

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2016

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @EOSPORTS

1B

Sports shorts

Duke back in men's hoops poll

There is a number in front of Duke again. After two weeks of being one of the unranked, the Blue Devils are finally back in The Associated Press Top 25.

One of the longest streaks of consecutive poll appearances ended two weeks ago when Duke dropped out of the rankings. Its run of 167 consecutive polls started with the preseason Top 25 of 2006-07. A run of four losses in five games knocked the Blue Devils from the ranks of the ranked.

A four-game winning streak has Duke (19-6) at No. 20 and if the Blue Devils go on a run similar to their last one they will be ranked until sometime in the 2024-25 season.



Leading Russian anti-doping official dies suddenly

MOSCOW (AP) — The former executive director of the Russian Anti-Doping Agency has died, two months after resigning amid a doping scandal that triggered the suspension of the country's track and field program.

In a telephone interview with The Associated Press on Monday, RUSADA spokeswoman Nataliya Kosheleva confirmed that Nikita Kamaev died on Sunday. He was 52.

"The preliminary cause of death was a massive heart attack," RUSADA said in a statement.

Kamaev is the second former senior RUSADA official to die this month.

"All in all, as I said last year, it's bigger than basketball. It's about his family and he has to make sure he does everything right. I want to make sure that he's doing whatever he needs to do to be healthy and get back on the basketball court whenever he's ready."

— **Dwyane Wade**
Miami Heat guard speaking to reporters about the health of Heat forward Chris Bosh. The Associate Press reported Monday night that Bosh is experiencing another blood-clotting issue and his return this season is in question. He leads the Heat in scoring with 19.1 points per game.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1972 — Wilt Chamberlain of the Los Angeles Lakers becomes the first player in NBA history to score 30,000 points during a 110-109 loss to the Phoenix Suns.

1997 — Jeff Gordon, 25, becomes the youngest winner of the Daytona 500 after Dale Earnhardt crashes 12 laps from the end to prolong his Daytona 500 jinx.

2004 — Pittsburgh loses an NHL-record 12th straight home game, 8-4 to Toronto.

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

Prep Wrestling

Pirates qualify eight for state

Small school wrestling teams compete at district tournaments

East Oregonian

HERMISTON — The Riverside Pirates and Echo Cougars finished competition at the 3A District 1 wrestling district tournament on Saturday, and the Pirates finished up with a strong performance.

Riverside brought nine competitors to the district tournament and leave with eight of the nine qualifying for state competition, as the Pirates teamed up for a third place team finish with 175 points. The Nyssa Bulldogs finished first with 482 points.

Riverside coach Richard Rockwell was ecstatic with his teams' performance on Saturday.

"We wrestled really, really well," he said. "At the beginning of the season, I thought we might have a chance to get four guys to state, and to get eight of the nine guys in is great."

Riverside's A.J. Rockwell and Anthony Kernal each took first place finishes at the district tournament, as Rockwell won by a tech fall over Ryan Vineyard from Nyssa at the 5:30 mark of the match and Kernal won by a forfeit over teammate Ricardo Mendoza.

The other state qualifiers for Riverside were Silvestre Vazquez (113 pounds), Andrew Barker (113 pounds), Teyeler Hancock (138 pounds), Ulises Calvillo (145 pounds), Ivan Escobedo (152 pounds).

Rockwell said that the team will be focusing on the basics as they train for state competition in two weeks.

Echo finished with two fourth place finishers with Kyle Ranger at 113 pounds and Jason Fitzpatrick at 182 pounds, which was good enough to qualify for state competition. The Cougars also had a pair of sixth place finishers with Austin James at 120 pounds and Damian Curriel at 145 pounds.

State wrestling competition will take place on Feb. 26-27 at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland.

