quarterback group. There are six QBs on Oregon’s roster, including Adams.

Coach Mark Helfrich said earlier this week that he had no timetable for choosing a starter.

“In my opinion you can’t say that by August 29th, or whatever the date, you’re going to name a guy. That has to play out,” Helfrich said. “It’s kind of like leadership.”

Oregon will host Eastern Washington to open the season Sept. 5.

SCOREBOARD

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	64	52	.552	—
New York	62	51	.549	½
Tampa Bay	58	56	.509	5
Baltimore	57	56	.504	5½
Boston	50	64	.439	13
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City	68	46	.596	—
Minnesota	57	57	.500	11
Detroit	55	59	.482	13
Chicago	54	58	.482	13
Cleveland	53	60	.469	14½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	62	53	.539	—
Los Angeles	60	54	.526	1½
Texas	56	57	.496	5
Seattle	54	61	.470	8
Oakland	51	65	.440	11½
Thursday’s Games				
Toronto 4, Oakland 2				
Texas 6, Minnesota 5				
N.Y. Yankees 8, Cleveland 6				
L.A. Angels 7, Kansas City 6				
Friday’s Games				
Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 6-5) at Chicago White Sox (Samardzija 8-7), 1:10 p.m.				
Oakland (Mills 0-0) at Baltimore (J. Jimenez 9-7), 4:05 p.m.				
N.Y. Yankees (Nova 4-4) at Toronto (Price 11-4), 4:07 p.m.				
Seattle (Montgomery 4-4) at Boston (J.Kelly 4-6), 4:10 p.m.				
Tampa Bay (Karns 7-5) at Texas (M.Perez 1-2), 5:05 p.m.				
Cleveland (Kluber 7-12) at Minnesota (May 8-7), 5:10 p.m.				
Detroit (Simon 10-6) at Houston (Keuchel 13-6), 5:10 p.m.				
L.A. Angels (Weaver 4-8) at Kansas City (D.Duffy 5-5), 5:10 p.m.				
NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	63	52	.548	—
Washington	56	56	.509	4½
Atlanta	51	63	.447	11½
Miami	46	68	.404	16½
Philadelphia	46	69	.400	17
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	73	41	.640	—
Pittsburgh	66	46	.589	6
Chicago	65	48	.575	7½
Cincinnati	51	62	.451	21½
Milwaukee	48	68	.414	26

West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	64	51	.556	—
San Francisco	61	53	.535	2½
Arizona	56	57	.496	7
San Diego	54	61	.470	10
Colorado	47	66	.416	16
Thursday’s Games				
N.Y. Mets 12, Colorado 3				
Chicago Cubs 9, Milwaukee 2				
Pittsburgh 10, St. Louis 5				
Cincinnati 10, L.A. Doders 3				
San Francisco 3, Washington 1				
Friday’s Games				
Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 6-5) at Chicago White Sox (Samardzija 8-7), 1:10 p.m.				
Pittsburgh (Happ 0-1) at N.Y. Mets (B.Colin 10-11), 4:10 p.m.				
Arizona (Ray 3-7) at Atlanta (Teheran 7-6), 4:35 p.m.				
Philadelphia (Morgan 3-3) at Milwaukee (W.Peralta 2-7), 5:30 p.m.				
Miami (Koehler 8-9) at St. Louis (Jai. Garcia 4-4), 5:15 p.m.				
San Diego (T.Ross 8-9) at Colorado (Flan-de 2-1), 5:40 p.m.				
Cincinnati (Jo.Lamb 0-0) at L.A. Dodgers (A.Wood 7-7), 7:10 p.m.				
Washington (Scherzer 11-8) at San Francisco (M.Cain 2-3), 7:15 p.m.				
Pacific Coast League				
American North Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Oklahoma City	71	47	.602	—
Iowa	65	53	.551	6
Omaha	65	54	.546	6½
Colorado Springs	49	69	.415	22
American South Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Round Rock	68	51	.571	—
Memphis	62	57	.521	6
Nashville	54	65	.454	14
New Orleans	51	68	.429	17
Pacific North Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Fresno	70	48	.593	—
Reno	56	61	.479	13½
Tacoma	56	62	.475	14
Sacramento	55	63	.466	15
Pacific South Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Las Vegas	66	53	.555	—
El Paso	61	57	.517	4½
Albuquerque	51	68	.429	15½
Salt Lake	47	71	.398	19
Thursday’s Games				
Round Rock 4, Colorado Springs 3, 1st game				

