

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2016

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @EOSPORTS

1B

STANFIELD

Seniors leading the way

Stanfield seniors Dylan Grogan, left, Noe Sanchez, center and Justin Shelby (20) swarm a Kennedy ball carrier during their 2A state semifinal football game on Saturday, Nov. 19 in Hillsboro. The Tigers defeated Kennedy 32-13 to earn the team's first berth in the state championship since 1957.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris



Tigers happy to stay home

Stanfield excited to play title game in nearby Hermiston

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

Following Stanfield's semifinal victory on Saturday evening, speculation soon began swirling on where the championship game against Regis would take place.

The Portland area seemed like a logical starting place, and early word to the Tigers was that Summit High School in Bend would be another possible location. But later Saturday night the Tigers found out that the game would be played in practically their own backyard on the turf of

See HOME/2B

Close-knit class will go down as one of best in Stanfield history

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

In small towns such as Stanfield, success in team sport athletics often comes in waves.

The Stanfield Tigers are currently reaping the rewards of one of those waves in boys athletics, thanks to a group of multi-sport athletes that are now nearing the halfway point in their senior year. Last school year, the strong class — then competing as juniors — led the Stanfield football team to a 10-2 record and a deep

postseason run, a 16-6 record in basketball, and then a 29-2 record and a state championship in baseball.

That success has transferred to this school year so far, as the talented group has led the Stanfield football team to the state championship game for the first time in more than half a century.

So what about the group makes them such a talented bunch and a tight-knit class? Stanfield head coach Davie Salas said that the football senior group — Dylan Grogan, Thyler Monkus, Jose

Galarza, Case Horn, Justin Shelby, Enoel Angel, Rodney Carey, Abraham Gomez, Trevor Shockman, Noe Sanchez, Jose Garcia, and Hunter Barnes — have been so successful not because of pure talent but because of the work that they put in to help the team.

"Those guys have incredible work ethics," Salas said. "Sometimes you can have all the talent in the world, but with no work it goes to waste. But these guys bought in and are willing to do it all."

Grogan adds that the bond between the seniors started way

back in elementary school.

"It just started when we were young," said the quarterback and linebacker. "We all started playing sports together in third grade and nobody moved all the way through high school. A lot of our dads grew up together too and that got us pretty close at a young age."

Guys like Grogan at quarterback and Monkus at running back may grab most of the headlines and the attention for the success, but the senior group has shined collectively this year which has

See SENIORS/2B

"Knowing that we're going to have our whole community there at the game, have all of Hermiston cheering for us, it's a huge advantage for us."

— Noe Sanchez,
Stanfield senior lineman

NFL Seahawks' Wagner thriving as NFL leader in tackles

Linebacker just looking for respect

By TIM BOOTH
Associated Press

RENTON, Wash. — One of the staples of the NFL during the offseason is coming up with lists.

So when the NFL Network

revealed its list of top 100 players in the league earlier this year, and Seattle Seahawks' Bobby Wagner wasn't listed, it was a surprising omission.

And for Wagner, it felt like another time of being slighted.

"There was a lot of things I was tired of hearing, whether it was that, whether it was people even media people in this area that were saying stuff, I was just tired of having

my name getting followed by some disrespect," Wagner said on Wednesday.

"So just trying to prove everybody wrong again just like I normally do in life."

Through 11 weeks of the regular season, it's been difficult not to notice Wagner.

Seattle's standout middle linebacker leads the NFL with 108 tackles, including 15 last

See WAGNER/2B



Philadelphia Eagles running back Wendell Smallwood is wrapped up by Seattle Seahawks middle linebacker Bobby Wagner, right, and defensive tackle John Jenkins in the first half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Nov. 20, 2016, in Seattle.

AP Photo/John Froshauser

MLB Mariners acquire shortstop Segura in five-player trade with Diamondbacks



Segura

Seattle gives up starting pitcher Taijuan Walker, shortstop Ketel Marte

By TIM BOOTH
Associated Press

SEATTLE — The Seattle Mariners finally landed the established shortstop they've long been trying to find.

To do it, they had to part with a talented young pitcher who still has the potential to blossom.

Seattle and Arizona pulled off a five-player trade Wednesday night, with the

Mariners acquiring speedy infielder Jean Segura and the Diamondbacks getting right-hander Taijuan Walker as the centerpiece of the deal.

Segura immediately projects as Seattle's leadoff hitter and starting shortstop, solidifying an infield that already includes All-Star sluggers Kyle Seager at third base and Robinson

Cano at second. But getting Segura meant the Mariners had to give up on the inconsistent Walker, a power arm who has showed occasional flashes of brilliance.

"It's hard anytime you give up talent like Taijuan," Seattle general manager Jerry Dipoto said. "Frankly, you have to give to get ... and Segura fit

this club."

Arizona also obtained shortstop Ketel Marte, while Seattle received outfielder Mitch Haniger and left-hander Zac Curtis.

The addition of Walker could help a dreadful Arizona pitching staff that posted a 5.09 ERA last

See MARINERS/2B

Sports shorts

Rookies keep Cowboys winning

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Rookies Dak Prescott and Ezekiel Elliott keep winning for the Dallas Cowboys, even with Kirk Cousins setting records for Washington.

Prescott accounted for two touchdowns, Elliott ran for a pair of scores and the Cowboys extended their franchise regular-season record with a 10th straight victory, beating Washington 31-26 on Thursday.

Prescott tied Don Meredith's club quarterback record from 50 years ago with his fifth rushing TD and the NFL-leading Cowboys

(10-1) won despite 449 yards passing and three touchdowns from Cousins, the first Washington quarterback with two 400-yard games in a season.

Washington (6-4-1) got swept by their NFC East rival, and the defending division champions fell 3 1/2 games behind Dallas with five games left.



Prescott

"It's a great feeling to score goals and to score goals for this club."

— Wayne Rooney
Manchester United forward on surpassing Ruud van Nistelrooy as the club's all-time leading scorer with a goal and an assist in a 4-0 win over Feyenoord in a Europa League soccer game on Thursday. It was Rooney's 248th goal for United, leaving him just one short of Bobby Charlton's all-time record with the club.

Williams, Collins lead Gonzaga

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP) — Jonathan Williams and Zach Collins led a balanced offense with 13 points apiece, helping No. 11 Gonzaga pull away to an 82-62 victory over Quinnipiac in the first round of the AdvoCare Invitational at Disney World on Thursday night.

The Bulldogs (5-0) also got 10 points each from Jordan Mathews and Josh Perkins to advance to the semifinals of the eight-team tournament against Florida or Seton Hall.

Gonzaga used a 12-2 spurt to open a 37-25 lead late in the first half. Silas Nisler's basket put the Bulldogs up 48-35 with just under 15 minutes to go, and the closest Quinnipiac (0-3) got after that was 10. Mathews made 3-pointers on successive trips down the floor, sparking a run that enabled the Bulldogs to build the lead to 23.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1934 — The Detroit Lions suffer the first defeat in franchise history, 3-0 to the Green Bay Packers. The Lions had won the first 10 games of the season.

1980 — "No Mas, No Mas." Roberto Duran quits with 16 seconds to go in the eighth round at New Orleans, allowing Sugar Ray Leonard to regain the WBC welterweight title.

1984 — Dave Krieg of Seattle passes for 406 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Seahawks to a 27-24 victory over the Denver Broncos. Steve Largent catches 12 passes for 191 yards and a touchdown.

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