

EAST OREGONIAN

SPORTS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015

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Sports shorts

Mariners claim pitcher from Diamondbacks

SEATTLE (AP) — The Seattle Mariners have claimed right-handed pitcher A.J. Schugel off waivers from the Arizona Diamondbacks. Seattle acquired Schugel on Wednesday and designated for assignment left-handed pitcher Tyler Olson.

Schugel, 26, made his major league debut last season with the Diamondbacks. Schugel made five appearances during two stints with Arizona. He split most of the season between Double-A Mobil and Triple-A Reno and was 9-9 with a 4.84 ERA combined in both stops. Schugel was originally a 25th-round pick of the Angels in 2010.

Olson, 26, appeared in 11 games with Seattle and was 1-1 with a 5.40 ERA.

Seattle re-signs Christine Michael to bolster backfield

RENTON, Wash. (AP) — The Seattle Seahawks have signed former second-round draft pick Christine Michael to bolster an offensive backfield thinned by injuries to Marshawn Lynch and Thomas Rawls.

Coach Pete Carroll announced Michael's signing Wednesday. The Seahawks traded Michael to Dallas at the end of training camp after he lost out to Rawls for the backup spot to Lynch.

Michael was drafted in 2013 with the idea that he could eventually be Lynch's replacement but never matched the potential he flashed at Texas A&M. Michael had 52 carries for 254 yards in his two seasons with Seattle. Michael appeared in five games with Dallas this season and had 51 yards on 15 carries.

"It was a little strange to watch Peyton take those scout team reps today... but once again, that's just something out of my control."

— Brock Osweiler
Denver Broncos starting quarterback talking about Peyton Manning's return to practice on Wednesday. Manning hasn't played since Nov. 15 and has sat out the last month of practice with a foot injury.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1933 — The Chicago Bears win the first NFL championship with a 23-21 victory over the New York Giants. The Bears score the winning touchdown on a 36-yard play that starts with a short pass from Bronko Nagurski to Bill Hewitt, who then laterals to Bill Kerr for the score.

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

PILOT ROCK

Fighting for his life



Small community supports one of their own during cancer battle

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

With the Pilot Rock boys basketball team scheduled to tip off against Enterprise on Friday night at the Rocket Invitational, Jeremiah GrosJacques knows exactly where he would have been seven years ago.

Wearing the No. 1 jersey, he'd be right alongside the rest of the Rockets — and possibly leading the

game in scoring as he so often did as a starting forward, possessing a blend of height and athleticism that allowed him to score from almost anywhere on the court.

For many former high school athletes, those are the 'Glory Days'.

But as he remains confined to a sterile hospital room at Portland's OHSU Hospital following a second round of chemotherapy to treat an aggressive but curable form of cancer that is rare in people his

age, GrosJacques remembers some much more recent glory days.

Days when he could hold his 22-month-old son Kaicen, for instance.

Due to his ravaged immune system, GrosJacques is unable to be in the same room as his son and isn't sure when he'll be able to begin the next stage of his treatment, which will include lots of pills but also lots of hugs from Kaicen as he awaits a donor match

for a needed stem cell transplant.

The 24-year-old father, newlywed, brother and son has seen so many things he once took for granted ripped from him in recent months.

And it all started with a pain in his ankle.

HUNTING THE CULPRIT

"It was around Round-Up time, and there was dances going on,

See FIGHT/2B

MAIN PHOTO: Jeremiah GrosJacques and wife Kiersti pose with their son Kaicen on their wedding day, Sept. 5, 2015. Jeremiah began experiencing pain in his ankles around this time and nine weeks later was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukimia, a fast growing but curable form of cancer that affects white blood cells.

INSET LEFT: In this undated photo, Jeremiah, left, Kaicen and Kiersti GrosJacques pose for a photo during one of the rare family moments during Jeremiah's treatment for Acute Myeloid Leukimia at Portland's OHSU Hospital. Jeremiah was allowed brief visits with his 22 month old son following his first round of chemotherapy, but has been limited to video chats since then.

INSET RIGHT: Jeremiah GrosJacques, far right, poses with younger brothers Jason, middle, and Joey on the night before leaving for Portland's OHSU Hospital where he would begin chemotherapy.

Contributed photos courtesy of Teresa GrosJacques

College Football

Ducks' Marshall won't return in 2016

Senior won't seek medical redshirt after missing 2015 with injury

By STEVE MIMS
The Register-Guard

EUGENE — Byron Marshall describes himself as "lighthearted." "You always have to smile, right?," the Oregon senior said.

That has been more difficult than ever since he suffered an ankle injury on a kickoff return against Utah on Sept. 26 that ended his season.

"It's tough, it sucks," Marshall said Tuesday during his first interview since the injury. "I love playing, it's what I do, it's why I came here. To be out, especially your last season, definitely sucks, but it is what it is."

Marshall, the only player in Pac-12 Conference history to have a 1,000-yard season both rushing and receiving, could have appealed for a medical redshirt and another year of eligibility, but instead took part in Senior Day activities before the Civil War on Nov. 27. He confirmed that he won't look to return next season.

"I just wanted to do what made the most sense," he said. "I thought this would be best. I have been here for four years so I stayed as long as most people do in college. I just think it is my time. I appreciate everything that Oregon has done for me, but it is time to move on to the next chapter in my life."

The 5-foot-10, 205-pound Marshall did not seek an NFL draft evaluation before making his decision, but he did last year before electing to return for

See DUCKS/3B



(AP Photo/Troy Wayrynen)

Oregon wide receiver Byron Marshall (9) holds on to the football scores a touchdown as he escapes Oregon State defenders Cyril Noland-Lewis (17) and Ryan Murphy (25) during the second quarter of an NCAA college football game in Corvallis on Saturday, Nov. 29, 2014.

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