

Sports shorts

Panthers have 10 players selected for Pro Bowl

NEW YORK (AP) — The Carolina Panthers lead the NFL with 10 players selected for the Pro Bowl. The Panthers are two wins away from a perfect regular season. Quarterback Cam Newton was picked Tuesday for the third time. Five of his teammates were first-time selections, including cornerback Josh Norman and linebacker Thomas Davis. Seattle, Arizona and New England each had seven players selected, and Cincinnati had five players picked. Raiders safety Charles Woodson, who announced on Monday that he will retire after the season, was selected for the ninth time. The draft will be on Jan. 27 and the Pro Bowl on Jan. 31 in Honolulu, Hawaii.



Bryant scores season-high 31 in win over Nuggets

DENVER (AP) — Kobe Bryant tied a season high with 31 points after missing a game with a sore right shoulder, and the Los Angeles Lakers rallied from a 21-point, first-half deficit to beat the short-handed Denver Nuggets 111-107 on Tuesday night. Bryant also had five assists and played stellar defense to help bottle up the hot-shooting Will Barton, who had 23 points in the first half only to finish with 25.

The 37-year-old Bryant announced last month he would retire after the season. He received plenty of cheers during his penultimate game in the Mile High City, including chants of “Kobe, Kobe” in the waning seconds. Up 103-100 with 1:23 remaining, Bryant hit two free throws and then a jumper to seal the Lakers’ fifth win of the season.

“I’m going to end up hearing (about) it, so to avoid the set of circumstances let’s just eliminate it... it’s the ‘No Fun League’ for a reason.”

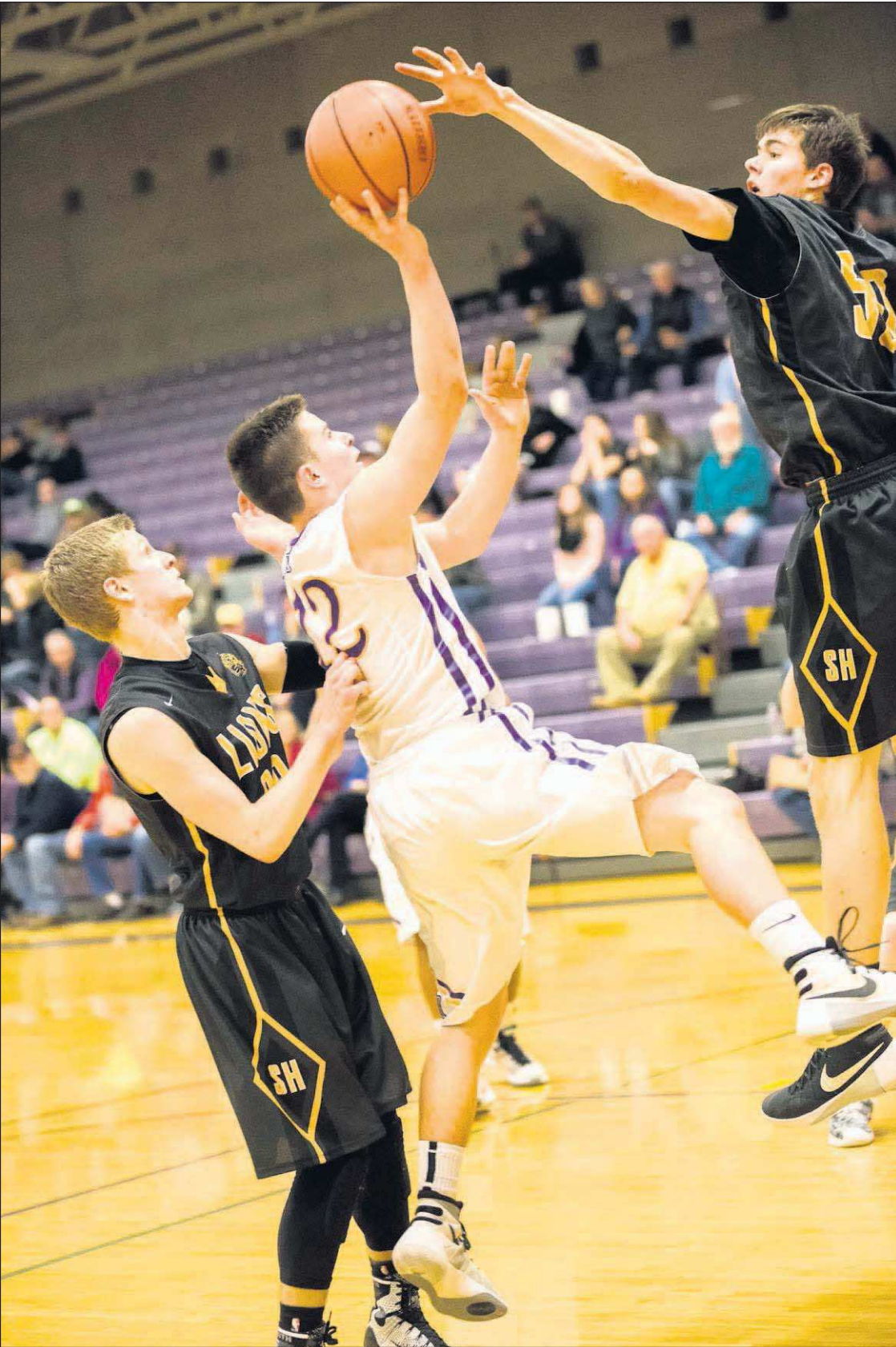
— Ron Rivera
Carolina Panthers head coach explaining to the media on Tuesday that he will end the Panthers’ pre-game ritual of carrying a baseball bat on to the field during pre-game introductions as a symbol to ‘the wood.’ The ritual made headlines after Giants WR Odell Beckham said he felt threatened by a Panthers player carrying around the bat before the game.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS
1996 — Barry Sanders of the Detroit Lions rushes for 175 yards in a 24-14 loss to San Francisco to finish with 1,553 yards for the season. It’s Sanders’ third straight season with at least 1,500 yards rushing, a first in the NFL.
2007 — The New England Patriots set an NFL record with their 15th win, the best start in league history, with a 28-7 victory over the Miami Dolphins 28-7.

