

Rodeo

# Furr's on fire

## North Carolina bullfighter wins Farm-City BFO

By TED HARBIN  
Bullfighters Only Media

HERMISTON — Kris Furr made the most of a week of Bullfighters Only competition.

After winning the championship at BFO-Sidney, Iowa, the North Carolina man followed it in a dominating fashion, claiming the BFO-Hermiston championship through the two-day competition last week. He's now No. 5 in the Pendleton Whisky World Standings.

"It feels great to win both those events," Furr said. "The one thing I wanted to do was be consistent. I don't want to be just the middle of the pack. I want people to know I'm a competitor and that I'm there to win."

He did just that at the event held in association with the Farm-City Pro Rodeo. Furr won both go-rounds to walk away with the overall championship. In all, he walked away with \$3,500 in Hermiston, which shot him up the standings.

He won the first round with an 84-point fight against WAR Fighting Bulls' War Party, then maneuvered around WAR's Wolverine for 85 points to earn the second-round victory.

"I've been dying to get in front of WAR's bulls," Furr said. "I've seen a bunch of videos of those bulls, and they just look fun to get around. I was glad I got a shot and came out on top."

In his few days off between Sidney and Hermiston, Furr found some time to work on his game.

"I met (fellow bullfighter) Dayton Spiel in South Dakota, and we went to the gym while we were there," he said. "I figured out what I was messing up on jumping those bulls in Sidney, and I fixed that."

It paid off. "My first bull was one bullfighters would love to have every day," Furr said. "I had to drag all the points out of my second bull that I could, but it worked out for me."

The goal is winning the BFO world championship, and while No. 1 man Weston Rutkowski has a big lead in the Pendleton Whisky World Standings, at least Furr has a shot.

That's all he can hope for as a first-year bullfighter in the BFO.

**HERMISTON RESULTS**  
First round: 1. Kris Furr, 84 points on WAR Fighting Bulls' War Party; 2. Justin Josey, 74; 3. Dayton Spiel, 74.  
Second round: 1. Kris Furr, 85 points on WAR Fighting Bulls' Wolverine; 2. Dayton Spiel, 78; 3. Justin Josey, 74.  
Average: 1. Kris Furr, 169 points on two fights; 2. Dayton Spiel, 152; 3. Justin Josey, 150.

Basketball

# NBA addresses rest issue with 2017-18 schedule

By TIM REYNOLDS  
Associated Press

MIAMI — Larry Bird made his plea years ago.

His request to the NBA was not unique: Bird wanted the league to eliminate the dreaded stretches of four games in five days. What made Bird's pitch memorable was that it didn't just cite the demand of so many games in such a short amount of time, but also pointed out how the anxiousness caused by such tests can hurt a team beforehand and how the fatigue lingers long afterward.

"What he said to me has been ringing in my head ever since," said Tom Carelli, the NBA's senior vice president for broadcasting.

Carelli and the rest of the NBA schedule-making gurus were unable to make Bird's request reality — until now. With an extra week of days to play with, along with some much deeper looks at arena availability and ways to try to help competitive balance, the NBA believes the schedule released Monday should be the most user-friendly in the league's history.

The four-games-in-five-days challenges? Eliminated for the first time in NBA history.

Back-to-backs? Only 14.4 per team on average, an all-time low for the third straight year.

Single-game road trips, average miles traveled and time zones crossed? All down a bit as well.

"I think at this point, and frankly the minute we got the extra week, we could conclude the schedule



This March 4, 2017, file photo shows Cleveland's Kyrie Irving, left, LeBron James, center, and J.R. Smith, right, watching from the bench during a game in Miami.

AP Photo/Lynne Stadky

is really, undebatably, the best basketball schedule we've ever had," said Evan Wasch, the NBA's senior vice president for basketball strategy and analytics. "That's what the week affords you, the opportunity to focus on all these different metrics."

The extra week, which allows the regular season to start Oct. 17 — the league's earliest start since 1980 — was an obvious help. But schedule makers went further, taking a deeper-than-usual look at arena availability around the league and trying to minimize the nights where a weary team will face a well-rested opponent.

In other words, NBA fans, meet FTE.

The metric — an acronym for Fresh, Tired and Even — is a major part of the NBA schedule process. It's a way the NBA has charted how tired one team will likely be when facing another.

FTE has been part of the NBA's internal charting for years, but wasn't often discussed openly or with teams.

