

EAST OREGONIAN

SPORTS

WEEKEND, AUGUST 22-23, 2015

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Sports shorts

19-year-old wins marathon gold

BEIJING (AP) — Ghirmay Ghebreslassie became the youngest man to win the marathon at the world championships, using a late surge to take the title on a sweltering Saturday. The 19-year-old Eritrean grabbed his country's flag as he entered the Bird's Nest and waved it to the cheering crowd. He finished in 2 hours, 12 minutes, 27 seconds to hold off Yemane Tsegay of Ethiopia by 40 seconds. Munyo Solomon Mutai of Uganda was third.

Defending world champion and 2012 London Olympic gold medalist Stephen Kiprotich of Uganda wound up sixth, while the favored Kenyans struggled in the heat and humidity and didn't even make the top 20.

Hamlin sets track record, earns pole

BRISTOL, Tenn. (AP) — Denny Hamlin set a track record in leading a Toyota sweep of the first two rows in qualifying at Bristol Motor Speedway.

Hamlin turned a lap Friday at 131.407 mph to break the mark of 131.362 mph set last August by Kevin Harvick. It was Hamlin's 22nd career Sprint Cup pole and continued a recent dominant trend by Joe Gibbs Racing. JGR drivers have won five of the last six Sprint Cup Series poles, and Hamlin also won the pole for Friday night's Xfinity Series race.

JGR teammate Kyle Busch qualified second and was followed by JGR driver Carl Edwards. David Ragan, from Michael Waltrip Racing, was fourth to give Toyota the top four starting spots Saturday night.

“From a business standpoint, that didn't make sense any longer. You can't have a top-10 budget and top-10 resources and not be in the top 10 for a sustained period of time. It's a performance-related business. It's all about performance.”

— Rob Kauffman
Former Michael Waltrip Racing part-owner explaining why he is shifting his support from MWR to Chip Ganassi Racing next season. MWR, which hasn't won a race in more than two years, will cease operations at the end of the season.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS
1851 — The United States wins the first international yacht race. The schooner named “America” beats 14 British yachts.
1989 — Nolan Ryan of the Texas Rangers becomes the first pitcher to strike out 5,000 batters in a 2-0 loss to the Oakland Athletics. Ryan fans Rickey Henderson swinging on a 3-2, 96 mph fastball for No. 5,000.

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

HEPPNER

First night whets appetites

Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo holds first performance

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian
Nestled into the Eastern Oregon mountains sits the Morrow County Fairgrounds in the quiet town of Heppner.

But on Friday the town was bustling as the 93rd annual NPRA Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo kicked off to the sights of a packed grandstands and determined competitors. One of those was Hermiston resident BoDee Foster, who competed in tie-down roping and steer wrestling. The rodeo in Heppner is always one of Foster's favorite events to compete in. “I've been coming here every

year since I was 10,” Foster said. “I'm originally from Heppner, went to high school here, before I relocated to Hermiston. So it's always nice to come back here.” Unfortunately for Foster, his night didn't start off the way he would have liked, recording a time of 12.6 seconds in the tie-down roping. “That was the first time doing tie-down competitively in over a

year, so it's alright,” Foster said. He would later make up for it in steer wrestling, perhaps his best event, as he turned in a time of four-seconds flat and temporarily put him in the lead. Sean Santucci of Pineville later overtook Foster by a hair, as he turned the steer in just 3.9 seconds, which drew a big cheer from the crowd. Bareback kicked off the night
See RODEO/2B

NFL

Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson (3) scrambles from Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Dee Ford (55) during the first half of an NFL football game at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City, Mo., Friday, Aug. 21, 2015.