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Prep Roundup

Lions hold off Bulldogs



A pair of Lions apply pressure to Hermiston’s Andrew James during Tuesday’s game against St. Helens.

Hermiston runs come up short in second half

East Oregonian

HERMISTON — The Hermiston Bulldogs hung with the St. Helen’s Lions through one quarter of non-league play on Monday before falling into a hole they would never dig out of. The Lions went on to win 70-57, and Hermiston coach Dave Ego said his players need to work on the game between their ears to remain competitive going forward. “I think for Hermiston basketball to improve we need to work on our attitude and behavior,” he said. “It’ll pay off in the long run.” He said turnovers also hampered the Bulldogs (3-4), which fell behind by 20 points three times before chipping their way back into contention. Hermiston had the lead down to six twice in the second half but that was as close as they would come. Hermiston’s Austin Naillon led all scorers with 19 points, but St. Helen’s had four players reach double digits with Quinton Galvin leading the way with 17. The Bulldogs’ next action will come at the Barlow Trail Classic on Monday against host Barlow at 7 p.m.

SHS (3-2)	18	20	22	10	—	70
HHS (3-4)	19	8	12	18	—	57
ST. HELENS — Q. Galvin 17, B. Martin 14, D. Dow 13, R. Ward 12, B. Mulcahy 5, J. Falk 3, D. McCall 2, N. Shaffer 2, D. Brady 2, N. White, M. Medina						
HERMISTON — A. Naillon 19, D. Neal 8, B. Palmer 8, T. Neal 8, C. Flores 6, A. James 6, J. Garcia 2, P. Peterson, H. Walls						
3-pointers — SHS 4, HHS 1. Free throws — SHS 13-21, HHS 17-27. Fouls — SHS 26, HHS 21. Fouled out — Falk (SHS); T. Neal (HHS). Technical fouls — Bench (SHS), D. Neal (HHS).						

