

Sports shorts

Nike extends deal with NWSL

BEAVERTON(AP) — Nike has extended its sponsorship deal with the National Women’s Soccer League through 2019. The Beaverton, Oregon-based shoe and apparel company has outfitted the women’s professional league with uniforms and training gear for each of its teams since it launched in 2013.

The announcement Wednesday comes as the NWSL prepares for its championship game Thursday night between the Seattle Reign and FC Kansas City at Providence Park in Portland, Oregon. Both teams worked out at Nike’s headquarters Tuesday.

Nike will also supply the league’s official game ball.



MLB Commsioner plans for more game experiments

NEW YORK (AP) — Rob Manfred envisions more experiments with speed-up rules, such as limiting pitching changes and trips to the mound, or

requiring each pitcher to face multiple batters. On Wednesday, the commissioner said he doesn’t see any need to expand the designated hitter to the National League. Manfred also expects teams and the players’ association to discuss possible changes to September call-ups during collective bargaining.

Concerned the average time of nine-inning games climbed to 3 hours, 2 minutes in 2014, owners and players agreed to install clocks to time between-innings breaks and pitching changes, and to require hitters to keep at least one foot in the batter’s box in many instances. The average has dropped to 2:56 this season.

“Not to sound cocky or anything, or confident, but yeah, I do feel like I could have come out my senior year of high school and played in the NFL.”

— Adrian Peterson Minnesota Vikings running back responding to statements made about LSU sophomore RB Leonard Fournette skipping his junior season next year to preserve his potential NFL Draft status. Peterson, 30, rushed for 1,860 yards and 15 TD’s as a freshman at Oklahoma in 2004 and ended up as a Heisman trophy finalist. Fournette currently has 631 yards through three games.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS
1961 — Roger Maris hits his 61st home run of the season, against Tracy Stallard of the Boston Red Sox at Yankee Stadium. The blow gives New York a 1-0 victory and eclipses Babe Ruth’s 34-year-old single-season home run record.
1975 — In the “Thrilla in Manila,” Muhammad Ali beats Joe Frazier in 14 rounds to retain his world heavyweight title.
1977 — Pele plays his farewell game at the Meadowlands before a crowd of 75,646.

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PENDLETON

Bucks run defense to get big test

Ridgeview brings potent rushing attack to Round-Up grounds

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

For the first two home games of the season, the Pendleton Buckaroos were not able to enjoy the ‘Friday Night Lights’ atmosphere. With the Round-Up grounds being prepared for the rodeo, the Bucks were forced to play on their practice field at the high school at 3 p.m. because the field is not

“The kids are pretty excited about the change of venue. It’s a different atmosphere, for sure, and our kids accept it for what it is, that this is our home field.”

— Erik Davis,

Pendleton head football coach on the team’s first game of the season at the Round-Up grounds.

equipped with lights. But with the Round-Up now in the past, the Bucks are finally able to enjoy their regular home field. “The kids are pretty excited about the change of venue,” said

Buckaroos coach Erik Davis. “It’s a different atmosphere, for sure, and our kids accept it for what it is, that this is our home field.” The Bucks (2-2) spent the entire practice session on Wednesday in

Football



Ridgeview Ravens (2-2)



Pendleton Buckaroos (2-2)

• Friday, 7 p.m.
• at Round-Up grounds
• Radio: KTIX 1240 AM

the Round-Up grounds, as Davis wanted to acclimate the kids to the arena and the turf.

“I think we’re actually at an advantage because the turf here is

See BUCKS/3B

PENDLETON



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pendleton’s Nicholas Zdroy runs past Hood River defender Carlos Marquez to get to the ball in the Bucks’ 10-0 loss to the Eagles on Wednesday in Pendleton.

Hood River blanks Pendleton

East Oregonian

The Pendleton Buckaroos boys soccer team has already made great strides in 2015. Last season the Bucks struggled through a winless season in which they scored just seven goals. Already in 2015, the Bucks have three wins and 12 goals scored.

Boys Soccer



Hood River 10



Pendleton 0

However, when they kicked off their league schedule on Wednesday against defending 5A state champion Hood River, their overall inexperience showed in a 10-0 loss.

Pendleton (3-4-1, 0-1) coach Jeremy Talbot believes his team was simply intimidated by the idea of Hood River.

