

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

WEEKEND, JANUARY 13-14, 2017

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STANFIELD

Tigers pull away from Mustangs

Stanfield boys and girls beat Heppner in league opener

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

The Stanfield Tigers showed no signs of rust Friday in their return to the court after a three-week layoff.

After matching the Heppner Mustangs shot for shot in the first half, the Tigers went on a run that was highlighted by Brody Woods' breakaway dunk in middle of the third quarter and never slowed up to pull away for an 81-66 win in both team's Columbia Basin Conference opener.

Boys Hoops



Heppner
66



Stanfield
81

It capped a strong night for the Tigers, which watched their girls' team steadily extend its eight-point halftime lead for a 54-45 win the first varsity game. It was also their league opener.

The girls had waited just eight days since their last game, though. The boys had done nothing but practice since beating Waldport on Dec. 21.

"We were a little nervous coming in, I mean it's Heppner, they've always got a tough team," said Stanfield senior Ryan Bailey. "But our last practice was a great one. Everyone's playing together really good and we were really ready for this one."

Despite the pre-game jitters, Stanfield (10-1, 1-0 CBC) didn't take long to get into the flow of the game as Dylan Grogan sank a straightaway three-pointer on the Tigers' third field-goal attempt for a 3-2 lead.

It was the first of 13 lead changes in the game — nine of those came in the first half — and the first of a game-high 25 points for the senior guard. Bailey added 12 points in the game and eight different Tigers made baskets in the first half as they battled Heppner (8-3, 0-1) to a 31-31 tie at intermission.



Stanfield's Dylan Grogan grabs a rebound guarded by Heppner's Wyatt Steagall in the Tigers' 81-66 win against the Mustangs on Friday in Stanfield.

The Mustangs were paced by the 14-point nights of posts Kevin Murray and Wyatt Steagall while Jake Lindsay added 12.

Neither team led by more than three points in the first half and

Murray knotted the score on a putback as time expired.

Stanfield coach Jason Sperr said that while he wouldn't call it a perfect half of basketball by any means, he was happy with the

effort.

"I thought they played hard," Sperr said. "We didn't rotate well on our press, but Heppner is a very disciplined and controlled team." See TIGERS/2B

Prep Roundup

Riverside girls snap league drought

Pirates earn first league win since 2013

East Oregonian

BOARDMAN — On Feb. 12, 2013, the Riverside Pirates girls basketball team defeated the Umatilla Vikings 38-31 in the season finale, and throughout the past three seasons the game stood as the Pirates' last league win.

Until Friday night, that is.

Riverside used some clutch scoring and stout defense to defeat the Irrigon Knights 45-42 in an overtime thriller, giving the Pirates that coveted first league victory in nearly four years.

"It's great," Riverside coach Clair Costello said afterwards. "And it's big to get that first league win off our belts right away."

Riverside (7-3, 1-0 EOL) began the fourth quarter trailing by five and later trailed by as much as seven points before the Pirates went on a late run to eventually take the lead. The Pirates tried to hang on for a regulation victory, but Irrigon's (7-6, 0-1) Kylie Wyant nailed a shot to tie the game and send it to overtime.

In the extra frame, Riverside's defense stepped up when they needed it the most and kept the Knights offense at bay to help clinch the victory.

Brenda Avalos led Riverside (7-3, 1-0 EOL) with 14 points, while Lacey Mashos scored 11 points, and Skylar Wightman added 11 points. The win is the fifth in a row for the Pirates.

For Irrigon (7-6, 0-1), Jada Burns scored a game-high 20 points in the Knights Eastern Oregon League debut.

Riverside next heads to Burns today for a 2 p.m. tipoff, while Irrigon hosts Umatilla for a 3 p.m.

Girls Hoops



Irrigon
42



Riverside
45

NFL

A lot has changed since previous Atlanta-Seattle matchup

With Wilson healthy and run game discovered, Seahawks ready to go

By PAUL NEWBERRY
Associated Press

ATLANTA — As with any rematch, there are certainly things that both teams learned about each other the first time around.