"If a team plays the night before and its opponent didn't, then one team is tired and its opponent is fresh," Wasch said. "That fresh-tired ratio will be lower than ever. It's hard to measure and track when you build a schedule manually, but it's easy to track when building one with optimization software."

Instead of asking teams for 50 possible home dates for their respective buildings — the past standard — schedule makers like Carelli, Wasch, Chris Boghosian, Gene Li and Hao Meng instead checked every available date and tried a much broader look at how the puzzle might fit.

Their work might be particularly noticed on ABC games this season.

Last season, when stars like LeBron James, Kyrie Irving,

NFL

# Carroll supports Bennett but thinks Seahawks should stand

By TIM BOOTH  
Associated Press

RENTON, Wash. — Seattle Seahawks coach Pete Carroll said Tuesday that he supported Michael Bennett's decision to sit during the national anthem while also saying he believes players should stand for "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Bennett's actions were a primary topic of conversation for Carroll two days after Bennett sat on the bench during the anthem before the preseason opener against the Los Angeles Chargers. Bennett didn't inform Carroll or his teammates of his decision to sit while the rest of the Seahawks stood locked arm-in-arm on the sideline Sunday.

"It's easy for me to support him in his issues. But I think we should all be standing up when we're playing the national anthem," Carroll said.

Bennett said after the game that the violence in Charlottesville, Virginia, including the death of a woman who was struck by a car deliberately driven into a group of counter-protesters, solidified his decision.

"I can appreciate a man that no matter what the circumstances are, no matter what people are going to think, no matter what people are going to say, his morals and what he thinks is right to him, he's going

to stand up for it," teammate Cliff Avril said.

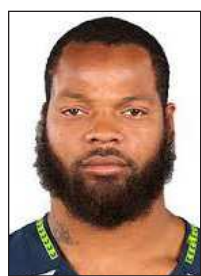
Carroll said he's met with Bennett on a couple of occasions since Sunday to talk about his actions.

"We've talked a lot about all that is going to come to him and listened very carefully to people's perspective and stay very true and stay very much in the middle so he doesn't get captured one way or the other by somebody else's concerns, somebody else's issues," Carroll said. "I'll continue to support him and help in every way. We'll visit regularly and hopefully all make sense of the things that come his way."

Bennett was at least the third prominent NFL player to protest during the anthem in the first full week of preseason games. Oakland Raiders running back Marshawn Lynch, a former teammate of Bennett's in Seattle, also sat. Los Angeles Rams defensive end Robert Quinn raised his right fist, continuing his approach from last season following then-San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick's decision to kneel



Carroll



Bennett

during the anthem.

Kaepernick is a free agent, and the fallout from his protest has not abated, even as he remains unsigned.

Bennett's action was receiving strong support from teammates and his brother Martellus, a tight end for Green Bay.

"I support Michael in everything he does. He's very well-educated on what it is he wants to happen in the world and what he's trying to communicate, and I think he does an awesome job," Martellus Bennett said Tuesday. "I love him to death, and I think he's very courageous in the position he's in and the things that he says, and I'm very proud to be his brother and to see him make the impact that he does — not just with stances like that but the work that he does in the community, the type of father that he is."

Doug Baldwin was another player supporting Bennett. Baldwin spoke out on a number of issues a year ago when Kaepernick was kneeling during the anthem. Baldwin became emotional Tuesday when pointing out the

topic of discussion compared to the ongoing issues of race in the country.

"He made himself vulnerable. Now he's put himself out there and I know that that's like and sometimes it's a scary position to be in and to me it is very brave," Baldwin said. "Especially about a topic that he feels so deeply about, that I feel so deeply about. Injustice and inequality, whether you agree with it or not — that's irrelevant. Somebody believes something, so I definitely think the way that he approached it was excellent, very methodical but also very brave."

NOTES: L.B.K.J. Wright was not with the team Tuesday because he was having a lingering knee issue examined, Carroll said. Surgery doesn't appear necessary at this point. "He's going through a little process to help his knee," Carroll said. ... WR Paul Richardson was on the field for the light workout after leaving Sunday's game with a sprained AC joint in his shoulder. Richardson likely won't play Friday vs. Minnesota but is expected to be ready for Week 1. ... WRs Amara Darboah (sternum) and Baldwin (ankle) both returned to practice.

AP Sports Writer Genaro C. Armas in Green Bay, Wisconsin, contributed to this report.

