

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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Sports shorts

Seahawks sign pair of linemen

RENTON, Wash. (AP) — The Seattle Seahawks signed defensive tackle Sealver Siliga and tackle Bradley Sowell to one-year contracts on Monday.

The two players are the first outside signings of the offseason for Seattle. They had re-signed defensive tackle Ahtyba Rubin, cornerback Jeremy Lane, wide receiver Jermaine Kearse and punter Jon Ryan since free agency began last week.

Siliga briefly spent time with Seattle in 2013 after being acquired in a trade but never played for Seattle before being released and signing with the New England Patriots, where he spent the last three seasons.

Sowell spent the last four years with the Arizona Cardinals. He started 10 games at left tackle in 2013 but has not started a game in either of the last two seasons.

Mariners get to Greinke, lose split squad game

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Every pitcher gives up runs in spring training, even Zack Greinke.

Greinke had his first rough inning of the spring Monday in the Arizona Diamondbacks' 8-3 victory over a Seattle Mariners split squad.

Greinke gave up a home run to Kyle Seager and triples to Luis Sardinas and Seth Smith in a three-run third. The right-hander, signed by the Diamondbacks to a six-year, \$206.5 million free agent contract, went 3 2-3 innings. He allowed three runs on six hits, struck out two and hit a batter.

"It's a lot more bad pitches than you'd ideally want," he said. "The fastball was coming out pretty good, just the location wasn't that great. Same thing with the slider and change."

"You asked the question whether I thought there was a link. Certainly based on Dr. McKee's research, there's a link, because she's found CTE in a number of retired football players."

— Jeff Miller
NFL senior vice president for health and safety acknowledging a link between football and the brain disease CTE for the first time during an appearance Monday at a congressional committee's roundtable discussion about concussions.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1869 — The Cincinnati Red Stockings, the first pro baseball team, is organized by George Ellard and Harry Wright.

1997 — North Carolina's Dean Smith becomes the career victory leader when the Tar Heels beat Colorado 73-56. Smith, with 877 victories, passes Kentucky coaching legend Adolph Rupp.

2012 — Syracuse avoids becoming the first No. 1 seed to lose to a 16 when it rallies for a 72-65 victory over North Carolina-Asheville in the East Regional. The Bulldogs were up 34-30 at halftime — the seventh 16 seed to lead at the break.

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

HERMISTON

Bulldogs win big, take fourth



Hermiston's Sara Ramirez lies across the laps of her teammates as time runs out in the Bulldogs' 64-36 win against Marist Catholic on Saturday in Corvallis. Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Hermiston ends season by routing Marist at state tournament

By SAM BARBEE
East Oregonian

CORVALLIS — The Hermiston Bulldogs finished the 2015-16 campaign with a big win Saturday, beating Marist Catholic 65-36 to take fourth place in the OSAA 5A girls basketball state tournament.

After a slow start in the first quarter, the Bulldogs outscored the Spartans 55-19 the rest of the way for an easy victory.

Kynzee Padilla was a force inside, grabbing 12 rebounds and scoring 14 points, including going 8 for 8 from the free throw line.

Jansen Edmiston led the Bulldogs with 16 points, Sara Ramirez had 15 and Maddy Juul scored 14.

It was the second double-digit win of the week for the Bulldogs at



Hermiston's Kiana Heehn, Jansen Edmiston and Sara Ramirez receive the fourth place trophy after defeating Marist 64-36 in the 5A state basketball championships on Saturday at Gill Coliseum in Corvallis. Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Girls Hoops



Hermiston
65



Marist
36

the Gill Coliseum tournament after beating Bend on Thursday to earn the spot in Saturday's game.

It wasn't the outcome the team had hoped for going into the

bracket, but Hermiston coach Steve Hoffert said the team was happy with its season.

"Sunday I reflected. I think all the girls reflected," he said. "They

said, 'You know, it was a pretty good year, wasn't it Coach?' We did a lot of good things."

Hermiston ran through a difficult schedule, losing just four games to some of the best teams in the state. One loss came to the third-place Corvallis Spartans in the first round of the state tournament. Another came to 6A South Medford, a second seed in that tournament, and the fourth to Chaparral (AZ), which went 21-8 this season.

"I know we didn't end where we wanted to, but this season was the most enjoyable for me," Edmiston said. "I didn't want it to end, but it happened eventually. ... After we lost the first game, we made the most of what we could."

Though an anticipated return to the state championship game never materialized, Hoffert and his girls look back at the 2015-16 with fond memories.

"You look back at our schedule, to come out with 24 wins is pretty good," he said. "We had some See BULLDOGS/2B

Prep Track & Field

Bylenga leads locals in Portland

Pendleton senior places second in 800-meter run

East Oregonian

PORTLAND — University of Florida-bound Pendleton senior Nolan Bylenga started his track and field season with a second-place finish at the Portland Indoor Track Classic over the weekend.

He was one of several local athletes competing at the abbreviated high school meet held in conjunction with the U.S. Track and Field Indoor Championships at Oregon Convention Center.

Bylenga took silver in the 800-meter run with a time of 1:57.15 to finish between Eastlake's Nathan Pixler (1:55.67) and Lakeridge's Noah Becik (1:58.52). It was the highest finish of the day for the locals in attendance.

Bylenga also competed in the mile run, and placed 23rd with a time of 4:36.31. West Linn senior Roman Ollar won the event in 4:19.83.

Pendleton girls had the only other top 10 finishes at the meet, which held three track events and two field.

Buckaroos junior Kiara See TRACK & FIELD/2B



Nolan Bylenga, of Pendleton and running unattached, leads the 800 at the Portland Indoor Track Classic at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland. Bylenga was passed at the end to take overall second place in the event. Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Prep Roundup

Rockets blast into season, win opener in five innings

Pilot Rock beats Riverside in first softball game

East Oregonian

PILOT ROCK — The defending 2A/1A state champion Pilot Rock softball team opened its season with a win by beating Riverside 17-2 in five innings on Monday.

Shayla Walker went 2 for 3 at the plate and drove in a pair of runs in the second inning to get the Rockets (1-0) going on offense and Rebekka Holman picked up the win after 3 2-3 innings in the circle.

Desiree Maddern added a 2 for 2 afternoon at the plate and hit one of the team's four doubles. She reached base three times.

Rockets coach Darin Fitzpatrick said it was a good, not great, start to the season considering the team's three errors. One of those gave Riverside (0-1) a 1-0 lead in the first inning.

"It was a good start but we've got some things to work on," he said. "We had some See PREPS/2B

Softball



Riverside
2



Pilot Rock
17