

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @EOSPORTS

1B

## Rodeo

# Oregon title drought nears decade

In this April 23, 2016 file photo, Hermiston's Preston Pederson chase down his calf on his way to a 14.93-second time in tie down roping Friday at the Inter-mountain High School Rodeo in Hermiston.

EO file photo by E.J. Harris



# National High School Finals Rodeo begins Sunday

By MATT ENTRUP  
East Oregonian

It's going on a decade since an Oregon cowboy or cowgirl brought back an event title from the National High School Finals Rodeo.

The last Beaver State resident to accomplish the feat was Stanfield bull rider Cody Ford in 2006. (Dakota Freeman won the Girls' All-Around in 2010 without winning an event title.)

Six Intermountain contestants will join 28 other Oregon competitors as they try to end that drought starting on Sunday at CAM-PLEX Event Facility in Gillette, Wyoming.

National champions will be crowned in 10 rodeo events, as well as boys and girls all-around, cutting,

reined cow horse, and trap and rifle shooting at the week-long rodeo that will hold its final performance on Saturday, July 23. Girls will also compete in the queen competition.

Recent Hermiston graduate Preston Pederson qualified in two events, but is going all-in to end Oregon's winless streak in tie-down.

The calves haven't treated Oregon ropers kindly, and have shut them out of the title race every year since the first NHSFR in 1949.

Pederson is in the best position to end that after winning the state title, and also qualified in boys' cow cutting.

"I'm not cutting because I mainly want to focus on tie-down," he said. "My goal is to win nationals."

He said he was unaware that he'd be the first from his state to do it, but it's his second year in a row taking on the calves in Gillette and he's been to the NHSFR each year of his high school career.

"I've watched all four years of calf roping so I kind of know what I need to do when I get down there, what times I need to beat," he said.

He said there's no guarantee for success in the arena, "Just go be solid."

Calgary Smith of Adams will also compete in tie-down, and was one of 11 Oregon contestants to qualify in more than one event.

He's also one of three locals that will be competing in team roping, which was last won by an Oregon duo in 1986 (Brenda Youtsey and Brett Kamm).

Smith and Pendleton header Trent Sorey are coming off a state title in their first season competing together at the high school level after holding off Oregon Boys Rookie of the Year Phoenix Everano of Pendleton and his header Will Gallagher of Merrill.

Everano and Gallagher came on strong at the end of the season, and are hoping to keep that momentum going in Gillette.

"I'd love to walk away with a national title but my goal is to go and compete my best," Everano said. "We did really good this season, we're kind of a stronger team, and we'll see if we can do what we do."

Everano said he's treating this rodeo like any other.  
See **RODEO/2B**

## HERMISTON

# Locals advance to title game

All-Stars will play for title on Thursday

East Oregonian

GOLD HILL — The Hermiston 9/10-year-old All-Star team scored three times in the top of the sixth inning to take down Lake Oswego 11-8 on Tuesday afternoon to advance to the Oregon state championship game.

With the game tied at 8-8 at the start of the sixth inning, Hermiston had a runner on first with two outs when Brycen Jones stepped to the plate. On the first pitch of the at-bat, Jones ripped a double to right field to score Karver Wilkins to put Hermiston back on top 9-8. Brad Hottman and Brian Davison then followed up with RBI hits of their own to give Hermiston the 11-8 cushion.

Lake Oswego tried to get something going in the bottom  
See **HERMISTON/2B**

## Prep Baseball

# Pitch limits required in 2017

Per-game limit set at 110 pitches for OSAA schools

By HANK KURZ JR.  
Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — The National Federation of State High School Associations has directed its members to regulate the number of pitches a high school player can throw in a game amid growing concerns about overworking young arms.

The federation did not proscribe a specific number, but a limit must be established by next season, said Elliot Hopkins, the NFHS director of sports and student services. The limits will go into effect in the spring of 2017.

Every state plus the District of Columbia are federation members, Hopkins said Tuesday. Each state except Michigan has its own sports medicine advisory committee that will likely be involved in settling on a specific number.