AP Photo/Ed Zurga



Wilson on the run in loss

Another rough outing for O-line

By DAVE SKRETTA
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson and Chiefs counterpart Alex Smith struggled behind their unsettled offensive lines in Kansas City's 14-13 preseason victory over Seattle on Friday night. Wilson was 9 of 15 for 78 yards, though most of those completions came on his final drive, when tight end Jimmy Graham finally got involved in the game. Otherwise, Wilson spent his half of work running away from Chiefs pass rushers Justin Houston and Dee Ford. At least he wasn't throwing to the wrong team. Smith was pressured so much in the first half that he began rushing his throws, and one of them was picked off by Bobby Wagner. The Seattle linebacker returned it untouched 25

yards for a touchdown that gave the Seahawks a 10-7 halftime lead. Smith finished 11 of 18 for 81 yards with a touchdown pass to Jeremy Maclin. The game belonged to the backups from there. Chase Daniel led the Chiefs (2-0) on an 86-yard drive to open the second half, hitting tight end James O'Shaughnessy from 1 yard for the score. Daniel has been sharp in two preseason games, throwing four TD passes without an interception. R.J. Archer played better than he did last week for the Seahawks (0-2), who lost regular backup Tarvaris Jackson to a high ankle sprain in their loss to Denver. But Archer was unable to move his team into range of a winning field goal in the final minutes Friday night. Observations from the game: OFFENSIVE LINES Seahawks: C Drew Nowak, LG Justin Britt and RT Garry Gilliam were new to the lineup from the preseason opener, joining LT

Russell Okung and RG J.R. Sweezy. They performed better as the first half wore on, though Gilliam had his hands full with All-Pro pass rusher Houston. Chiefs: LT Eric Fisher (high ankle sprain) and RG Jeff Allen (knee sprain) did not dress, nor did their replacements fare well. Paul Fanaika started at tackle and was consistently pushed off the line of scrimmage, and Laurent Duvernay-Tardiff was manhandled at his guard spot. ROOKIE WATCH Seahawks: WR Tyler Lockett made a nice catch while working with the first team, but was bottled up in the return game. Lockett played at Kansas State, a short drive down Interstate 70. INJURY UPDATE Seahawks: CB Earl Thomas, who had shoulder surgery in February, was among many Seahawks who did not dress for the game. Thomas returned to practice Tuesday.

Preseason


Kansas City
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Seattle
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Little League Baseball

Portland team edged in low-scoring LLWS opener



Portland, Oregon manager Matt Farr, left, consoles pitcher Dylan MacLean (7) as catcher Cooper Shaw (16) looks on during a pitching change in the sixth inning of a baseball game in United States pool play against Pearland, Texas at the Little League World Series tournament in South Williamsport, Pa., Friday, Aug. 21, 2015. Pearland, Texas won 1-0.

California sets single-inning HR record

Associated Press

SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. — Isaac Garcia broke up a perfect game with a home run in the fourth inning then threw 1 2/3 innings of hitless relief to lead Pearland, Texas, to a 1-0 win over Portland, Oregon, in the Little League World Series on Friday. Garcia delivered the only hit for Texas and made it count, driving a 3-2 pitch over the left-center field wall for the game's only run. He replaced starting pitcher Jarrett Tadlock an inning later and retired all five batters he faced. Texas advances to Sunday's winner's bracket semifinal to play the winner of the California-Kentucky game. Oregon will play Saturday against the loser of that game in an elimination contest. Tadlock and Garcia struck out 11 batters combined. Tadlock allowed only a fourth-inning single to Spencer

Scott. Dylan MacLean pitched 5 2/3 innings, striking out 12 before reaching the 85-pitch limit. The first eight batters of the game struck out.

CALIFORNIA 14, KENTUCKY 2 — Bonita, California hit five home runs in the third inning to easily beat Bowling Green, Kentucky 14-2 on Friday in the Little League World Series. The five home runs in an inning — hit by five different players as part of an 11-run inning — tied a series record set in 1992 by the Dominican Republic. The game was stopped after the top of the fourth inning. Pitcher Dante Schmid allowed two runs in 3 1/3 innings, struck out eight and also hit a three-run home run. Antonio Andrade ignited the record barrage when he led off the third inning with his 16th home run during all-star competition. Pinch-hitter Nick Maldonado hit a two-out grand slam that made it 9-0; Nate Nankil, Levi
See LLWS/3B