

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2016

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## Sports shorts

### ESPN's national title 'Megacast' to span 15 channels

(AP) — ESPN will broadcast 14 alternate productions of the College Football Playoff national championship game Monday night.

The main ESPN broadcast for No. 1 Clemson against No. 2 Alabama will be on ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU, SEC Network, ESPN Deportes, ESPN Classic, ESPNEWS and online streaming ESPN3 will give viewers different views and analysis.

Film Room on ESPN2 will feature commentators Brian Griese and Chris Spielman, along with Florida coach Jim McElwain, providing in-depth analysis from ESPN headquarters in Bristol, Connecticut.

ESPNEWS will feature some non-college football personalities such as Michelle Beadle and Jay Bilas commenting on the game from Los Angeles.

### Bush files lawsuit regarding season-ending injury

ST. LOUIS (AP) — San Francisco 49ers running back Reggie Bush has filed a lawsuit against the St. Louis Regional Convention and Stadium Authority for a

season-ending knee injury sustained when he slipped on bare concrete bordering the field at the Edward Jones Dome.

The suit filed Wednesday in St. Louis Circuit Court referred to the surface as a "concrete ring of death." It maintains the stadium authority was negligent and seeks in excess of \$50,000 plus unspecified punitive damages.

Bush was injured Nov. 1 when he ran out of bounds while returning a punt against the Rams. A week earlier, Browns quarterback Josh McCown slipped on the surface and banged his arm, although he stayed in the game.

"This is stupid, we can't even have a consistent coach, (three) coaches in 5 yrs."

— Lavonte David Tampa Bay Buccaneers fourth-year linebacker posted this statement on his Twitter account Wednesday night after news broke that the Buccaneers had fired head coach Lovie Smith after only two years with the team. Tampa Bay finished the 2015 season with a 6-10 record after putting together a miserable 2-14 record in 2014, but struggled to find consistency on offense and defense.

### THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1972 — The Los Angeles Lakers defeat the Atlanta Hawks 134-90 for their 33rd straight victory, an NBA record.

1992 — Pitchers Tom Seaver and Rollie Fingers are elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame. Seaver receives the then-highest percentage of votes in baseball history.

2003 — Kobe Bryant makes an NBA-record 12 shots from 3-point range, including nine straight, in scoring 45 points.

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

## Prep Basketball

# CBC poised for exciting season

Irrigon's Fredy Vera shoots the ball over Jackson Cross in the Knights' 65-53 win against the Boomers on Saturday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris



League play kicks off for 2A teams on Friday afternoon

By MATT ENTRUP  
East Oregonian

Friday marks the open of league play for the area's 2A basketball squads and every team will be in action when the Columbia Basin Conference tips off for the first time in 2016.

Just like last year there will be just two state playoff spots available to the six-team league, so any squad hoping to extend its season will need to first qualify for the district tournament and then reach the championship round.

For the boys, a power triad has already emerged from preseason play as Heppner and Stanfield aim to knock off reigning champion Irrigon.

For the girls, Pilot Rock appears ready to take on all comers and the pecking order behind them is anything but set at this point. Each team gets 10 games to make its case

for the postseason. Here's what to watch for as the CBC begins play:

### CBC BOYS

2014-15 order of finish: Irrigon (10-0), Heppner (7-3), Stanfield (7-3), Weston-McEwen (4-6), Pilot Rock (2-8), Culver (0-10)

• Irrigon (8-3), OSAA rank No. 5: The Knights enter the league season with a few more chinks in their armor than recent years, but are still the team to beat until proven otherwise.

Irrigon will be coming into league play with a chip on its shoulder as well after dropping its last two preseason games — 83-74 to 1A No. 2 Nixyaawii and 48-46 to 3A No. 1 Dayton.

It's the first time the Knights have suffered back-to-back losses in the Mitch Thompson era, however, their 37-33 win over Amity at the Columbia River Clash remains the only blemish for the No. 2 ranked 3A team.

Senior guard Fredy Vera was the only

See CBC/2B

## MLB

# Voters clamor for 'The Kid'



AP Photo/Elaine Thompson, File

In this Aug. 9, 2013, file photo, former Seattle Mariners' Ken Griffey Jr. speaks at a luncheon in his honor at the ballpark in Seattle, before his induction into the team's Hall of Fame.

## Griffey elected to National Baseball Hall of Fame with a record 99.3 percent of votes

By RONALD BLUM  
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Ken Griffey Jr. was considered Mr. Clean during 22 years in the major leagues, untainted by accusations of drug use as he climbed the home-run list during the height of the Steroids Era.

He nearly made a clean sweep in Hall of Fame voting.

Griffey received 437 of 440 votes in his first appearance on the Baseball Writers' Association of America ballot, a record 99.3

percent. "It's real simple," he explained after Wednesday's announcement. "I've always said that I've got to look my kids in the eyes and you want to play fair."

Mike Piazza, the top offensive catcher in baseball history, was elected, too, and will be inducted along with Griffey in Cooperstown on July 24. Among the many muscled sluggers whose accomplishments were questioned during a time when chemists preyed on clubhouses, Piazza was made to wait until his fourth appearance on

the ballot. After falling 28 votes shy last year, he was selected on 365 (83 percent).

He wouldn't say whether he was upset about being sullied by suspicions.

"That's the freedom we have," Piazza maintained. "You can say these things, and that's the country we live in."

Griffey topped the previous high percentage of 98.84, set when Tom Seaver appeared on 425 of 430 ballots in 1992. The identities of the three writers who did not vote for Griffey was not immediately

known. "I can't be upset," he said. "It's just an honor to be elected, and to have the highest percentage is definitely a shock."

A player needs to appear on 75 percent of ballots to gain election. Jeff Bagwell missed by 15 votes and Tim Lincecum by 23. Trevor Hoffman, second on the career saves list and appearing on the ballot for the first time, was 34 short.

Total ballots dropped by 109 from last year after writers who have

See GRIFFEY/2B

## College Roundup

# Boucher, Dorsey lead Ducks over Golden Bears

Associated Press

EUGENE — Chris Boucher scored 18 points and Tyler Dorsey had 17 as Oregon held off California for a 68-65 victory on Wednesday night.

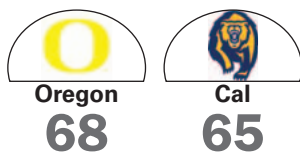
Dorsey's 3-pointer from the left corner with the shot clock at 3 gave the Ducks (12-3, 1-1 Pac-12) a 63-57 lead with 58 seconds to play. Oregon then sealed the win by hitting 5 of 8 free throws to finish the game.

Jaylen Brown led the Golden Bears (12-4, 2-1) with 20 points and nine rebounds. Ivan Rabb had 17 points and eight rebounds, and Tyrone Wallace added 16 points.

Oregon won despite shooting 40.7 percent from the field (24 of 59) and 50 percent from the foul line (13 of 26).

California dominated inside by a

### Men's Basketball



46-32 margin on points in the paint and finished with a 38-35 edge in rebounds, but it missed all 12 of its 3-point attempts and came with one of its season high for turnovers with 18.

The Ducks also snapped Cal's nine-game streak of holding opponents to fewer than 65 points and below 40 percent shooting.

Oregon opened a 13-7 lead before Sam Singer came off the bench to spark a 9-0 run for California. The teams traded the lead six times in the

See COLLEGE/3B



Oregon's Tyler Dorsey, right, dribbles toward the basket against California's Ivan Rabb, front left, during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2016, in Eugene.

(AP Photo/Ryan Kang)