"I think they're better suited to determine what the number  
See **PITCH LIMITS/2B**

## MLB All-Star Game

# Hosmer's homer helps AL to All-Star win

AL takes home field advantage for fourth-straight season

By RONALD BLUM  
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Eric Hosmer and Salvador Perez made sure the Kansas City Royals will start at home, sweet, home if they get a chance to defend their World Series title.

The Royals duo homered off former Kansas City teammate Johnny Cueto during a six-pitch span in the second inning. Hosmer added an RBI single and the American League beat the Nationals 4-2 Tuesday night for their fourth straight win in the All-Star game.

David Ortiz found himself in the middle of the most touching moment at Petco Park, embraced by his AL teammates near first base after exiting his final All-Star



AP Photo/Jae C. Hong

American League's Eric Hosmer, of the Kansas City Royals, hits a home run off National League starting pitcher Johnny Cueto, of the San Francisco Giants, during the second inning of the MLB baseball All-Star Game, Tuesday, July 12, 2016, in San Diego.

Game. The popular Big Papi plans to retire at 40 after this season with Boston.

Kris Bryant of the Cubs led

the parade of sparkling young talent with a first-inning home run. Dellin Betances flashed his 100 mph heat and Astros reliever Will

Harris came on to throw a called third strike past Cardinals rookie Aledmys Diaz on a 3-2 pitch on the outside corner with the bases loaded to end the eighth.

Royals reliever Kelvin Herrera pitched a hitless sixth for the AL, which will open the Series at home for the 11th time in 14 years since the All-Star winner was used to determine the hosts for Games 1 and 2.

Kansas City became baseball royalty last fall, bursting to a 2-0 lead over the New York Mets at Kauffman Stadium, where Cueto pitched a two-hitter in the second game. The Royals won in five games for their first title since 1985.

This year, Kansas City is languishing at 45-43, seven games off the AL Central lead and in the save for the AL, which cut its deficit to 43-42 with two ties

The All-Star Game returned to San Diego for the first time since 1992 at Jack Murphy Stadium. Just before this first pitch, commissioner

See **ALL-STAR/2B**

## Sports shorts

### Pacquiao to fight again on Nov. 5

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Manny Pacquiao isn't ready to give up his night job just yet.

Pacquiao, who said before his last fight in April that he would retire, now plans to return to the ring in November against an opponent who is TBD.

Promoter Bob Arum said Tuesday that Pacquiao got permission to take a break from his new duties as a senator in the Philippines to take another fight. It would be held Nov. 5, likely in Las Vegas.

Pacquiao looked impressive in his last fight in April, returning from a layoff to knock down Timothy Bradley on his way to a unanimous decision. After the fight he wavered on his previous plans to retire.

Arum said a possible opponent for Pacquiao would be Jesse Vargas, who holds a piece of the welterweight title.



Pacquiao

"I do not think that's ideal from the league standpoint. Part of it is designing a (CBA) that encourages the distribution of great players throughout the league. My belief is we can make (the CBA) better."

— Adam Silver

NBA Commissioner speaking at the league's annual board of governors meeting on Kevin Durant's decision to sign with the already-loaded Golden State Warriors as a free agent.

### U.S. Open singles champs to earn record \$3.5 million

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP) — This year's U.S. Open men's and women's singles champions will each earn a record \$3.5 million, up from \$3.3 million in 2015.

The U.S. Tennis Association announced Tuesday the total tournament purse will be \$46.3 million, a \$4 million increase from a year ago. The U.S. Open has the largest purse of the four majors.

The payout for each round in singles is rising by an average of 10 percent. The runners-up will receive \$1.75 million while a player who loses in the first round will make \$43,300. The winning doubles teams get \$625,000.

The year's last Grand Slam tournament starts Aug. 29 at Flushing Meadows.



## THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1943 — The first night game in All-Star history is played at Philadelphia's Shibe Park. Boston's Bobby Doerr provides the big blow, a three-run homer, for the AL's 5-3 win.

2011 — Abby Wambach breaks a tense tie with a thunderous header in the 79th minute, and the United States earns its first trip to the Women's World Cup final since winning it in 1999 with a 3-1 victory over France.

2013 — Tim Lincecum throws a no-hitter in the San Francisco Giants' 9-0 win against the San Diego Padres.

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