## SCOREBOARD

Baseball

MLB				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Boston	68	51	.571	—
New York	63	55	.534	4 1/2
Tampa Bay	60	61	.496	9
Baltimore	59	61	.492	9 1/2
Toronto	57	62	.479	11
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	64	52	.552	—
Kansas City	60	59	.504	5 1/2
Minnesota	59	58	.504	5 1/2
Detroit	53	66	.445	12 1/2
Chicago	45	71	.388	19
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Houston	73	46	.613	—
Los Angeles	61	59	.508	12 1/2
Seattle	60	61	.496	14
Texas	58	60	.491	14 1/2
Oakland	53	67	.442	20 1/2
Tuesday's Games				
Houston 9, Arizona 4				
N.Y. Yankees 5, N.Y. Mets 4				
Washington 3, L.A. Angels 1				
San Francisco 9, Miami 4				
Boston 10, St. Louis 4				
Milwaukee 3, Pittsburgh 1				
Cincinnati 2, Chicago Cubs 1				
Atlanta 4, Colorado 3				
L.A. Dodgers 6, Chicago White Sox 1				
San Diego 8, Philadelphia 4				
Wednesday's Games				
L.A. Angels (Nolasco 5-12) at Washington (Roark 9-7), 10:05 a.m.				
Kansas City (Duffy 7-9) at Oakland (Blackburn 3-1), 12:35 p.m.				
Baltimore (Jimenez 5-7) at Seattle (Gonzales 0-0), 12:40 p.m.				
Tampa Bay (Faria 5-3) at Toronto (Stroman 10-6), 4:07 p.m.				
N.Y. Yankees (Garcia 5-8) at N.Y. Mets (Gsellman 5-5), 4:10 p.m.				
St. Louis (Lynn 10-6) at Boston (Rodriguez 4-3), 4:10 p.m.				
Cincinnati (Bailey 4-6) at Chicago Cubs (Lackey 10-9), 5:05 p.m.				
Arizona (Walker 6-6) at Houston (Morton 9-5), 5:10 p.m.				
Atlanta (Foltynewicz 10-7) at Colorado (Gray 4-2), 5:40 p.m.				
Chicago White Sox (Rodon 1-4) at L.A. Dodgers (Darvish 8-9), 7:10 p.m.				
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Washington	71	46	.607	—
Miami	57	61	.483	14 1/2
Atlanta	53	64	.453	18
New York	53	64	.453	18
Philadelphia	43	74	.367	28
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Chicago	62	56	.525	—
St. Louis	61	58	.513	1 1/2
Milwaukee	61	59	.512	1 1/2
Pittsburgh	50	70	.417	13
Cincinnati	50	70	.417	13
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Los Angeles	84	34	.712	—
Arizona	66	53	.555	18 1/2
Colorado	66	53	.555	18 1/2
San Diego	53	66	.445	31 1/2
San Francisco	48	73	.397	37 1/2
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Atlanta 4, Colorado 3				
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San Diego 8, Philadelphia 4				
Wednesday's Games				
L.A. Angels (Nolasco 5-12) at Washington (Roark 9-7), 10:05 a.m.				
San Francisco (Cain 3-9) at Miami (Urena 10-5), 10:10 a.m.				
Pittsburgh (Cole 10-8) at Milwaukee (Nelson 9-6), 11:10 a.m.				
Philadelphia (Pivetta 4-7) at San Diego (Richard 5-12), 12:40 p.m.				
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Cincinnati (Bailey 4-6) at Chicago Cubs (Lackey 10-9), 5:05 p.m.				
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MLB				
Northwest League				
North Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Tri-City	12	8	.600	—
x-Vancouver	12	8	.600	—
Spokane	11	9	.550	1
Everett	10	10	.500	2
South Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Boise	10	10	.500	—
x-Hillsboro	9	11	.450	1
Eugene	9	11	.450	1
Salem-Keizer	7	13	.350	3
*x-first-half champions				
Tuesday's Games				
Boise 5, Everett 4, 11 innings				
Vancouver 10, Salem-Keizer 5				
Spokane 5, Eugene 4				
Tri-City 4, Hillsboro 3				
Wednesday's Games				
Vancouver at Spokane, 6:30 p.m.				
Boise at Hillsboro, 6:35 p.m.				
Eugene at Salem-Keizer, 7:05 p.m.				
Tri-City at Everett, 7:05 p.m.				
LITTLE LEAGUE				
Little League World Series				
At South Williamsport, Pa.				
Thursday's Games				
Game 1: Maracabo (Venezuela) vs. Tamalipas (Mexico), 10 a.m.				
Game 2: Jackson (N.J.) vs. Fairfield (Conn.), 12 p.m.				
Game 3: White Rock (British Columbia) vs. Emilia (Italy), 2 p.m.				

