

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017

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## PENDLETON

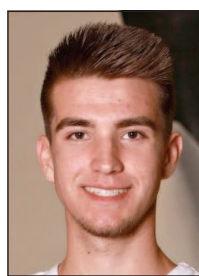
### T-Wolves earn NWAC accolades

#### BMCC men's basketball places two on all-region teams

East Oregonian

The Blue Mountain men's basketball team earned two selections to the NWAC All-Eastern Region team, as sophomore forward Jared Mathews made the second team and sophomore guard Isaiah Harris was all-defensive team.

Mathews earned his selection after averaging 15.8 points and 10.6 rebounds



Mathews



Harris

per game this past season, leading the team in both categories. He also shot a solid 53 percent from the floor and blocked 18 shots.

"Jared works hard at his craft and is a great student as well," BMCC head

coach Gavin Burt said in a press release. "We are so proud of Jared and what he has accomplished here at BMCC."

Harris finished the year third on the team in scoring at 9.4 points per game and was second in rebounding at 6.2 per game. Known for his defense, Harris also blocked 13 shots and had a team-high 24 steals.

"He works extremely hard on both ends of the floor and never backs down from a challenge," Burt said of Harris. "It was great seeing him outwork other teams on a daily basis. We are very proud of Isaiah for his accomplishments the past two years at BMCC."

BMCC finished the season 5-21 overall and 3-13 in East regional play.



In this Jan. 17, 2017, file photo, BMCC's Isaiah Harris (11) goes up for a shot against Brad Scott, of Columbia Basin College at McCrae Activity Center in Pendleton.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

## PENDLETON

### BMCC stays on top

#### Walla Walla wins keep Blue Mountain rodeo out front in Northwest Region

East Oregonian

WALLA WALLA, Wash. — The Blue Mountain women's rodeo team swept the Walla Walla Community College Rodeo and Northwest Regional No. 2 Rodeo March 10-12. The men's team finished strong as well in second place in both weekend rodeos.

Both teams also came out on top in the all-around titles, with JT Garland topping the men at the Northwest Regional #2 event March 10, and Preston Pederson and Danyelle Williams taking home the men's and women's titles, respectively, in the WWCC Rodeo on March 11-12.

Three Timberwolves scored at the top in the timed events at the Northwest Regional #2 rodeo March 10: Curtis Pederson in tie-down roping, Garland in team roping (heeler), and Williams in breakaway roping.

Pederson won with a time of 10.2 seconds, 3.7 better than second place.

Garland teamed with another of the Pederson clan, Johnpatrick of Oregon State, See BMCC/2B



Garland



Pederson



Williams

## NBA

### Trail Blazers stun Spurs



Portland Trail Blazers center Jusuf Nurkic (27) dunks against the San Antonio Spurs during the second half of Wednesday's game in San Antonio. AP Photo/Eric Gay

#### Portland rebounds from its 'worst loss' to upset one of NBA's best

By RAUL DOMINGUEZ  
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — The Portland Trail Blazers did not have a team meeting or scream at one another after suffering their "worst loss" of the season.

The compacted NBA schedule makes it necessary to forget quickly. Portland understood that and it led to their "best win of the year" just 24 hours after a blowout loss.

Damian Lillard scored 36 points and the Trail Blazers defeated the San Antonio Spurs 110-106 on Wednesday night, spoiling LaMarcus Aldridge's return from a health scare.

C.J. McCollum added 26 points for Portland, which was coming off a 23-point loss in New Orleans on Tuesday.

"That had to be probably our best win of the year," Blazers coach Terry Stotts said. "To beat a team like San Antonio on the road. Not only that, but how we won. I thought it was one of our better games as far as staying focused throughout the game."

Portland needed that focus in an emotional game for San Antonio.

Aldridge returned after missing two games with a minor heart arrhythmia. He was cleared Wednesday morning and does not have any playing restrictions.

