

UMATILLA

‘Best Dam’
run benefits
local outreach

Hermiston man, Stanfield woman
finish first in 10-kilometer races

East Oregonian

UMATILLA — Nearly 30 people braved soggy conditions Saturday for the Columbia River “Best Dam” Power Run at McNary Lock and Dam near Umatilla.

A fundraiser for Hermiston’s Agape House, \$775 in registration fees were collected. Executive Director Dave Hughes said expenses were minimal for the event, thanks to the support of individuals and organizations. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers waived the fee for use of the facilities. Also, Eric Jensen of Eastern Oregon Sports Training, LLC provided his race management and timing services free of charge.

Hermiston’s Joe Hodge and Stanfield’s Rosa Holt were the top finishers in the men’s and women’s 10-kilometers,

See DAM RUN/2B



Staff photo by Tammy Malgesini
Joe Hodge leads a pack of runners up the hill during Saturday’s Columbia River “Best Dam” Power Run at McNary Lock and Dam near Umatilla. The Hermiston man placed first in the 10K race. About 40 participants braved soggy conditions during the event, which raised money for Agape House in Hermiston.

MLB

Cleveland one away
from World Series



AP Photo/Charlie Riedel
Cleveland relief pitcher Andrew Miller (24) and catcher Roberto Perez celebrate their 4-2 win against Toronto Monday in Toronto.

Bullpen guides Tribe to 3-0 lead

By NOAH TRISTER
Associated Press

TORONTO — Andrew Miller and the Cleveland bullpen pulled off their most impressive feat yet in these American League playoffs, taking over after Trevor Bauer’s bloody exit and holding off the Toronto Blue Jays in a 4-2 victory Monday night that moved the Indians within one win of their first pennant since 1997.

Jason Kipnis and Mike Napoli homered

See ALCS/2B

ALCS

C

Cleveland

4

TORONTO

BLUE JAYS

Toronto

2

Sports shorts

OSU’s Garretson out for season

CORVALLIS (AP) — Oregon State quarterback Darell Garretson will miss the rest of the season because of an ankle injury.

Garretson, who started the first six games for the Beavers, was injured in the second half of Saturday’s 19-14 loss at home to Utah.

Afterward he was seen on crutches.

Beavers head coach Gary Andersen announced that Garretson was done for the season at his Monday media availability.

Backup Conor Blount, who was also on crutches following the loss to the Utes, is unavailable for Saturday’s game at No. 5 Washington. The nature of his injury was not known.

Andersen said Marcus McMaryion would start at quarterback against the Huskies. There is also the possibility that Seth Collins, who played quarterback for the Beavers last season before switching to receiver, could see snaps.



Garretson

“I thought it was a marvelous job of our guys showing who they are and their resolve to make sure they do what is right for our team. It was impressive.”

— Pete Carroll
Seattle Seahawks coach on how players handled cornerback Richard Sherman’s emotional outburst on the sideline following a blown coverage that allowed Atlanta Falcons receiver Julio Jones to run uncovered for a 36-yard touchdown during Seattle’s 26-24 win on Sunday.

PENDLETON



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Josh Brooks, of Blanc’s Boxing, lands a punch on the face of Santiago Franco, of Rip City Boxing, Saturday during the 2016 Meet in the Middle Invitational at the Pendleton Convention Center.

Pendleton gym thriving in third year of operation

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

In the spring of 2013, Michael Blanc had a problem: he was bored.

Blanc was teaching physical education at Sunridge Middle School in Pendleton and had a lot of free time, but nothing to fill it consistently.

In Blanc’s younger days, he was an amateur boxer — something he did for six years — and every now-and-then he would make a trip north to a few boxing gyms Kennewick, Washington for some workouts but that was about it. But his boredom soon came to a halt

“I like having the mental state of I can do anything if I just put my heart into it.”

— Mike Brooks
Pendleton High School sophomore and pupil at Blanc’s Boxing Gym

on a spring day that year, when Blanc’s fiancée offered up a suggestion.

“Why don’t you start a boxing

gym?” she said, causing the metaphorical light bulb to go off in Blanc’s head.

“I was like ‘Holy Cow,’ I have all the avenues to do it. I teach at the middle school, we could use the gym and I could draw some kids in from the school there, so I took it to the parent club and asked for a grant and got it,” he said. “And now it’s grown and grown.”

Fast-forward to October 2016, Blanc’s Boxing Gym is now in its third full year of operation as a USA Boxing-sanctioned club that now

See BLANC’S BOXING/2B



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Michael Brooks, of Blanc’s Boxing, lands a punch on the side of Eduardo Colon’s head Saturday during the 2016 Meet in the Middle Invitational at the Pendleton Convention Center.

‘Meet in the Middle’ a hit

Inaugural event has organizers eager for another round

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

A few hundred people gathered inside the Pendleton Convention Center on Saturday afternoon for the inaugural Meet in the Middle amateur boxing invitational, an event that turned into quite a hit.

“I’m very happy with how it went,” said Michael Blanc, owner/coach at Blanc’s Boxing Gym. “It’s a good turnout and we had some great boxing here today.”

The event, put on by Blanc’s Boxing Gym in Pendleton, saw 21 fights featuring 42 boxers ranging in age from 9-30 take place, as people traveled from as far as Nampa, Idaho, Boise, Idaho, Spokane, Washington, Seattle, Washington, Portland, Salem and Bend to take part in the event. It also saw three Pendleton kids step inside the ring for their first fights in front of a hometown crowd.

“Well it’s probably one of the more exciting fights I’ve had with it being here at home,” said Pendleton High School sophomore Mike Brooks, who fought in the 16-year-old novice class on Saturday. “It was a bit of a

See MEET IN MIDDLE/2B

Big 12 passes on expansion

GRAPEVINE, Texas (AP) — The smallest Power Five conference is not getting any larger. The Big 12 is staying at 10 schools.

After three months of analyzing, vetting and interviewing possible new members, Big 12 leaders on Monday took expansion off their agenda.

“This was not a decision to not expand,” Commissioner Bob Bowlsby said. “This was an endorsement and reinvestment in the 10 that we had.”

Oklahoma President David Boren said the decision was unanimous and no specific schools were discussed or voted on during five hours or so of expansion talk while Big 12 presidents and chancellors met Sunday night and Monday.

Boren, the chairman of the Big 12 board of directors who has been in the league since its inception in 1996, insisted he has never seen “such a unified sense of purpose on the board.”



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1977 — Reggie Jackson hits three consecutive home runs, all on the first pitch, to lead the New York Yankees to the World Series championship over Los Angeles in six games.

1997 — Willamette’s Liz Heaston, a junior, becomes the first woman to play in a college football game when she kicks two extra points in a 27-0 win over Linfield College in the NAIA.

2013 — Grambling cancels its football game against Jackson State after Grambling’s disgruntled players refuse to travel to Jackson for the game on Oct. 19.

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