

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2016

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Sports shorts

Mariners sign Cuban outfielder

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP) — The Seattle Mariners have finalized a one-year contract with Cuban outfielder Guillermo Heredia, a deal that includes a \$400,000 signing bonus.



Heredia would get the \$507,500 minimum salary while in the major leagues. If Heredia he is optioned to the minors, his salary would be \$82,700.

Heredia has not played competitive baseball since 2014 and defected from Cuba last year. Seattle said he hit .285 with 23 homers and 121 RBIs over 374 games during six seasons with Matanzas.

Seattle also placed catcher Jesus Sucre on the 60-day disabled list. He had surgery Jan. 26 to repair damage in his right ankle, a week after fracturing his right fibula during winter ball in Venezuela.

Harrington hired by KGW-TV in Portland

Former Oregon Duck great and NFL quarterback Joey Harrington has been hired as a part-time reporter with Portland's NBC affiliate KGW-TV, the station

announced on Tuesday. KGW executive news director Rick Jacobs told OregonLive that "He's a local guy, he knows the community so well, he's really plugged in."

Harrington is expected to contribute to both KGW's newscasts and online platform for both news and sports content.

Since ending his football career in 2008, Harrington has transitioned into sports broadcasting with Fox Sports, serving as an analyst on 'Fox College Saturday' and game analyst for Fox Sports 1.

"I doubted they were authentic because finding seven of these cards at one place at one time seemed almost impossible."

— Rick Snyder
Baseball card dealer with MINT State Inc. out of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina speaking on a batch of seven identical Ty Cobb cards from 1909-1911 that were discovered by a family in a crumpled bag in a run-down home. The cards were verified as legitimate on Wednesday by experts in Southern California, and could bring seven-figures if sold on the open market. The cards come from the famous T206 lot, and before the find, there were only 15 of those cards known still to exist.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1987 — Mike Tyson adds the WBA heavyweight crown to his WBC heavyweight crown with a unanimous 12-round decision over James "Bonecrusher" Smith in Las Vegas.

2011 — Orlando, down by 24 in the third quarter, goes on an unbelievable 40-9 run over the next 15 minutes and shocks the Miami Heat 99-96. The comeback is the second-largest comeback in Orlando franchise history.

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

Girls Basketball

Golden Eagles go off after halftime

Nixyaawii beats Adrian, advances to state semifinals

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — An initial onslaught from beyond the three-point arc gave No. 5 Adrian an early double-digit lead on No. 4 Nixyaawii in Wednesday's 1A girls basketball state quarterfinal game,

but it wouldn't last.

The Golden Eagles began chipping into the lead in the second quarter and then surged ahead after halftime, never to trail again in a game they would go on to win handily 50-30 at Baker High School.

"The girls showed great composure," said Nixyaawii coach Jeremy Maddern. "Nobody wants to go down 10 to start the game, especially in the state playoffs, but the

Quarterfinals

Adrian
30

Nixyaawii
50

girls didn't let that get to them and just continued to battle."

The Golden Eagles outscored the Antelopes 34-12 in the second half and will advance to face

No. 1 Country Christian in Friday's semifinals.

Mary Stewart led the Golden Eagles (25-2) with 22 points and four assists in the team's first appearance at the tournament final site since 2011. Desiree Maddern added 15 big points inside and

Stacy Fitzpatrick led a well-rounded rebounding effort with eight boards. Carlee Morton carried the Antelopes (20-6) with 20 points.

Going into the game, Coach Maddern's film review of the Antelopes had revealed a team with spotty outside accuracy and a reliance on its staunch defense to create turnovers and fast breaks to lead the offense.

"That first quarter they hit some threes and we didn't expect them to do that," Maddern said. "We kind of

See GOLDEN EAGLES/3B

HERMISTON

Bulldogs coast by Falcons



Hermiston's Dayshawn Neal shoots the ball guarded by LaSalle's Matthew Berger in the Bulldogs' 55-42 win against the Falcons on Wednesday in Hermiston.

Hermiston set as No. 16 seed in 5A state tournament

By SAM BARBEE
East Oregonian

Tre Neal was injured when the La Salle Prep Falcons came to Hermiston back in January and knocked off the Bulldogs in a come-from-behind win.

The Falcons' 6-foot-7 center Matt Berger and 6-foot-3 forward Jason Burns won the battles on the glass against the smaller Hermiston lineup and came away with a six-point win right before the Bulldogs started league play. With Neal back in the lineup on Wednesday night, the Bulldogs' never let Berger get into a rhythm and advanced to the first round of the state playoffs with a 55-42 win at The Dawghouse.

"Without me, we lack just the sheer physical presence inside," Neal said. "Preston (Peterson), he's a big guy. Put him inside he'll get rebounds. But it's a different kind of size. He's got the height. I got the brawn to push everyone around."

It's clear the kind of impact the burly senior can have on the basketball court. With the exception of Hermiston's home upset of Summit, the Bulldogs really needed the attitude and edge Neal can give. Wednesday night, he was the difference between January's loss and moving on to the state playoffs.

"I wouldn't say it's revenge," Neal said. "It's more of, 'You got us and now we'll get you.'"

Only 10 total points were scored in the first quarter thanks to smothering defense on both sides. Hermiston managed to score on its first possession, but La Salle didn't get a bucket until nearly five minutes had ticked off the clock. Ange Toku's layup with 3:14 left tied the game at 2-2.

Hermiston coach Dave Ego said while the defense was good, the offense forced some shots in that first quarter. The Bulldogs got a bit lucky when Berger was whistled for his second foul with 2:30 on the clock, sitting him down for the rest of the first half.

See HERMISTON/3B

La Salle Prep
42

Hermiston
55

PENDLETON

2A teams looking to take the next step

State tournament kicks off today at Convention Center and Pendleton High School

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

The next stepping stone for the Heppner Mustangs is set to take form later tonight.

The No. 3 Mustangs come into the 2A quarterfinals off of a hard-fought win in the first round against Los River and are ready to take that next step towards the ultimate goal of a state championship.

Heppner will have its hands full with the No. 6 seed Bandon Tigers, who come rolling into the game winners of 10-straight and 16 of their last 17 overall.

The Tigers (22-4) average just over 56 points per game on offense and give up an average of 41.6 points on defense. Their last loss came on Jan. 22 when they lost

on the road to Toledo 50-45.

The teams will tip-off at 6:30 p.m. at the Pendleton Convention Center.

But aside from the Mustangs, the Convention Center and Pendleton High School are booked for the next three days with wall-to-wall basketball action as the city once again hosts the 2A boys and girls state basketball tournaments.

The games kick off today at 1:30 p.m. with the No. 5 seed Imbler taking on the No. 4 seed Western Mennonite on the boys side at the Convention Center, and the No. 9 seed Bonanza taking on No. 1 seed Kennedy at PHS.

The semifinals and consolation games will take place on Friday, beginning at 9 a.m. and running through 6:30 p.m. The championship games as well as third and fifth place games will take place on Saturday at the Convention Center, starting at 9 a.m. The girls title game will tip-off at 6:30 p.m. and the boys game at 8:30 p.m.

See 2A STATE/3B



In this Jan. 10, 2016 file photo, Heppner's Patrick Collins goes up for a rebound flanked by Enterprise's Brycen Locke (34) and Brett Green-shields in the Mustangs' 65-34 win against the Outlaws in Pendleton.

EO file photo/
E.J. Harris