

TAGGART:

Continued from 1B

Taggart was hired when Thomas Graham, a four-star defensive back from Rancho Cucamonga, California, announced his intentions to sign with the Ducks in February.

“It’s going to be a great coaching staff and I love Willie Taggart,” Graham, who chose Oregon over offers from UCLA, USC and Notre Dame, told 247Sports. “I know it’s an even playing field up there and I have a chance to compete right away. They also have a great academic staff to help me get my degree. And best of all I know I’m going to go up there and play with some dogs.”

Taggart’s staff will include defensive coordinator Jim Leavitt, a Broyles Award finalist as one of the nation’s top assistants, who he lured away from Colorado this week.

At South Florida, Taggart’s recent recruiting classes ranked first or second among American Athletic Conference programs. he said being the coach at Oregon will get him in the door with more high-profile prospects.

“There were a lot of kids that wanted to be there,” Taggart said. “Just the difference between Power 5 (Conferences) and non-Power 5, it’s hard for those kids if you’re recruited by a Florida or somewhere they grew up wanting to play. They really liked our staff and wanted to be around them, it’s just hard to peel that away from them.

“Now those same kids, you get the job here, now they’re reaching out to you, ‘Hey coach.’”

Taggart’s Florida ties paid off last week when Darrian McNeal verbally committed to Oregon. The speedy wide receiver from Suffier, Florida, has started to assist in the recruiting efforts.

“We in it to win it,” McNeal tweeted. “If you coming to just wear a clean uniform, #don’t. We want attitude with skill. Football players.”

After being introduced during a press conference last Thursday at the Hatfield-Dowlin Complex, Taggart went recruiting by himself leading into the holiday dead period.

Graham is the 14th known recruit in Oregon’s 2017 class. Taggart said he wants to retain the 12 players who were committed to the program before he was hired.

“You try to get out and see as many guys as you can. That was fun,” Taggart said. “It was actually interesting just the reception that you get when you go into somebody’s school. It has been hard because you have so many recruits that reach out to you, and you can’t get back to all of them. ...

“It also gets you excited because of all the kids reaching out to you saying, ‘Oregon is my dream school.’ I hear that and I’m like, ‘Yes, this is going to be pretty fun.’”

College Basketball

Taylor’s 3-pointer gives Portland last-second win

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Gabe Taylor hit a 3-pointer with 2.2 seconds left and the Portland Pilots defeated South Dakota 85-82 in the Dam City Classic at Portland’s Moda Center on Friday night.

Taylor finished with 22 points and 11 rebounds for the Pilots (6-3), who have won three of their last four games under new head coach Terry Porter, the former Trail Blazers’ great whose jersey hangs

from the rafters at the former Rose Garden Arena. Alec Wintering added 24 points.

Tyler Flack led the Coyotes (8-5) with 14 points and 10 rebounds. Flack has scored in double figures in 16 straight games dating back to last season.

Portland led by as many as 14 points in the second half but Flack narrowed the gap to 78-77 with 2:25 left.



After Matt Mooney’s 3-pointer tied it at 80 with 1:13 to go, Wintering answered with a jumper for the Pilots. Mooney hit a layup to tie it again before Taylor’s 3-pointer. “It felt pretty good when it left my hands, yeah,” Taylor said afterward.

Portland took an early 20-14 lead on Wintering’s layup and led by as many as eight points early,

BEAVERS: Face Portland today

Continued from 1B

Kone’s 3-pointer pulled Oregon State within a point, Levin again answered with a layup to keep the 49ers in front 67-64.

The two sides traded free throws before Thompson went to the line for Oregon State, making the first free throw and missing the second. He was unable to make the rebound and Roschon Prince closed with free throws for the final margin.

In the Dam City opening game earlier Friday, Portland defeated South Dakota 85-82 on Gabe Taylor’s 3-pointer with 2.2 seconds left. Portland plays Oregon State in the final game on Sunday.

Both teams struggled to hit shots at the start, and eight minutes in Long Beach State led by 4-2. Halfway into the first half, the 49ers led 8-4. Combined the teams had 12 turnovers through the first 10 minutes.

The offense picked up as the game went on. McLaughlin’s 3-pointer gave the Beavers a 22-16 lead with 3:51 left, and Oregon State led 29-25 at the break.

Payne led the 49ers with 10 points at the break. Payne was named Big West Player of the Week last week after scoring 26 points in a 71-65 loss at Texas last Saturday, and 17 points in a victory over Pepperdine earlier in the week.

