

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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College Football

Andersen leaves Beavs behind

Third-year coach departs with 7-24 overall record

By RALPH D. RUSSO
Associated Press

Oregon State and coach Gary Andersen have mutually agreed to part ways, effective immediately, with the Beavers off to a 1-5 start.

The school announced the split in a news release Monday, two days after

a 38-10 loss at Southern California. Oregon State did not have a victory against an FBS team this season.

"This was something that evolved between the both of us," athletic director Scott Barnes said.

He said the conversation with Andersen got to a point Sunday "where we made a final decision."

Cornerbacks coach Cory Hall was named interim coach. The Beavers face Colorado at home on Saturday.

"I'm going to give it my best, because in the end that's what the kids deserve,"

Hall said.

Oregon State says Andersen, 53, and the school "agreed to release each other from all future contract obligations and payments." Andersen's contract had been extended after last season and ran through the 2021 season. He was due to make \$2.65 million this season and had he been fired without cause he would have been due about \$12 million.

"After many discussions with Scott, waiving my contract is the correct decision and enables the young men and

See ANDERSEN/3B



In this Sept. 30, 2017, file photo, Oregon State head coach Gary Andersen watches from the sidelines during a game against Washington, in Corvallis.

MLB PLAYOFFS



Houston Astros third baseman Alex Bregman (2) celebrates his home run with Carlos Correa, rear, and Evan Gattis, right during the eighth inning of Game 4 of the American League Division Series against the Boston Red Sox, Monday in Boston.

Houston lifts off to ALCS

Astros hang on to oust Red Sox

By JIMMY GOLEN
Associated Press

BOSTON — The Houston Astros poured back onto the field after advancing to their first AL Championship Series, posing for pictures with the Green Monster as a backdrop before a few players bellyflopped in the puddles in the infield dirt.

They were already soaked with celebratory beer and sparkling wine.

"Both teams were throwing their guys, and that's what you live for," Houston third baseman Alex Bregman said on Monday after Justin Verlander came out of the bullpen to beat Chris Sale in an aces-turned-relievers role reversal and helped the Astros eliminate the Red Sox in four



games with a 5-4 victory. "When we saw Verlander run to the 'pen we said, 'Our horse is on the mound, we need to win this game,'" said Bregman, who homered off Sale to tie it in the eighth before Josh Reddick's single gave the Astros the lead. "That's kind of the whole energy that he's brought since we brought him over here. He's brought an energy with him that, 'Hey, when he's out there, we're going to win.'"

Verlander, who was acquired for the playoff run after spending his first 13 seasons in Detroit, gave up the go-ahead homer to Andrew Benintendi — the first batter he faced — before shutting Boston down for the next 2



Houston Astros designated hitter Carlos Beltran watches his RBI single during the ninth inning in Game 4 of the ALDS on Monday in Boston.

2/3 innings. The former AL MVP and Cy Young winner earned the victory in his first relief appearance after

424 starts in a major and minor league career. "All the things that you

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NFL

Cowboys owner reignites player protest conversation

Jerry Jones suggests players will be benched if protests during the anthem continue

By SCHUYLER DIXON
Associated Press

DALLAS — Now that Jerry Jones of the Dallas Cowboys has become the first NFL owner with a public suggestion of repercussions for displays during the national anthem, players are opening up more about the delicate balance of team chemistry and politics in the locker room.

And they're not necessarily slamming the powerful and outspoken Jones for suggesting his players will be benched if they disrespect the flag.

"He's the owner. Either you listen or you don't," Washington Redskins tight end Vernon Davis said Monday. "And if you don't listen, then you won't play. It's all up to each and every individual."

Jones was responding Sunday night to questions about Vice President Mike Pence's decision to leave an Indianapolis home game in protest of about a dozen San Francisco players who kneeled during the anthem. President Donald Trump tweeted after Pence's walkout that he had told his vice president to leave if any players kneeled.

On Monday night, Trump also tweeted his support for Jones.

"A big salute to Jerry Jones, owner of the Dallas Cowboys, who will BENCH players who disrespect our Flag," the president tweeted. "Stand for Anthem or sit for game!"

Former 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick started the movement early last season when he sat on the bench, and later kneeled, during the anthem to protest racial inequality and police mistreatment of black males. He remains unsigned and wants to resume his career.

The 74-year-old Jones, also the team's general manager, said after a loss to Green Bay on Sunday that the NFL cannot leave the impression that it tolerates players disrespecting the flag and said any Cowboys doing so will not play.

They were the most provocative comments so far from Jones, a powerful behind-the-scenes force in the NFL and recent Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee who had already been clear in his support of standing for the anthem.

The NFL players' union had a swift rebuke Monday. Executive director

See PROTESTS/3B

Sports shorts

Twins, Molitor agree to extension

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota Twins are bringing back Paul Molitor as manager after he led a historic turnaround.

The Twins announced Monday that Molitor is getting a new three-year deal that keeps him under contract through 2020. They went 85-77 this season, becoming the first team to make the playoffs after losing at least 100 games the previous year. They lost to the New York Yankees in the AL wild-card game last week.

A St. Paul native who spent the final three seasons of a Hall of Fame career with the Twins, Molitor has earned the loyalty and respect of his players with an even-keeled demeanor and impressive grasp of the game.

Molitor spent the entire season in the final year of his initial three-year contract signed in 2014.



Molitor

"You don't give up that tag freely -- but he has a chance to be great. There's still a lot of work to be done. You know, when you look at his body of work -- only playing 31 games, and really he's only been playing basketball for six years, and he's 23. He's just scratching the surface."

— Brett Brown

Philadelphia 76ers head coach on center Joel Embiid, who signed a five-year, \$148 million extension with the team despite playing in just 31 games in three seasons due to injury. Embiid was the No. 3 pick in the 2014 draft.

Vikings beat Bears 20-17 on Forbath's last-second field goal

CHICAGO (AP) — Case Keenum led three second-half scoring drives in relief of Sam Bradford, and the Minnesota Vikings spoiled prized rookie quarterback Mitchell Trubisky's debut with a 20-17 victory over the Chicago Bears on Monday night.

Kai Forbath kicked a 26-yard field goal in the closing seconds after Harrison Smith intercepted Trubisky, and the Vikings (3-2) came away with the win after dropping two of three.

Called on after Mike Glennon struggled in the first four games, Trubisky played like he belonged. The No. 2 overall pick was 12 of 25 for 128 yards with a touchdown.

The interception came after the Bears (1-4) took over on their 10 with 2:32 left in the game. Smith picked off a pass intended for Zach Miller on the right sideline at the 22.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1981 — Southern Cal's Marcus Allen rushes for 211 yards, his fifth straight 200-plus rushing game, in a 13-10 loss to Arizona.

2004 — New England wins its 19th straight game, setting an NFL record for consecutive wins counting the playoffs with a 24-10 victory over Miami.

2011 — NBA Commissioner David Stern cancels the first two weeks of the season after owners and players are unable to reach a new labor deal and end the lockout. Games originally scheduled to be played from Nov. 1 through Nov. 14 are wiped out.

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