IRRIGON WINS DISTRICT
JOHN DAY — The Irrigon Knights and Heppner Mustangs competed in the 2A/1A District 4 tournament on Saturday afternoon, and the Knights left the tournament



Riverside's Anthony Kernal (in black) wrestles Luis Teran, of De La Sal North Catholic, to victory Saturday during the 3-A Special District 1 Wrestling Championships semifinals in Hermiston. Kernal also won the championship match.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney



Riverside's Aristotle Rockwell (in black) wrestles Clayton Siddoway, of Vale, in the 126-pound weight class Saturday during the 3-A Special District 1 Wrestling Championships semifinals in Hermiston. Rockwell ended up pinning Siddoway.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

with a first place team finish with 171.5 points, while Heppner placed ninth with 76 points.

Irrigon did, however, only finish with one first place winner which was Kasey Kroske at 285 pounds.

Kroske earned the victory as he pinned teammate Jose Covarrubia at the 2:26 mark of the match, booking each of their tickets to the state tournament.

The Knights also had a few wrestlers just miss the cut on making it to the state tournament, as Ammon Byers (126 pounds), Damon Sawyer (132 pounds), and Josue Aguilera (138 pounds) all earned third place finishes on Saturday.

The Heppner Mustangs also had two tickets punched to the state tournament, as Ryan Smith at 113 pounds and Cord Flynn at 195 pounds both won the district title in their respective classes. Smith remains undefeated on the season at 32-0 after earning a 5-0 decision victory over Enterprises' Cole Farwell in the 113 pound final, while Flynn pulled out a 6-5 decision win over Elgin's Calvin Shaffer.

Trevor Chamberlain just missed the cut for Heppner, as he turned in a third place performance at 106 pounds after he pinned Burns' Kolton Dahl at the 3:54 mark of the match.

PILOT ROCK

Former Pilot Rock softball coach dies

Rick Hoisington was a beloved figure in Rocket athletics

East Oregonian

The Pilot Rock Rockets lost one of their all-time great sports figures over the weekend when Rick Hoisington died at his home on Saturday. He was 61.

No cause of death was stated, but declining health was

one of the reasons Hoisington retired from his position as varsity softball coach after 14 seasons.

Also the Rockets' announcer at home football games, Hoisington was a player's coach that many in the community looked up to.

Following Pilot Rock's win in the state championship this past spring, players dedicated their performance in the game to him even though he'd never coached them in high school.

"When I was in sixth grade, See HOISINGTON/2B



Former Pilot Rock softball coach Rick Hoisington passed away Saturday at his home in Pilot Rock.

EO File photo

Prep swimming

Relay wins lead Buckaroos to district championship

Pendleton, Hermiston advance swimmers to state meet

East Oregonian

HOOD RIVER — With a dominant performance by their relay teams, the Pendleton Buckaroos again took the Columbia River Conference district swimming championship on Saturday in Hood River.

The victory was led by a first-place finish from the boys team, and the girls team placed second to give the Bucks the overall title as well.

All three of the boys relays won their races to qualify for the state meet, and the girls 400-yard



Pendleton's boys swimming team crowds the podium after winning the district championship on Saturday in Hood River.

Photo by Ray Rodriguez/The Dalles Chronicle

freestyle relay will join them there as well.

The boys 200-yard medley

relay earned Pendleton's first title of the meet as Jon Jennings, Dylan Clemons, T.J. O'Hanlon and

Grant Banister stopped the clock in 1:47.20, six seconds ahead of second-place Hood River.

Then with Lukas Johnson swapped in for O'Hanlon, the Bucks won by an even larger margin in the 200 freestyle relay. With second-place The Dalles 11 seconds back, Pendleton clocked 1:35.65.

The third relay gold would not come as easily, though, and with Hunter Frazier and Rylan Headley joining Johnson and Banister, the Bucks edged Hood River by a half second with their time of 3:43.63.

Banister, a senior, was the only Buck to swim on all three relay teams.

Jennings, a junior, also won individual titles in the 50 and 100

See SWIMMING/2B