"I feel good," Aldridge said. "It felt good to be back out there. We didn't get a win, so that's kind of tough to deal with. (But) happy to be out there with the teammates, just be playing again."

Kawhi Leonard had 34 points to lead San Antonio (52-15), which had won 11 of See BLAZERS/3B



Portland

110



San Antonio

106

Portland Timbers defender Marco Farfan (32) and LA Galaxy midfielder Rafael Garcia (25) tangle during the first half of an MLS soccer match in Carson, Calif., Sunday, March 12, 2017. The Timbers won 1-0.

AP Photo/Reed Saxon



## MLS

### Timbers' Farfan part of youth movement

#### Average age of MLS players dropping

By ANNE M. PETERSON  
Associated Press

Marco Farfan is not only wrapping up his senior year in high school, he's got a gig on the side that keeps him pretty busy, too.

The 18-year-old defender is the first homegrown player developed by the Portland Timbers' academy

system. This past weekend he became the youngest player to start for the team when the Timbers visited the LA Galaxy.

Portland won 2-0, an accomplishment considering the Timbers did not win on the road last season.

"I don't think a kid can dream something better than this debuting, playing 90 minutes and getting a clean sheet with the guys out there," Farfan said afterward. "It was just fantastic."

Farfan, a senior at Centennial High School east of Portland, is

part of something of a youth movement in Major League Soccer, as individual teams begin to see talent development programs pay off.

The average age of the league's designated players has dropped significantly, too, indicating the league is moving away from the trend in previous years to bring in past-their-prime big names.

"Obviously it's a very unique situation. There's a high school in this area that has a pro player

See YOUTH MOVEMENT/2B

## Sports shorts

### Washington fires Romar

SEATTLE (AP) — Washington has fired coach Lorenzo Romar after 15 seasons at the school, falling short of an NCAA Tournament bid in the final six despite a steady stream of NBA talent.

Washington athletic director Jennifer Cohen announced the decision Wednesday.

Romar was 298-196 in his 15 seasons with the Huskies and was responsible for reinvigorating a downtrodden program, taking Washington to six NCAA Tournaments and three appearances in the Sweet 16.

Washington went 9-22 this season, the worst of Romar's tenure, and was 2-16 in the Pac-12.



Romar

"Listen, I'm too old and fat to play basketball, but I'll challenge Mr. Ball to a one-on-one. How about that?"

— Charles Barkley

Basketball Hall of Fame member and TNT NBA analyst responding to a question about LaVar Ball on ESPN's Mike & Mike. Ball, the father of UCLA star Lonzo Ball, said in his prime he could have beaten Michael Jordan one-on-one despite averaging two points a game in college.

### WIAA board to discuss adding Hermiston this weekend, could vote

RENTON, Wash. — During its regularly-scheduled meeting this weekend, the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association executive board will discuss and likely vote on Hermiston's petition to leave the OSAA and join the WIAA, which the school first presented in January.

Hermiston athletic director Larry Usher told the *East Oregonian* on Wednesday that he had a conversation with WIAA executive director Mike Colbrese this week and Colbrese believes the board will likely vote in Hermiston's favor. However, the 'yes' vote is contingent on a full-support vote from the OSAA board, which the organization has been slow to do.

Usher and Hermiston superintendent Fred Maiocco have been contacting OSAA board members over the past 24 hours to try and get the members to sign a letter of support to be able to send to the WIAA this weekend.



## THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1941 — Chicago's Paul Thompson becomes the first NHL coach to pull his goalie for an extra skater but nothing comes of the move, even though Toronto has a man in the penalty box. The Maple Leafs win 3-0.

2001 — A record number of low-seeded teams advance in the NCAA men's basketball tournament. Indiana State, Butler, Temple, Charlotte and Fresno State join 12th-seeded Gonzaga in advancing, meaning 13 of the tournament's 32 first-round games were won by underdogs.

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