Payne hit consecutive 3-pointers to pull Long Beach State into a 33-all tie, but Thompson answered with his own 3 to keep the Beavers in front. Oregon State stretched the lead to 48-41 on Drew Eubank’s hook shot.

Oregon State was coming off a disappointing 93-90 overtime loss to Savannah State on Sunday.

The Beavers have been stung by the loss of leading scorer Tres Tinkle, coach Wayne Tinkle’s son, who missed his fifth straight game after breaking a bone in his non-shooting hand. Tinkle was averaging 20.2 points before the injury.

Oregon State was also without junior forward Keondre Dew, who has been suspended indefinitely by coach Tinkle.

The two teams hadn’t met since 2000, when the Beavers won 78-66 in Hilo, Hawaii. Friday’s game was just the fifth meeting in the all-time series, with the teams splitting the first four.

BIG PICTURE

Long Beach State: Coach Dan Monson does not shy away from tough nonconference schedules, but it comes at a cost. This season the 49ers were 0-7 against Power Five conference schools before the victory over the Beavers. All of those games have been on the road. ... Long Beach State was picked to finish atop the Big West in the preseason conference poll.

Oregon State: Gary Payton, A.C. Green and Terry Porter all attended the game. Porter, the former Trail Blazers guard, is the new head coach of the Portland Pilots, who won the opening game. Payton and Green are both former Beavers.

UP NEXT

Oregon State: The Beavers play Portland in the Dam City finale at the Moda Center on Sunday.

SHERMAN: Not the first time the cornerback has erupted

Continued from 1B

Sherman’s anger boiled over during the third quarter with Seattle inside the Los Angeles 5 and leading 10-3. On first-and-goal at the 1, Wilson forced a pass in the direction of Jimmy Graham that appeared to be intercepted by the Rams’ Bryce Hager. After a review, it was determined Hager didn’t have possession before stepping out of bounds, but that didn’t stop Sherman from screaming in the direction of Carroll and offensive coordinator Darrell Bevell about his displeasure with throwing from the 1.

Two plays later, Doug Baldwin caught a 1-yard TD pass, yet

Sherman didn’t back down after the game when asked why he was so upset. He even brought up the Super Bowl loss to New England and Wilson’s famous pass from the 1 that was intercepted by Malcolm Butler.

“I’m upset about us throwing from the 1. I’d rather do what most teams would do and make a conscientious decision to run the ball straight up the middle,” Sherman said.

Sherman previously erupted on the sideline in October in a win over Atlanta when a blown coverage led to an easy touchdown for the Falcons. That time, Sherman’s anger was directed at defensive coordinator Kris Richard,

who was yelling back at Sherman. It was Sherman’s teammates that eventually calmed him down after several minutes.

Sherman didn’t seem nearly as agitated on Thursday, but crossing the line by yelling about how the offense was being handled was more significant. Carroll said he couldn’t guarantee Sherman won’t have another outburst in the future.

“I love this guy and who he is and what he’s all about and the man he’s grown to be and is going to become,” Carroll said. “These are all great lessons and opportunities to learn. He has a lot to offer the world and I’m proud to say he’s growing, he’s learning and he’s getting better. This was a

MLB

Hall of Famer Rod Carew has heart, kidney transplant

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Baseball Hall of Famer Rod Carew has undergone successful heart and kidney transplant surgery and is expected to make a full recovery.

The Minnesota Twins said Friday that the procedure at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles lasted 13 hours and that Carew is resting in recovery.

“We are overwhelmed with emotions right now — joy, relief, excitement and especially gratitude for all the doctors and nurses who have been with us at every step in this journey, and to the donor who made this possible,” Carew’s wife Rhonda told American Heart Association News. “Rod knows he’s been given another chance at life and we look forward to making the

most of it.”

The 71-year-old former Twins and California Angels star had a heart attack in September 2015 and shortly thereafter had a left ventricular assist device implanted in his heart, which was a temporary fix to keep his heart going.

He’ll be on anti-rejection medicines for the rest of his life, although the risk of that happening decreases over

time. The overall survival rate after transplant is about 11 years; it jumps to around 13 years once a patient survives the first year.

Carew said before the surgery that he hopes to be on the field with the Twins by spring training next year.

Carew played from 1967 to 1985. He was a seven-time American League batting champion and first-ballot selection to the Hall of Fame.



