

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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Sports shorts

Seahawks trade WR to Carolina

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — The Carolina Panthers have acquired wide receiver Kevin Norwood in a trade with the Seattle Seahawks in exchange for an undisclosed 2017 draft choice.

Carolina has been searching for answers at wide receiver ever since Kelvin Benjamin went down with a season-ending injury.

The 6-foot-2, 200-pound Norwood was a fourth-round draft choice by the Seahawks in 2014. He played nine games with two starts as a rookie, catching nine passes for 102 yards.

Panthers general manager Dave Gettleman said in a press release Monday that Norwood "has the size you look for along with toughness and smarts."

EOU's Posten earns conference award in return

WHITEFISH, Mont. — After sitting out the final four games of the 2014 campaign due to an injury, senior linebacker Gary Posten was a little anxious to get back on the field for the No. 13 Eastern Oregon University football team.

On Saturday the senior captain made his return to the Mountaineer lineup in Caldwell, Idaho. And despite a 40-28 setback at the hands of the Yotes, Posten tallied 18 tackles (11 solo) — just one shy of tying his career-high of 19. He was named the Frontier Conference Defensive Player of the Week for his performance.

"So very proud of Gary for playing the game the way he has for his career here at Eastern," said head football coach Tim Camp. "The ability to overcome an injury from 2014 to moving to our mike spot has been a lot of hard work which Gary has taken on with great effort and attitude. He had a solid performance Saturday."

"There have been no discussions about letting him go or any of that stuff. The door is not shut on Robert Griffin."

— Jay Gruden

The Washington NFL team's head coach after naming Kirk Cousins as the team's starting QB over former first-round pick Robert Griffin III. Rumors began to swirl that Griffin's time with Washington could be up if he wasn't named the starter, but Gruden quickly shot those down.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1923 — The United States wins its fourth consecutive Davis Cup by beating Australia four matches to one.

1984 — Willie Totten of Mississippi Valley State passes for a Division I-AA record 536 yards and nine touchdowns in a 86-0 rout of Kentucky State. Jerry Rice catches 17 passes for 294 yards and five touchdowns.

2007 — Appalachian State 34, No. 5 Michigan 32. Julian Rauch's 24-yard field goal with 26 seconds left puts the Mountaineers ahead of the Wolverines and Corey Lynch blocks a field goal in the final seconds to seal one of college football's biggest

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

HERMISTON

Bulldogs hold off stingy Vikings

McKayla Pecheco (14) of Hermiston celebrates with teammates Alysia Garcia (10) and Kali Torres after the sophomore scored her first varsity goal in the first half of Hermiston's 2-1 win over Umatilla on Saturday.

Staff photo by Sam Barbee



Hermiston soccer wins season opener

By SAM BARBEE
East Oregonian

The giant American flag waving above Kennison Field was pulled taught Saturday due to a strong wind from the west, but the Hermiston girls soccer team seemed unaware.

McKayla Pecheco and Ayleen Sandoval scored the first two goals of Hermiston's

season opener against nearby Umatilla, and held off a furious charge from the pesky Vikings to hold on to a 2-1 victory. In an earlier game, the Hermiston boys beat the Umatilla boys 4-2.

"There's not much more we could've asked for," Hermiston girls head coach Danielle Turner said, adding that a slight miscommunication in the back led to Umatilla's only goal. "We possessed the ball a lot better than we were expecting this

early. If we can continue to do that consistently, we'll be tough to beat."

Hermiston dominated early with the wind at its back. For most of the first half, Hermiston played in Umatilla's end as the Vikings struggled playing into the stiff wind. The Bulldogs sprinkled the Umatilla net with first half shots, sending 17 of them to first-time Vikings keeper Maria Moreno while Umatilla managed just one shot.

See BULLDOGS/2B

MLB

Houston tees off on Mariners

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
Associated Press

HOUSTON — On the night when Houston Astros ace Dallas Keuchel became the American League's first 16-game winner, rookie Carlos Correa hit his 16th home run.

After an 8-3 win over the Seattle Mariners on Monday night, Correa was asked if he thought Keuchel would get to 20 wins before he reached 20 home runs.

"For him to get four more wins in (a) month is going to be tough," Correa said. "But I would love for him to get there first because that means we're winning ball games. A homer doesn't mean you're going to win the ball game. So if he gets those wins it would be awesome."

Keuchel allowed one run and struck out eight in seven innings, and Correa hit a two-run homer in his return after missing four games with a hamstring injury to help the AL West-leading Astros.

Manager A.J. Hinch was relieved to see Correa back on the field.

"He's a big presence for us; obviously he came up big," Hinch said. "He's very much in the middle of everything that we do."

Jed Lowrie and Hank Conger added solo shots for Houston.

Keuchel (16-6), who gave up six hits, improved to 12-0 at home this season and has won 13 straight decisions in Houston dating back to last year to tie a franchise record set by Danny Darwin in 1989-90.

Lowrie and Conger homered in the fourth to put Houston up 3-1, before Correa's shot broke it open in the fifth.

