

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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HERMISTON

Farm-City ready to open new arena

Top rodeo athletes, stock to compete this week

By GARY L. WEST
EO Media Group

The Farm-City Pro Rodeo begins Wednesday with 456 contestants entered, including some of the top names in rodeo and a slew of 2016 champions.

"All the top cowboys are coming," said David Bothum, co-founder of the Farm-City Pro Rodeo and former professional saddle bronc rider.

"Bucking horse-wise and bucking bulls-wise, it's just outstanding. It should be an outstanding rodeo."

Bothum said the timed-event stock is also high quality, for the timed roping events.

Bothum has been busy in recent weeks as a subcontractor and rodeo board member, getting the arena and rodeo facilities ready for this year's rodeo.

"I think everyone — cowboys, spectators — will be impressed with this facility," Bothum said.

He expressed apprecia-



Tie-down roper Rhen Richard, of Roosevelt, Utah, completes his run in 8.5 seconds during the 2016 Farm-City Pro Rodeo in Hermiston. Richard went on to win the all-around title at Farm-City in 2016 and will return to defend his championship at the 2017 Farm-City Rodeo and will compete in Thursday's performance.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

tion to the community for its support in getting to this point.

"The community should be pretty amazed when they come walking through," he said.

Among those scheduled to compete in the new Farm-City Arena at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center are five of the cowboys in the Top 10 for the Professional Rodeo Cowboys

Association all-around title including current standings leader, Tuf Cooper of Weatherford, Texas, and 13-time All-Around Cowboy World Champion Trevor Brazile.

The man who's owned

the Farm-City all-around title for two of the last three years, Rhen Richard, is also expected to compete in defense of his 2016 Hermiston rodeo title.

Russell Cardoza of

30th Farm-City Pro Rodeo

- **When:** Wednesday - Saturday, 7:45 p.m.
- **Where:** Rodeo grounds at EOTEC, 1705 E. Airport Rd, Hermiston.
- **Tickets:** General Admission - \$17

Terrebonne, Oregon, who is leading the all-around race for the Columbia River Circuit, is also slated to compete in three events.

Returning bareback champion Jake Vold is signed up to try to defend his title, as is steer wrestling champ Clayton Hass, who sits seventh in the PRCA all-around world standings. He will also compete in the team roping event.

Tyrell J. Smith, 2016 Farm-City saddle bronc co-champion, is scheduled to ride in defense of his buckle from last year. The Sand Coulee, Montana, cowboy tied for the 2016 saddle bronc title with Sterling Crawley. Crawley is not entered in this year's show.

Tyler Prcin of Alvord, Texas, who won the tie-down roping last year in Hermiston will also be back to attempt a repeat win. Timber Moore

See FARM-CITY/2B

MLB

Mariners rally for win in extra innings



Seattle Mariners' Leonys Martin hits a solo home run during the 10th inning of a baseball game against the Oakland Athletics Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017, in Oakland, Calif. Seattle won 7-6.

AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez

Martin's homer pushes M's into wild card spot



By GIDEON RUBIN
Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Leonys Martin homered in the top of the 10th inning as the Seattle Mariners rallied from a four-run deficit to defeat the Oakland Athletics 7-6 on Tuesday night.

Martin hit a high arcing shot to right off a 2-1 94 mph fastball from Josh Smith (2-0) with two outs.

His second home run of the

season pushed the Mariners' record on their nine-game road trip to 5-3.

Tony Zynch pitched out of a jam in the bottom of the 10th for his second save.

Marc Rzepczynski (2-0) pitched a scoreless inning in the bottom of the ninth.

The A's had runners at first and second with one out but Zynch struck out Chad Pinder swinging and got Matt Chapman to fly out to right.

See MARINERS/2B

Prep Football

Study shows many high school athletes not protected enough

Oregon ranks 15th in prep sports safety policy by Korey Stringer Institute

By BARRY WILNER
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — A high school sports study conducted by the Korey Stringer Institute shows that many individual states are not fully implementing key safety guidelines to protect athletes from potentially life-threatening conditions, including heat stroke.

More than 7.8 million high school students participate in sanctioned sports annually. KSI announced the results Tuesday at a news conference at NFL headquarters. The league partially sponsors the institute.