Carew

Local slate

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL	
Saturday's Games	
Yakama Tribal (WA) at Irrigon, 1 p.m.	
Heppner at Grant Union, 5:30 p.m.	
Weston-McEwen at Imbler, 5:30 p.m.	
Cordon/Wheeler at Pilot Rock, 5:30 p.m.	
Cove at Nixyawii, 5:30 p.m.	
Wallowa at Helix, 5:30 p.m.	
Echo at Pine Eagle, 7:30 p.m.	
Pendleton vs. Mountain View (at Wilsonville Invite), 7 p.m.	
Ione vs. Stanfield, 2 p.m.	
Mac-Hi vs. Enterprise (at Pilot Rock Tournament), 2:30 p.m.	
Monday's Games	
White Salmon (WA) at Riverside, 5:30 p.m.	
Echo at Heppner, 6 p.m.	
Irrigon at Liberty Christian (WA), 6:30 p.m.	
Mac-Hi at Weston-McEwen, 7 p.m.	
Western Mennonite at Stanfield, 7 p.m.	
Ione at Umatilla, 7:30 p.m.	
Tuesday's Games	
Mac-Hi at Irrigon, 4:30 p.m.	
Western Mennonite at Heppner, 4 p.m.	
Helix at Echo, 7:30 p.m.	
Hood River at Riverside, 5 p.m.	
Stanfield at Toledo (Toledo Beach Bash), 6 p.m.	
Hermiston at Crescent Valley (Crescent Valley Tournament), 7:30 p.m.	

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL	
Saturday's Games	
Yakama Tribal (WA) at Irrigon, 1 p.m.	
Mac-Hi vs. Enterprise (at Pilot Rock Tournament), 1 p.m.	
Weston-McEwen at Imbler, 4 p.m.	
Heppner at Grant Union, 4 p.m.	
Cove at Nixyawii, 4 p.m.	
Echo at Pine Eagle, 4 p.m.	
Wallowa at Helix, 4 p.m.	
Pilot Rock vs. Cordon/Wheeler (at Pilot Rock Tournament), 4 p.m.	
Stanfield vs. Ione (at Stanfield Tournament), 4 p.m.	
Ione vs. TBD (at Stanfield Tournament), TBD	
Monday's Games	
Irrigon at Liberty Christian (WA), 3 p.m.	
White Salmon (WA) at Riverside, 4 p.m.	
Mac-Hi at Weston-McEwen, 5 p.m.	
Western Mennonite at Stanfield, 5:30 p.m.	
Echo at Heppner, 7:30 p.m.	
Tuesday's Games	
Western Mennonite at Heppner, 2:30 p.m.	
Mac-Hi at Irrigon, 3 p.m.	
South Albany at Pendleton, 3 p.m.	
Stanfield vs. Taft (at Toledo Beach Bash), 3:30 p.m.	
Helix at Echo, 6 p.m.	

PREP WRESTLING	
Saturday	
Hermiston at North Idaho College (Tri-State Tournament), TBD	
Paceton at Liberty Invitational, 9 a.m.	
Echo at Dobbs (ID) Invitational, 3 p.m.	
Wednesday	
Hermiston at Pasco (WA) Tournament, TBD	
Thursday	
Hermiston at Pasco (WA) Tournament, TBD	

PREP SWIMMING	
Saturday	
Pendleton, Hermiston at La Grande, Noon	
Pendleton (selects) at Bend, 1 p.m.	
COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL	
Saturday	
Northwest Christian at Eastern Oregon, 7:30 p.m.	
Tacoma at Blue Mountain, 2 p.m.	
Sunday	
Clark at Blue Mountain, 2 p.m.	
COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	
Saturday	
Blue Mountain vs. Chemekeeta (at Salem), 3 p.m.	
Northwest Christian at Eastern Oregon, 5:30 p.m.	
Sunday	
Blue Mountain vs. Everett (at Salem), Noon	
COLLEGE MEN'S WRESTLING	
Sunday	
Eastern Oregon at Reno (Nev.) Tournament of Champions, TBA	
COLLEGE WOMEN'S WRESTLING	
Saturday-Sunday	
Eastern Oregon at West Coast Tournament of Champions (at Rocklin, Calif.), TBD	