“They said all the right things to us during the week,” he said, “but they played like they didn’t believe they could win.”

It was a tough task for the Bucks to open up their league slate with a Hood River team that is showing they are just as dominant as last season.

In nine games, the Eagles (7-0-2) have scored 26 goals while allowing just three total—following up from last year in which they allowed just 10 goals while scoring 85.

The Bucks will look to rebound next Tuesday when they travel to The Dalles for a 4 p.m. game.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pendleton’s Reilly Hegarty collides with Hood River’s Carlos Marquez in the Bucks’ 10-0 loss to the Eagles on Wednesday in Pendleton.

HERMISTON

Defending champs prepare for another tough opponent

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

Heading into the fifth week of the season, it’s quite obvious the follow-up to a Class 5A state championship hasn’t gone the way the Hermiston Bulldogs had hoped.

A team that was holding up the trophy after a 12-1 season a year ago finds itself 0-4 with a lot of questions still to be answered.

However, one question might be closer to answering after last week.

In the loss to Lewiston, the Hermiston offense appeared to finally start to find a rhythm, putting up a season-high 37 points. Quarter-



Coeur d’Alene Vikings (4-1)



Hermiston Bulldogs (0-4)

• Friday, 7 p.m.
• at Kennison Field, Hermiston
• Radio: KOHU 1360 AM

back Dayshawn Neal also showed the potential the coaches believed he has, passing for 236 yards and two touchdowns while also running for 125 yards.

It hasn’t been much of a surprise to see the offense take some time to work out the bugs, as the unit returned just one starter — receiver Ethan Snow — from last year’s team.

It also has shown how big the loss of running back Sam Colbray

has been to the Bulldogs, as Neal has carried the load running the ball with 415 yards on 76 carries to lead the team. Other than that it’s been a running back-by-committee philosophy for Hermiston, as Hayden Simon, Jonathan Hinkle and Mitchell Brown all combine for 377 yards rushing so far.

However, the biggest question yet to be answered is with the defensive unit. It was perhaps the strongest unit one year ago, allowing an average of 13.5 points-per-game and a total of 175 points for the 13-game season.

Already in 2015, the Bulldogs have allowed 203 points in four games, digging holes early in games that are just too deep to climb out of. The unit has been especially susceptible in the passing game, as they were picked on again last week against Lewiston by quarterback

Colton Richardson to the tune of 398 yards and five touchdowns allowed.

Unfortunately for the Bulldogs, it won’t get any easier this week when they host the Coeur d’Alene Vikings (5-1) which is another team that loves to throw the football, led by quarterback Cole Yankoff who has replaced senior stud Austin Lee due to an injury.

Defensively, the Vikings are a very aggressive and stout unit, allowing a meager average of 9.4 points-per-game and pitching two shutouts.

The defense is also terrific at getting to the quarterback, combining for an astounding 23 sacks in the last four games — including six sacks in last week’s win against Highland.

The Bulldogs and Vikings will kickoff at 7 p.m. in Hermiston.

PENDLETON

BMCC notches win No. 25

East Oregonian

The Blue Mountain Timberwolves said goodbye to the month of September on Wednesday with yet another victory, this time a 3-0 sweep over Yakima Valley.

The Timberwolves dominated each set, winning with scores of 25-8, 25-12, and 25-6. It also extended BMCC’s consecutive set wins streak to 20, with the last coming set loss coming to Tacoma on Sept. 20.

Kailey Buckner led the Timberwolves (25-5, 5-0) offensive attack with seven kills, while Keri Schwarz and Miah Perez each added six kills. Schwarz also did not record a hitting error on Wednesday, scoring a 100 percent hitting percentage.

Setters Kylee Chavez and Yakima-native Maci Beirle were also consistent all game long, recording a combined 29 assists.

Defensively, Hannah Bailey was the best player on the court, recording 19 digs.

Overall the month of September has been a pleasant one for BMCC as they have rolled to a 24-2 record in the month, including a 20-match winning streak since a 3-1 loss to Highline on Sept. 5.

The Timberwolves got the win without head coach Dave Baty present, as he wasn’t able to get out of his scheduled shift at the fire station.

BMCC hits the court again on Friday when they host Big Bend at 6 p.m. in Pendleton as they look to extend their winning streaks.

Volleyball



Blue Mtn 3



Yakima Valley 0