Game 4: Lufkin (Texas) vs. Grosse Pointe (Mich.), 4 p.m.	
Friday's Games	
Game 5: Tokyo vs. Sydney, 11 a.m.	
Game 6: Walla Walla (Wash.) vs. Rancho Santa Margarita (Calif.), 1 p.m.	
Game 7: Pontzeula (Dominican Republic) vs. Seoul, 3 p.m.	
Game 8: Sioux Falls (S.D.) vs. Greenville (N.C.), 5 p.m.	
Soccer	
MLS	
Wednesday's Game	
Chicago at Montreal, 4:30 p.m.	
Friday's Game	
New York at Portland, 7 p.m.	
Basketball	
WNBA	
Tuesday's Games	
Connecticut 96, Atlanta 75	
Wednesday's Games	
Los Angeles at Washington, 4 p.m.	
Minnesota at Seattle, 7 p.m.	
Tennis	
Western & Southern Open	
A.U.S. Open Series event	
Tuesday	
At The Lindner Family Tennis Center	
Mason, Ohio	
Purse: Men, \$4.97 million (Masters 1000); Women, \$2.54 million (Premier)	
Surface: Hard-Outdoor	
Singles	
Men	
First Round	
Juan Martin del Potro, Argentina, def. Tomas Berdych (10), Czech Republic, 3-6, 7-5 (1), 6-0	
Nick Kyrgios, Australia, def. David Goffin (9), Belgium, 6-2, 6-3	
Alexander Dolgopolov, Ukraine, def. Kevin Anderson, South Africa, 6-4, 7-6 (6)	
Karen Khachanov, Russia, def. Diego Schwartzman, Argentina, 6-1, 1-6, 6-3	
Albert Ramos-Vinolas, Spain, def. Mikhail Youzhny, Russia, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3	
David Ferrer, Spain, def. Steve Johnson, United States, 6-1, 5-7, 6-3	
Yoshi Sugita, Japan, def. Jack Sock (13), United States, 7-5, 6-4	
Jared Donaldson, United States, def. Roberto Bautista Agut (12), Spain, 7-6 (5), 6-3	
Pablo Carreno Busta (11), Spain, def. Paolo Lorenzi, Italy, 6-3, 6-3	
Adrian Panatta, France, def. Robin Haase, Netherlands, 2-6, 7-6 (8), 6-2	
Second Round	
John Isner (14), United States, def. Tommy Paul, United States, 6-3, 6-3	
Ivo Karlovic, Croatia, def. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (8), France, 6-4, 7-6 (9)	
Women	
First Round	
Dominika Cibulkova (11), Slovakia, def. Ana Konjuh, Croatia, 5-7, 7-5, 6-2	
Ashleigh Barty, Australia, def. Varvara Lepchenko, United States, 6-4, 6-4	
Natalia Vikhlyantseva, Russia, def. Donna Vekic, Croatia, 6-3, 2-6, 6-3	
Aleksandra Krunic, Serbia, def. Jelena Ostapenko (12), Latvia, 6-4, 6-2	
Julia Goerges, Germany, def. Agnieszka Radwanska (10), Poland, 6-4, 6-4	
Venus Williams (9), United States, def. Alison Riske, United States, 6-2, 6-0	
Alize Cornet, France, def. CiCi Bellis, United States, 7-6 (5), 3-6, 6-2	
Anastasija Sevastova (15), Latvia, def. Peng Shuai, China, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2	
Elena Vesnina, Russia, def. Caroline Garcia, France, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4	
Francoise Abanda, Canada, def. Magda Linette, Poland, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2	
Ekaterina Makarova, Russia, def. Barbora Strycova, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-1	
Sloane Stephens, United States, def. Lucie Safarova, Czech Republic, 6-4, 7-6 (5)	
Second Round	
Simona Halep (2), Romania, def. Taylor Townsend, United States, 6-4, 6-1	
Johanna Konta (7), Britain, def. Kiki Bertens, Netherlands, 6-3, 6-3	
Garbine Muguruza (4), Spain, def. Beatriz Haddad Maia, Brazil, 6-2, 6-0	