Football

NFL	
AMERICAN CONFERENCE	
East	W L T Pct PF PA
New England	11 2 0 846 349 230
Miami	8 5 0 615 281 301
Buffalo	6 7 0 462 325 301
N.Y. Jets	4 9 0 308 229 324
South	W L T Pct PF PA
Houston	7 6 0 538 229 274
Tennessee	7 6 0 538 321 306
Indianapolis	6 7 0 462 328 333
Jacksonville	2 11 0 154 240 338
North	W L T Pct PF PA
Pittsburgh	8 5 0 615 317 256
Baltimore	7 6 0 538 279 237
Cincinnati	5 7 1 423 268 269
Cleveland	0 13 0 000 207 375
West	W L T Pct PF PA
Kansas City	10 3 0 769 302 255
Oakland	10 3 0 769 358 320
Denver	8 5 0 615 296 242
San Diego	5 8 0 385 350 347
NATIONAL CONFERENCE	
East	W L T Pct PF PA
x-Giants	11 2 0 846 340 238
N.Y. Giants	9 4 0 692 255 244
Washington	7 5 1 577 330 317
Philadelphia	5 8 0 385 290 272
South	W L T Pct PF PA
Atlanta	8 5 0 615 428 345
Tampa Bay	8 5 0 615 293 296
New Orleans	5 8 0 385 358 351
Carolina	5 8 0 385 311 337
North	W L T Pct PF PA
Detroit	9 4 0 692 295 268
Green Bay	7 6 0 538 333 312

NCAA	
Bowl Game Lineup	
Saturday, Dec. 17	
Celebration Bowl	
At Atlanta	
NC Central (9-2) vs. Grambling State (11-1), 9 a.m. (ABC)	
New Mexico Bowl	
Albuquerque	
UTSA (6-6) vs. New Mexico (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)	
Las Vegas Bowl	
San Diego State (10-3) vs. Houston (9-3), 12:30 p.m. (ABC)	
Camellia Bowl	
Montgomery, Ala.	
Toledo (9-3) vs. Appalachian State (9-3), 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)	
Cure Bowl	
Orlando, Fla.	
UCF (6-6) vs. Arkansas State (7-5), 2:30 p.m. (CBSSN)	
New Orleans Bowl	
Southern Miss. (6-6) vs. Louisiana-Lafayette (6-6), 6 p.m. (ESPN)	
Monday, Dec. 19	
Miami Beach Bowl	
Tulsa (9-3) vs. Central Michigan (6-6), 11:30 a.m. (ESPN)	
Boca, Dec. 20	
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl	
Memphis (8-4) vs. Western Kentucky (10-3), 4 p.m. (ESPN)	
Wednesday, Dec. 21	
Poinsettia Bowl	
San Diego	
BYU (8-4) vs. Wyoming (8-5), 6 p.m. (ESPN)	
Thursday, Dec. 22	
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl	
Boise	
Idaho (8-4) vs. Colorado State (7-5), 4 p.m. (ESPN)	
CFP Semifinals	
Peach Bowl	
Atlanta	
Alabama (13-0) vs. Washington (12-1), Noon (ESPN)	

Fiesta Bowl	
Glendale, Ariz.	
Clemson (12-1) vs. Ohio State (11-1), 4 p.m. (ESPN)	
Monday, Jan. 9	
College Football Championship	
Tampa, Fla.	
Semifinal winners, 5:30 p.m. (ESPN)	
FCS Playoffs	
Semifinals	
Today	
No. 4 James Madison at No. 1 North Dakota State, 4 p.m. (ESPN2)	
Saturday	
Youngstown State at No. 2 Eastern Washington, 3:30 p.m. (ESPNu)	
NAIA	
Championship	
Saturday	
At Municipal Stadium	
Daytona Beach, Fla.	
Saint Francis (Ind.) (11-2) vs. Baker (Kan.) (14-0), 3 p.m.	

Basketball

NBA				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	18	8	692	—
Boston	14	12	538	4
New York	14	12	538	4
Brooklyn	7	18	280	10½
Philadelphia	6	20	231	12
Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Charlotte	14	13	519	—
Atlanta	13	13	500	½
Washington	11	14	440	2
Orlando	12	16	429	2½
Miami	9	18	333	5
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	18	6	750	—
Milwaukee	13	12	520	5½
Detroit	14	14	500	6
Chicago	13	13	500	6
Indiana	13	14	481	6½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	21	5	808	—
Houston	20	7	741	1½
Memphis	18	10	643	4
New Orleans	9	19	321	13
Dallas	6	19	240	14½
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	17	10	629	—
Oklahoma City	15	11	577	1½
Portland	13	15	464	4½
Denver	10	16	385	6½
Minnesota	7	18	280	9
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	23	4	852	—
L.A. Clippers	20	7	741	3
Sacramento	10	16	385	12½
L.A. Lakers	11	18	379	13
Phoenix	8	18	308	14½
Friday's Games				
Orlando 118, Brooklyn 111				
Washington 122, Detroit 108				
Atlanta 125, Toronto 121				