Oklahoma City 2, New Orleans 1				
Nashville 8, Iowa 4				
Omaha 6, Memphis 5				
Fresno 10, Albuquerque 4				
El Paso 5, Las Vegas 4				
Colorado Springs 9, Round Rock 2, 2nd game				
Reno 13, Salt Lake 9				
Sacramento 5, Tacoma 3				
Friday’s Games				
Oklahoma City at New Orleans, 5 p.m.				
Nashville at Iowa, 5:05 p.m.				
Memphis at Omaha, 5:05 p.m.				
Colorado Springs at Round Rock, 5:05 p.m.				
Fresno at Albuquerque, 6:05 p.m.				
Las Vegas at El Paso, 6:05 p.m.				
Salt Lake at Reno, 7:05 p.m.				
Sacramento at Tacoma, 7:05 p.m.				
Northwest League				
North Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Everett	9	7	.560	—
x-Tri-City	7	7	.500	1
Spokane	6	9	.400	3
Vancouver	6	9	.400	3
South Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
x-Hillsboro	10	5	.667	—
Salem-Keizer	10	5	.667	—
Eugene	8	7	.533	2
Boise	3	11	.214	6
x-clinched first half				
Thursday’s Games				
Everett 7, Eugene 0				
Salem-Keizer 5, Spokane 0				
Hillsboro 1, Vancouver 0				
Boise 4, Tri-City 0				
Friday’s Games				
Everett at Eugene, 6:05 p.m.				
Salem-Keizer at Spokane, 6:30 p.m.				
Vancouver at Hillsboro, 7:05 p.m.				
Boise at Tri-City, 7:15 p.m.				
Football				
AFC East				
	W	L	T	Pct
Buffalo	0	0	0	0.000
Miami	0	1	0	0.000
New England	0	1	0	0.000
N.Y. Jets	0	1	0	0.000
South				
	W	L	T	Pct
Houston	0	0	0	0.000
Indianapolis	0	0	0	0.000
Jacksonville	0	0	0	0.000
Tennessee	0	0	0	0.000

North				
	W	L	T	Pct
Baltimore	1	0	0	01.000
Cincinnati	0	0	0	0.000
Cleveland	0	1	0	0.000
Pittsburgh	0	1	0	0.000
West				
	W	L	T	Pct
San Diego	1	0	0	01.000
Denver	0	0	0	0.000
Kansas City	0	0	0	0.000
Oakland	0	0	0	0.000
NFC East				
	W	L	T	Pct
Washington	1	0	0	01.000
N.Y. Giants	0	0	0	0.000
Philadelphia	0	0	0	0.000
Dallas	0	1	0	0.000
South				
	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	0	0	0	0.000
Carolina	0	0	0	0.000
Tampa Bay	0	0	0	0.000
New Orleans	0	1	0	0.000
North				
	W	L	T	Pct
Minnesota	1	0	0	01.000
Chicago	1	0	0	01.000
Detroit	1	0	0	01.000
Green Bay	1	0	0	01.000
West				
	W	L	T	Pct
Arizona	0	0	0	0.000
San Francisco	0	0	0	0.000
Seattle	0	0	0	0.000
St. Louis	0	0	0	0.000
Thursday’s Games				
Baltimore 30, New Orleans 27				
Green Bay 22, New England 11				
Detroit 23, N.Y. Jets 3				
Chicago 27, Miami 10				
Washington 20, Cleveland 17				
San Diego 17, Dallas 7				
Friday’s Games				
Carolina at Buffalo, 4 p.m.				
Tennessee at Atlanta, 4 p.m.				
Pittsburgh at Jacksonville, 4:30 p.m.				
N.Y. Giants at Cincinnati, 4:30 p.m.				
Denver at Seattle, 7 p.m.				
St. Louis at Oakland, 7 p.m.				
Saturday’s Games				
Tampa Bay at Minnesota, 5 p.m.				
San Francisco at Houston, 5 p.m.				
Kansas City at Arizona, 6 p.m.				
Sunday’s Game				
Indianapolis at Philadelphia, 10 a.m.				

Basketball

WNBA EASTERN CONFERENCE	
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