

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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Sports shorts

Tri-City Americans prospect selected for Team Canada

KENNEWICK, Wash. — Tri-City Americans prospect Carson Focht has been named to Team Canada for the Youth Olympic Winter Games, as announced by Hockey Canada today.

Focht was the Americans' first round pick (7th overall) in the 2015 WHL Bantam Draft. Focht played in one game for the Americans this season on Nov. 24 against Moose Jaw.

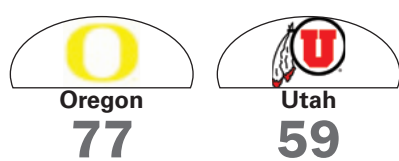


College Basketball

Brooks leads Oregon over Utah

Ducks take control of game from opening tip

By MATTHEW COLES
Associated Press



SALT LAKE CITY — The Oregon Ducks have struggled with slow starts on the road this season. If Utah was expecting that on Thursday night, they had another thing coming.

"We were really aggressive right from the start," Dillon Brooks said. "We

just wanted to hit them first."

Brooks had 21 points and eight rebounds and the Ducks had the Utes reeling from the opening tip on their way to a 77-59 victory.

"Wow, that was a fun game. To play

See DUCKS/2B



Oregon forward Elgin Cook dunks the ball over Utah forward Brekott Chapman during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game in Salt Lake City, Thursday, Jan. 14, 2016. Oregon defeated Utah 77-59.

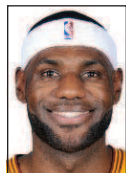
AP Photo/George Frey

LeBron James to produce, appear in new reality show

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron James will co-produce and appear in a reality TV series called "Cleveland Hustles."

James and his close friend and business partner, Maverick Carter, are producing the series that will debut this summer on CNBC. James also will make some cameo appearances.

FACES



James

On the show, James and Carter will give four aspiring local entrepreneurs the chance to realize their own dreams while revitalizing a neighborhood in Cleveland.

James and Carter will get assistance from business experts, who will invest in and mentor the entrepreneurs. The goal is for the four fledgling businesses to create local jobs.

It's the latest entertainment venture for the Cavaliers star. James appeared as himself in Amy Schumer's comedy "Trainwreck" last summer and recently signed a movie development deal with Warner Bros.

"We'll find out on Saturday. I can just Xerox you a copy of the game plan, you can send it over to Kansas City. That might be easier for all of us."

— **Bill Belichick**
New England Patriots coach when asked if DE Chandler Jones would be benched against the Kansas City Chiefs in this weekend's playoff game. The *Boston Globe* reported a bad reaction to synthetic marijuana caused a disoriented Jones to show up at the Foxborough Police station seeking assistance on Sunday morning. He was taken to the hospital and released later that day. He has not missed any practices or team meetings this week.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1965 — In one of the most notable trades in NBA history, the San Francisco Warriors deal Wilt Chamberlain to the Philadelphia 76ers for Connie Dierking, Lee Shaffer and Paul Neumann.

1967 — The NFL's Green Bay Packers open the Super Bowl series by defeating the Kansas City Chiefs of the AFL, 35-10.

2004 — Michelle Wie shoots a respectable round of 2-over 72, leaving her nine strokes behind the leader after one round at the PGA Sony Open in Honolulu. Wie, 14, is believed to be the youngest player ever on the PGA Tour.

PENDLETON Buckaroos bounce Tigers



Pendleton's Caden Smith shoots the ball over La Grande's Zack Jacobs in the Bucks' 62-48 win against the Tigers on Thursday in Pendleton.

Adams nets 20 points to continue scoring tear

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

Pendleton coach Kyle Tedder knew senior Daniel Adams had the potential.

"I always knew he was a scorer," Tedder said. "I resonate with him as a player because that's how I was. He's a kid who loves to score, loves the game, and loves the spotlight."

After starting the season buried in Pendleton's bench rotation, Adams has since developed into a dependable scoring option for the Buckaroos, and Thursday night's game against La Grande only emphasized that.

Adams buried six 3-pointers and finished with 20 points in the first half to help Pendleton to a 62-48 victory to finish up the team's non-league slate.

"I'm feeling really good," Adams said following the win. "A lot of the plays I have to be patient, let the offense run, and trust the offense, and that's what I did."

Tedder and the Buckaroo (6-6) coaches have been searching for a consistent No. 2 scoring threat behind Caden Smith, who scored 22 points Thursday, and over the last few weeks Adams has become just that. Adams has hit double figures in each of the last four games, helping the Bucks to wins in three of those four.

"He has been huge for us lately, and that's what we need somebody to fill the void scoring wise and flat-out shoots the ball," Tedder said. "It's fun to watch and I just hope he continues to take shots and make them and we have to have that to be successful."

Adams netted the Buckaroos' first points of the game, hitting nothing but the bottom of the net on a long 3-pointer which set his rhythm in motion. He nailed one more 3-pointer in the quarter to help push the Bucks to an early 18-9 lead.

But in the second quarter, Adams took off. Over the eight minute period, he nailed four of five attempts from deep, including two that got the coaches smiling, the bench cheering, and the Pendleton students going crazy.

The first came with just less than two minutes game when Adams caught a cross-court pass about three feet behind the 3-point line, when he squared up, saw the space his defender gave

See BUCKAROOS/2B

NFL

Seahawks overcame early collapses to reach this point

Seattle gets rematch with Carolina in divisional playoffs

By TIM BOOTH
Associated Press

RENTON, Wash. — They sat around in the aftermath of a fourth loss in six games, this vaunted group of Seattle Seahawks defensive backs trying to figure out how they could make such a costly mistake.

It was Week 6 and Carolina had just walked out of CenturyLink Field with an unlikely victory over the Seahawks thanks to two fourth quarter touchdowns. It left the likes of Richard Sherman and Earl Thomas trying to figure out how to make corrections before the season slipped away.

"It's more so our standard than anything else. That's what it comes down to. We've played a lot of



Seattle Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman (25) points up during a post game news conference after an NFL wild-card football game against the Minnesota Vikings, Sunday, Jan. 10, 2016, in Minneapolis. The Seahawks won 10-9.

football around here and there were no excuses for what happened then and there," Seattle defensive coordinator Kris Richard said. "We didn't

play up to our standard. We know it and thank God we have another opportunity to go out there and do something."

Seattle gets its chance to make up for the mistakes of that first meeting with the Panthers on Sunday when the teams meet in an NFC divisional playoff game. At the time in mid-October, that loss was a crushing blow, the second straight week the Seahawks had let a double-digit fourth-quarter lead slip away and another late collapse that threatened to define their season.

But the Seahawks corrected those early mistakes — problems that were on both sides of the ball — and have won nine of 11 games since. And yes, there has been some luck involved in avoiding any more late collapses, most notably last week's frozen escape in Minnesota when Blair Walsh missed a 27-yard field goal that would have ended Seattle's season.

"We've grown a lot since that and this is an opportunity to show how much we've grown since the last time we played them," linebacker Bobby Wagner said.

See SEAHAWKS/2B