Then again, so much will be different when the Atlanta Falcons host Seattle in an NFC divisional playoff game Saturday.

Especially for the Seahawks. Seattle found a running game in its

NFC Divisional Playoffs



Seattle
Seahawks
(10-5-1)



Atlanta
Falcons
(11-5)

- TODAY, 1:35 p.m.
- at Georgia Dome, Atlanta
- TV: FOX

playoff opener, and quarterback Russell Wilson appears as healthy as he's been all season.

Yet the defense looks a lot less imposing without safety Earl Thomas, out for the season with a broken leg.

Most significantly, this game will be at the Georgia Dome, costing the Seahawks perhaps the most imposing

home-field advantage in the NFL. A 26-24 victory over the Falcons in Week 6 was at the Link.

"We've got the best fans in the world," said Wilson, no doubt mindful that Seattle is 8-1 at home this season but just 3-4-1 on the road. "We don't take that for granted."

In addition to having the fans on their side for the rematch, the Falcons look a bit different on the field.

The young defense, with as many as four rookie starters, has grown up considerably over the latter part of the season, even after a season-ending injury to its best cornerback, Desmond Trufant.

Vic Beasley, in particular, established himself as one of the league's most



Quarterback Russell Wilson and the Seahawks go back to Atlanta this weekend trying to keep this trip from being a bookend to their run among the NFC elite.

Sports shorts

Ex-Hermiston wrestler Berger adds another win on Friday

LINCOLN, Neb. — After falling one win shy of All-American status as a freshman, Nebraska's Tyler Berger is looking to bring home a lot more than that as a sophomore.

The No. 3-ranked 157-pounder in the nation, Berger added another win to his season on Friday as the No. 5 Cornhuskers beat No. 21 Wisconsin 28-11 in a Big Ten dual.

Berger beat the Badgers' Jarod Donar by major decision 14-4 to raise his record to 21-2 and 8-1 in duals.

Berger, who won three state wrestling titles for Hermiston High, was coming off a loss to No. 1 Jason Nolf of Penn State.

Nebraska will be back in action on Sunday when it hosts No. 13 Michigan.

"I'm the only guy that can actually make the offer and I'm actually making a real offer: We'll pay (Mayweather) \$25 million, we'll pay Conor \$25 million and then we'll talk about pay-per-view at a certain number. There's a real offer."

— Dana White

UFC President said on Friday that he offered each Conor McGregor and Floyd Mayweather each \$25 million on top of pay-per-view for a boxing match. McGregor and Mayweather each publicly said that their price tag is \$100 million.

Mariners avoid arbitration with eight players

SEATTLE (AP) — The Seattle Mariners have agreed to terms on 2017 contracts with infielder Jean Segura, left-hander Drew Smyly and outfielder Jarrod Dyson after acquiring them in trades earlier this month.

The Mariners also reached deals with outfielder Leonys Martin, infielder Danny Valencia, left-hander James Paxton and right-handers Evan Scribner and Nick Vincent.

Segura, the centerpiece of the offseason moves, agreed to the biggest deal of the day, a \$6.2 million, one-year contract. It's a big bump from his \$2.6 million salary last year.

The 26-year-old batted a career-high .319 with 20 homers, 33 stolen bases last year, leading the NL with 203 hits. He is eligible for free agency after the 2018 season.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1973 — The Miami Dolphins, who went 14-0 in the regular season and won two playoff games, beat the Washington Redskins 14-7 in the Super Bowl to become the only undefeated team in NFL history.

2003 — Pat Summitt becomes the first women's college basketball coach to win 800 Division I games when her Tennessee Lady Vols beat DePaul 76-57.

2012 — Evgeni Nabokov makes 23 saves against the Buffalo Sabres as his New York Islanders won 4-2 to become the 26th NHL goale to collect 300 career wins.

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