

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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1B

Sports shorts

Mariners, Rays swap six players

SEATTLE (AP) — The Seattle Mariners and Tampa Bay Rays have completed the first significant trade of the offseason, a six-player swap that sends infielder Brad Miller, first baseman Logan Morrison and pitcher Danny Farquhar to Tampa Bay for pitchers Nathan Karns and C.J. Riefenhauser, and minor league outfielder Boog Powell.



Miller, Morrison and Farquhar played extensive roles for the Mariners last season, but will not be part of the club's future under new GM Jerry Dipoto and manager Scott Servais.

Karns likely jumps into Seattle's rotation after starting 26 games last year for the Rays, going 7-5 with a 3.67 ERA. He led AL rookies in innings and strikeouts.

Seahawks' Lockette released from hospital

RENTON, Wash. (AP) — Seattle Seahawks wide receiver Ricardo Lockette said on social media that he has been released from a Dallas hospital following surgery to stabilize ligaments in his neck.

Lockette posted messages to Twitter and Instagram on Thursday saying,

"Thanks for all the support. I've just been released from the hospital and the road to recovery has started!!!"

Lockette was injured Sunday in Seattle's 13-12 win over Dallas during a punt return. Lockette was knocked out and laid motionless on the field for several minutes.

Lockette underwent surgery at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas on Monday. The surgery was successful and all neurological signs were positive.

"It seems like every week it's a first-time-ever. It's all good. We've got to be 9-0 next and keep it moving."

— **Marvin Jones**

Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver following the Bengals' 31-10 win over the Cleveland Browns on Thursday night. The win moves the Bengals to a perfect 8-0 on the season for the first time in franchise history, and also the first team this season to reach the eight-win mark. Bengals head coach Marvin Lewis also becomes the first head coach in AFC North history to start a season 8-0.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1992 — Manon Rheume of the Atlanta Knights becomes the first woman to suit up for a regular-season pro hockey game. The 20-year-old goalie doesn't play in Atlanta's 3-2 overtime loss to Cincinnati in the IHL game.

1993 — Evander Holyfield regains the WBA and IBF heavyweight championships in a fight disrupted by a parachutist. During the seventh round, the chutist tumbles in and stops the fight for 21 minutes.

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

ATHENA

Bailey's TigerScots are quick studies

Weston-McEwen finding edge in film room

By **MATT ENTRUP**
East Oregonian

When T.J. Bailey assumed control of the Weston-McEwen football team during the last week of August he immediately instituted two major changes in the way the TigerScots operated.

The first was a completely new offense, the second was daily film study.

One remains as the No. 10 TigerScots' only question mark entering Saturday's first-round playoff game at No. 7 Reedsport, but the other



• Saturday, 2 p.m.
• at Ruppe Field, Reedsport

may just be the biggest reason the team feels like it has a chance to reach the second round of the state bracket for the first time since 2011.

"Watching film in my opinion plays a big part in the game," said TigerScots senior two-way lineman Sergio Flores during a twilight practice in Athena on Wednesday. "We spend from 3:15 to 4:15 (p.m.) in the film room and then we come

See **TIGERSCOTS/3B**



Weston-McEwen head coach T.J. Bailey talks to his kicking team after scoring a touchdown in the TigerScots' 34-32 loss to Grant Union on Friday, Sep. 4, 2015 in Athena.

HEPPNER

Mustangs ready for a run



Heppner's Kaden Clark (10) looks for a receiver as Jacob Speed (13), of Weston-McEwen, closes in during a Columbia Basin Conference game in Athena on Friday, Oct. 30, 2015.

Heppner's road to the title starts at home against Monroe

By **ERIC SINGER**
East Oregonian

The Heppner Mustangs are a prep football dynasty.

The Mustangs have made the playoffs every year since 1997, and have only missed out on the post-season party twice since 1990.

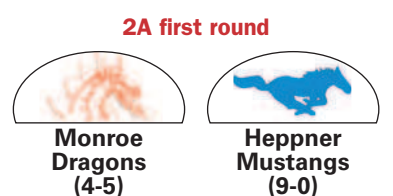
But as good as Heppner has been during that span, the Mustangs have only made it to the championship game three times and only once have the come away with the title once — way back in 1992.

However Heppner coach Greg Grant said getting over that championship hump is not on his teams mind just yet.

"We just hope to be playing football next week," he said. "People all have the dream and goal to win championships, but we just want to play our best game of the year and move on."

Heppner will begin its trek through the bracket on Saturday

See **MUSTANGS/2B**



• Saturday, 3 p.m.
• at Morrow County Fairgrounds

IRRIGON

Knights confident going into first postseason

Irrigon plays at Kennedy in 1st round

By **MATT ENTRUP**
East Oregonian

After starting the season with five straight wins, the Irrigon Knights felt like they were finally over the hump and could put the program's forgettable first decade behind them.

The team had already secured its first-ever winning season and owned the OSAA's No. 3 ranking. First-year head coach Steve Sheller's offense looked unstoppable with the running backs Fredy Vera and Carlos Zacharias ripping off huge gains while the team won by an average of 32.2 points.

But then three straight losses to Columbia Basin Conference foes Stanfield, Weston-McEwen and Heppner had the Knights on the playoff bubble and questioning themselves.

"We were coming up short," Sheller said. "Then you kind of have to trust the process and trust that we are getting somewhere. Going into the Pilot Rock game there was some



Irrigon's Freddy Vera (21) gets wrapped up by Stanfield's Noe Sanchez as Austin Rice (22) blocks downfield in the Knights' 49-41 loss to the Tigers on Friday, Oct. 2, 2015 in Irrigon.

doubt. "We're working hard, and people say we're making progress, but are we really making progress?"

But the Knights dropped 50 on Pilot Rock in the first half of a 56-14 win, and head into Saturday's first-

ever playoff game with a renewed confidence.

"That kind of rejuvenated the kids' trust in what they're doing is right," Sheller said. "We had a rough spell there so the kids had to fight through something that they

never kind of experienced before. I think it's sinking in that they do belong here, they earned this.

"We had an assembly for all sports at the high school (Thursday) and I could tell there was a buzz around Irrigon Knights football that is palpable."

The No. 13 Knights (6-3) play at No. 4 Kennedy (7-1) on Saturday at 1 p.m.

Kennedy (Mt. Angel) has been to the playoffs 18 times and each of the last six seasons, but has an all-time postseason record of 19-18 and has lost in the first round each of the last two seasons.

"We have them on film and you never can tell that stuff from looking at film, but it looks like we match up favorably to them," Sheller said. "Kennedy looks like a good solid

See **KNIGHTS/3B**