Vidal Nuno (0-3) yielded seven hits, five runs and tied a career high with three homers in six innings. He was filling in for ace Felix Hernandez, whose start was



AP Photo/Richard Carson

Seattle Mariners pitcher Vidal Nuno delivers a pitch against the Houston Astros in the first inning of a baseball game Monday in Houston. The Astros defeated the Mariners 8-3.



skipped to give him a break. He'll pitch on Saturday in Oakland.

"I thought he threw the ball, for the most part, pretty good," manager Lloyd McClendon said. "He made a mistake pitch to (Lowrie) that kind of put the game out of reach for us at that point, but he pitched well enough that, if we could have capitalized on some opportunities, to win a ballgame."

Mark Trumbo homered twice for

the Mariners, who went 2 for 9 with runners in scoring position.

The Astros took a 1-0 lead on a sacrifice fly by Evan Gattis in the first inning.

The Mariners first hit came on Trumbo's homer with two outs in the second to tie it at 1-1. It was the first homer Keuchel has allowed at home this season and the first in Houston since one by Adrian Beltre on Aug. 10, 2014.

Seattle loaded the bases with no outs in the fourth. The Mariners came away empty-handed when Franklin Gutierrez grounded into a double play before Trumbo struck out.

Lowrie, who also doubled,

snapped a 0-for-28 skid with his solo homer that put Houston up 2-1 in the fourth. It was his first hit since Aug. 19. Conger connected on a fastball with two outs in the inning, sending it to the train tracks atop the left field wall for a 3-1 lead.

Altuve singled with no outs in the bottom of the fifth before Correa's homer bounced high off the wall in left-center to make it 5-1.

Gattis, Carlos Gomez and Lowrie each drove in a run in the seventh inning.

Robinson Cano grounded out to start the game, snapping a streak of reaching base safely in eight

See MARINERS/2B

College Football

Andersen 'feels old' as Beavers prepare for opener

Opposing coach once played for new OSU coach

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

CORVALLIS — Oregon State coach Gary Andersen says facing Weber State coach Jay Hill in the Beavers' opener makes him feel old.

Andersen recruited Hill way back when the Beavers' coach was an assistant at Utah. Their paths have crossed many times since.

They'll reunite again on Friday night when Oregon State opens the season at home against the Wildcats. It will be Andersen's first game as coach of the new-look Beavers.

"I'm proud of him," Andersen said about his friend. "It just makes me feel old."

Weber State went 2-10 last season in Hill's first year as head coach.

Nearly 20 years ago, Hill was a promising junior college cornerback when Andersen, then an assistant under coach Ron McBride,



AP Photo/Don Ryan, File

In this April 18, 2015, file photo, Oregon State football coach Gary Andersen watches during the first half of the NCAA college football team's spring game in Corvallis. Andersen says that playing against Weber State coach Jay Hill Friday for their season home opener makes him feel old.

helped recruit him to play for the Utes. Hill went on to be the team's defensive MVP as a senior in 1999.

Later, Hill coached cornerbacks at Utah for two years when Andersen was defensive coordinator under Kyle Whittingham. Weber State is Hill's first crack at being a head coach.

During the first of what will be a weekly press conference throughout the season, Andersen said he

has nothing but respect for Hill, adding that he would hire him in a heartbeat because he cares about his players and he is a great recruiter.

"When Jay was making the decision to become a head football coach he called me. That was a tough decision for him to leave Utah and jump out and go to be a head coach," Andersen said. "There's no question in my mind that he made the

right decision."

Hill and Andersen aren't the only coaches who will have a connection on Friday: Weber State receivers coach Fesi Sitake is the brother of Oregon State defensive coordinator Kalani Sitake.

"I'd rather have a reunion maybe like on July 4th or something," Andersen joked.

Andersen, who got his first head coaching gig in 2009 at Utah State, came to the Beavers in December after two seasons at Wisconsin. He is charged with remaking Oregon State following the departure of longtime coach Mike Riley for the top job at Nebraska.

Andersen is installing a new spread offense with the help of offensive coordinator Dave Baldwin, in addition to switching up the defensive scheme. Oregon State, which went 5-7 last season, used a largely pro-style offense under Riley.

The Beavers also are breaking in a new quarterback — or quarterbacks, more specifically — after Pac-12 record-setter Sean Mannion wrapped up his career. Andersen announced

last week that he'll play both freshman Seth Collins and redshirt freshman Marcus McMoryion — neither of whom have experience in a live game.

Known as more of a defensive coach, Andersen has left the details to Baldwin; including who will take the first snap on Friday night. Last week, Baldwin said it was important, at least at the start of the season, to make sure both players got game experience.

"It's always exciting to get to this part of the year," Andersen said. "These kids have put in countless hours of time and effort and energy. They've gone through a lot together already."

Weber State returns 15 starters, including junior quarterback Jadrian Clark, who took over for the Wildcats' last five games last season to throw for 902 yards and seven touchdowns. His top target this season will be junior Cam Livingston, who caught 57 passes for 856 yards. Junior Zach Smith and sophomore Eric Wilkes anchor Weber State's rushing attack.