IRRIGON 33, MAC-HI 22 — At Milton-Freewater, the Irrigon Knights were able to fight off a tough Mac-Hi defense to earn their seventh victory of the season on Tuesday. Irrigon (7-1) came into the game averaging just shy of 60 points-per-game on the season, but Mac-Hi coach Jordan Poyner said his team had a gameplan to slow them down. “We wanted to work the ball around and work the clock and try to keep Irrigon from running,” he said. “We executed the game plan pretty well and had a pretty well-played game.” Fredy Vera led Irrigon with 10 points, and Hunter Yensen led the Pioneers with 13 points. Irrigon next plays on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. when they host Burns for the Irrigon

See PREPS/2B

College Football

McCaffrey wins AP player of the year

Stanford RB edges Heisman winner for honor

By RALPH D. RUSSO
Associated Press

Stanford running back Christian McCaffrey is The Associated Press college football player of the year, becoming the first non-Heisman Trophy winner to earn the honor in six years. McCaffrey was the runner-up for the Heisman Trophy to Derrick Henry, but received 29 of 60 votes from the AP Top 25 media panel to edge the Alabama running back. Henry received 16 votes and Clemson quarterback Deshaun Watson was third with 11. Navy quarterback Keenan Reynolds and Oklahoma quarterback Baker Mayfield each received two votes. The last time the AP player of the year was not the Heisman winner was 2009. That season Nebraska defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh was the AP voter’s choice while the Heisman went to Alabama



AP Photo/Timothy J. Gonzalez, File

In this Sept. 25, 2015, file photo, Stanford’s Christian McCaffrey, right, gets past an Oregon State defender during the first half of an NCAA college football game in Corvallis, Ore.

running back Mark Ingram. It is the fifth time overall that the Heisman winner and AP player of the year went to different players. McCaffrey is the first Stanford player to win the award since it was first handed out in 1998 and first

running back to win it since one of his football heroes, Southern California’s Reggie Bush, did it in 2005. “This award is a testament to all the efforts and support of my teammates, coaches, staff and the entire Stanford football program,” McCaffrey said in

a statement to the AP on Tuesday. The 200-pound sophomore was a revelation this season and, like Bush, displayed an ability to dominate games in various ways. He ran for 1,847 yards (second-most in the nation behind Henry) and eight touchdowns, caught a team-best 41 passes for 540 yards and four scores and averaged 28.9 yards per kickoff return with another score. He also threw two touchdown passes. “What is Christian McCaffrey? The answer is football player,” Stanford coach David Shaw said in a recent interview. “It’s not running back. It’s not receiver. It’s not returner. It’s football player. What do you need for him to do?” Add it all up and McCaffrey set the NCAA record for all-purpose yards with 3,496 this season, breaking the mark of 3,250 set by Oklahoma State’s Barry Sanders in 1988. McCaffrey played two more games than Sanders though he had fewer total touches when he passed the record. “You can say he had the best year in the history of college football,” Shaw said.

Californians crowd BSU’s roster in Poinsettia Bowl

By BERNIE WILSON
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — While many Boise State fans wished their team would have been good enough to return to the Fiesta Bowl, the Poinsettia Bowl isn’t that bad of a destination for the Broncos. Boise State (8-4) lists 44 players from California on its roster for Wednesday afternoon’s game against Northern Illinois (8-5). Most of them are from Southern California.



Boise St. Broncos
(8-4)

- Today, 1:30 p.m.
- at Qualcomm Stadium, San Diego
- TV: ESPN



Northern Illinois Huskies
(8-5)

Coach Bryan Harsin hopes to attract even more. “Obviously that’s a large portion of our team,” Harsin said. “California’s a big area for us in recruiting.”

Among the Broncos from Southern California are running back Jeremy McNichols of Long Beach and safety Darian Thompson of Lancaster. Star wide receiver Thomas Sperbeck is from Carmichael in Northern California. “You know, Boise is a place if you haven’t been there, I think the first thing, we joke about this, I think it’s a blue field with a bunch of potato farms around it, OK?” Harsin said. “So when we get ‘em on campus, when we get ‘em to Boise, Idaho, I think they see that

environment, not just the football facilities and the school itself but Boise, Idaho, and the people. “There are quite a few people from California that have moved into Boise, Idaho, as well, so I just think they feel like this is a place they can come there and thrive. It just makes sense. So to be here, to be in this game, it’s huge for us, and it’s something that we also look at not just who we are playing and what we’re doing in the bowl game but where we’re going, and this is big.”