

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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Callahan Crossley of Hermiston rounds a barrel on her way to a 17.21-second ride in barrel racing Saturday at the Farm-City Pro Rodeo in Hermiston. Staff photo by E.J. Harris

HERMISTON

Locals highlight Farm-City final

Six Hermiston natives close out rodeo's 28-year run at fairgrounds arena

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

Jake Stanley has many fond memories of the small rodeo arena on the Umatilla County Fairgrounds.

The 33-year-old Hermiston native started his rodeo career competing there while attending Hermiston High

School and later on while a part of the Blue Mountain Community College team and now competing as a professional.

"It's home," Stanley said with a smile on Saturday night.

Stanley, who sits in 13th place in the Columbia River Circuit standings, was one of six Hermiston-area resi-

dents that hit the dirt at the Farm-City Pro Rodeo Saturday, closing out the final performance at the arena that saw the rodeo grow from a small start to a popular finish over its 28-year tenure. Stanley, along with his heeling partner Bucky Campbell of Benton City, Washington turned in a 5.3 second time in their team roping go, which was the third-best time of the night and seventh-best of the rodeo, though a no-time in their afternoon slack kept them out of the money big money.

See FARM-CITY/2B

Prep Football

Dawgs, Bucks back on gridiron

MAIN PHOTO: Linemen run drills during the first day of practice for the Hermiston High School football team Monday in Hermiston.

BELOW: Pendleton running back Deven Page rushes the ball during the first day of practice Monday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris



Practices begin for all fall sports

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

The sounds of fall returned to fields and gymnasiums across the state Monday as teams held their first practices of the season.

The Hermiston and Pendleton football teams took to the gridiron with excitement and optimism for the 2016 season, which sees both teams joining the eight-team mash-up of the Columbia River and Intermountain Conferences that

will be called Special District 1.

"It's hype, we're all out here's having fun and putting in work. We're looking good," said senior Hermiston wide receiver Tucker Salinas. "We're ready for pads. Can't wait actually. I think we're ready to hit each other."

"It's fun to get going again, back from summer break, it's go time now," said Pendleton junior wide receiver Shaw Jerome.

See FIRST PRACTICE/2B

MLB

Cruz, Hernandez lift M's

By ABBEY MASTRACCO
Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Nelson Cruz hit his 30th home run to lead Felix Hernandez and the Seattle Mariners past Los Angeles 3-2 on Monday night as the Angels matched a franchise record with their 11th consecutive defeat.

Hernandez (7-4) struck out eight and pitched into the seventh inning to help the Mariners remain two games behind Boston for the second AL wild card.

The Angels had lost 11 straight on three other occasions, but never under manager Mike Scioscia. Last in the AL West, Los Angeles (49-69) is a season-high 20 games under .500.

The last time the team dropped 11 in a row was during the 1999 season.

Cruz drove Ricky Nolasco's 2-2 curveball into the left-field stands in the fifth to become the sixth player in Mariners history with multiple 30-homer seasons. It's the fourth consecutive season Cruz has hit 30 or more.

Mike Trout homered and stole his 20th base, marking the third time he's reached 20 home runs and 20 steals in a season. Trout became the seventh player in major league history with three 20-20 seasons and is the only active one, now that Alex Rodriguez was released by the Yankees.

Trout belted his 23rd homer in the fifth, making the score 3-2.

Hernandez (7-4) gave up two runs in 6 2/3 innings. He struck out six straight before yielding the home run to Trout.



Seattle
3



Los Angeles
2

NFL

Seahawks see solid progress after first preseason game

Boykin, Powell two of several rookie standouts

By TIM BOOTH
Associated Press

RENTON, Wash. — What Pete Carroll saw beginning to develop in the first two weeks of training camp showed when the Seattle Seahawks finally got on the field.

In critical areas like the offensive line, backup quarterback and

Seattle's stable of running backs, that development was far more important than the 17-16 victory over Kansas City in the Seahawks' preseason opener.

"We're really pleased with what's happened up to this point because guys are showing in the game like they showed in practice," Carroll said. "So we're getting good information and really directs us for the things we need to work on."

The standouts included the maligned starting offensive line, which held its own against Kansas City's front, though the Chiefs

were without a number of starters. Running back Christine Michael rushed for 44 yards on just seven carries and was decisive during his runs. Backup quarterback Trevone Boykin played adequately even before the final drive, when he took the Seahawks 88 yards in the closing seconds and hit Tanner McEvoy for a 37-yard touchdown on the final play of regulation. And undrafted rookie defensive back Tyvis Powell showed his versatility with a couple of standout plays on special teams and an interception on defense.

See SEAHAWKS/2B



Seattle quarterback Trevone Boykin (2) hands off the ball to Alex Collins (36) during an NFL preseason game against the Kansas City Chiefs in Kansas City, Mo., Saturday, Aug. 13, 2016.

AP Photo/Orlin Wagner

Sports shorts

A-Rod won't play again in 2016

NEW YORK (AP) — Alex Rodriguez says he won't play again this season.

The three-time AL MVP was released Saturday by the New York Yankees, who owed him about \$27 million for the rest of his contract, which runs through 2017.

Any team could sign A-Rod for a prorated share of the major league minimum of \$507,500, and Rodriguez's hometown Miami Marlins said Sunday they were discussing whether to reach out to the 41-year-old.

Rodriguez spokesman Ron Berkowitz says in a statement: "I want to put all this talk to rest about Alex playing for any team this season."

Berkowitz adds: "It's not happening. Like he said Friday night, he is happy and he is going to take some time to relax and hang with his family and friends."



Rodriguez

"Done, done, done — and this time I mean it. I wanted to come back and finish my career how I wanted and this was the cherry on the top of the cake."

— Michael Phelps

The 28-time Olympic medalist and United States swimmer announcing his retirement from swimming — again — on NBC's 'Today' on Monday morning. Phelps had originally retired following the 2012 Olympics, but is adamant that this retirement is final, and has no plans on coming back for the 2020 Olympics.

NFL could suspend four players over PED probe

(AP) — The NFL has said the four linebackers being investigated for an alleged link to performance-enhancing drugs will be suspended, if they don't agree to be interviewed by the league in the next 10 days.

NFL senior vice president of labor policy and league affairs Adolpho Birch sent a letter Monday to the NFL Players Association detailing the plan to suspend James Harrison of the Pittsburgh Steelers, Clay Matthews and Julius Peppers of the Green Bay Packers and free agent Mike Neal if they don't speak with the league by Aug. 25. Their punishment would then start the following day.

Birch's memo to the union was obtained by The Associated Press, according to a person with knowledge of the investigation who was not authorized to speak publicly about it.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1954 — The first Sports Illustrated magazine is issued with a 25-cent price tag. The scene on the cover was a game at Milwaukee's County Stadium. Eddie Mathews of the Milwaukee Braves was featured.

2008 — In Beijing, Michael Phelps touches the wall a hundredth of a second ahead of Serbia's Milorad Cavic to win the 100-meter butterfly. The win gives Phelps his seventh gold medal of the Beijing Games, tying Mark Spitz's performance in the 1972 Munich Games.

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