The state-by-state survey of all sports played in high school showed North Carolina with the most comprehensive health and safety policies at 79 percent, followed by Kentucky at 71 percent. At the bottom were Colorado (23 percent) and California (26 percent). Those scores were based on a state meeting best practice guidelines addressing the four major causes of sudden death for that age group: cardiac arrest, traumatic head injuries, exertional heat stroke and exertional sickling occurring in athletes with sickle cell trait.

"The bottom line is that many simple

See STUDY/2B

College Football

Ticket sales for Oregon football still lagging

Ducks with nearly 1,000 fewer season tickets purchased so far for 2017

By RYAN THORBURN
The Register-Guard

EUGENE — Oregon athletic director Rob Mullens wants to go streaking again.

The hard part is talking everyone else into rejoining the party at Autzen Stadium.

"We have a lot of work to do to start another sellout streak," Mullens said.

Oregon sold out 110 consecutive games at Autzen Stadium (54,000 capacity) from 1999 until drawing 53,817 fans for the 2016 opener against UC Davis.

Despite the buzz first-year coach Willie Taggart has created on the recruiting trail and with his energetic approach to retooling the program, there are plenty of seats available for six of the seven home games this fall, including the Sept. 2 opener against Southern Utah.

"The challenge we have typically for that first game is the students aren't back yet," UO senior associate athletic

See TICKETS/2B



AP Photo/Thomas Boyd, File

In this Oct. 8, 2016, file photo, Autzen Stadium is shown as Oregon plays Washington in an NCAA college football game in Eugene

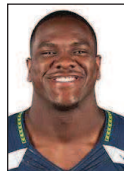
Sports shorts

Seahawks' Clark close to returning to practice following scuffle

RENTON, Wash. (AP) — Frank Clark's discipline for punching teammate Germain Ifedi during the Seattle Seahawks' training camp seems to be expiring.

Coach Pete Carroll said Monday that Clark is expected to return to practice later this week after being sidelined since the fight erupted during practice last Thursday. Carroll called the decision to keep the defensive end out of practice "coach's discretion."

Clark was sent off for the final half hour of practice Thursday after dropping Ifedi with the punch to the face, which came after an earlier fight involving defensive tackle Rodney Coe and center Will Pericak. Ifedi also left practice as he was being attended to by trainers.



Clark

"He's a lot younger. When you look at myself and Conor McGregor on paper, he's taller, has a longer reach, he's a bigger man from top to bottom. He's a lot younger, so youth is on his side. And I've been off a couple of years. And I'm in my 40s. So, if you look at everything on paper, it leans toward Conor McGregor."

— Floyd Mayweather

The boxing legend told ESPN's Stephen A. Smith that he believes on paper Conor McGregor has the advantage in their bout, but says he believes he will still win easily.

Mariners acquire veteran reliever from Rangers for \$1

NEW YORK (AP) Right-hander Ernesto Frieri was sold by the Texas Rangers to the Seattle Mariners on Tuesday for \$1.

Signed by the Rangers as a minor league free agent on June 15, the 32-year-old was 0-1 with a 5.14 ERA in six relief appearances for Texas. He was assigned outright to Round Rock on July 7 and went 0-1 with a 1.42 ERA in seven relief outings for the Triple-A club.

Frieri is 11-14 with a 3.59 ERA and 73 saves in 304 relief appearances with San Diego (2009-12), the Los Angeles Angels (2012-14), Pittsburgh (2014), Tampa Bay (2015) and Texas. He did not play in 2016, when he was released by Philadelphia after spring training.

Seattle assigned Frieri to Triple-A Tacoma.



Frieri

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1936 — Jesse Owens becomes the first American to win four Olympic gold medals as the United States sets a world record in the 4x100 relay at the Berlin Games. The record time of 39.8 seconds lasts for 20 years.

2007 — David Beckham makes his long-awaited Major League Soccer debut, entering in the 72nd minute of the Los Angeles Galaxy's 1-0 loss to D.C. United.

2010 — No American player appears in the top 10 for the first time since the men's tennis computer rankings began in 1973. Andy Roddick drops from No. 9 to No. 11 in the latest ATP rankings.

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