



AP Photo/John Bazemore)
NFL commissioner Roger Goodell, center, is flanked by Pittsburgh Steelers president Art Rooney II, left, and Arizona Cardinals owner Michael Bidwill during a news conference where he announced that NFL team owners have reached agreement on a new league policy that requires players to stand for the national anthem or remain in the locker room, during the NFL owner’s spring meeting Wednesday in Atlanta.

Stand or stay out of sight: NFL takes on anthem protesters

By **PAUL NEWBERRY**
Associated Press

ATLANTA — NFL owners approved a new policy Wednesday aimed at quelling the firestorm over national anthem protests sparked by Colin Kaepernick and polarized by President Trump, permitting players to stay in the locker room during the “The Star-Spangled Banner” but requiring them to stand if they come to the field.

Commissioner Roger Goodell said the change was approved unanimously by the owners at their spring meeting in Atlanta, but even that was up for debate.

The head of the San Francisco 49ers — Kaepernick’s former team — said his franchise abstained from the vote. CEO Jed York said he wasn’t comfortable with a process that didn’t directly involve the players.

“I want to work with my team to make sure everything we do is about promoting the right types of social justice reform and getting to a better America,” York said.

The NFL Players Association said it wasn’t consulted about the new policy and would challenge any changes that violate the collective bargaining agreement.

Clearly, Goodell and most owners just want to put the issue behind them.

“We want people to be respectful of the national anthem. We want people to stand,” the commissioner said. “We’ve been very sensitive on making sure that we give players choices, but we do believe that moment is an important moment and one that we are going to focus on.”

In the surest sign that players were not part of the discussions, any violations of the policy would result in fines against the team — not the players. That could be a way to avoid legal challenges from the players’ union, since fines against a team would not be subject to collective bargaining.

The league did say teams could impose their own workplace rules for those who fail to show respect for the flag and anthem, but didn’t say what those policies might be. Because the new policy is a change in the terms and conditions of employment that was not collectively bargained, any attempts to fine individual players who continue to protest in public would surely be opposed by the union.

The owners spent several hours addressing the contentious issue — which made it all the way to the White House.

Kaepernick, the former 49ers quarterback, began kneeling during the national anthem in 2016, a quiet but powerful protest against police brutality and racial inequities in the justice system.

Other players took up the cause, and the gesture carried on during the 2017 season even after Kaepernick left the 49ers and failed to land a job with another team.

Trump turned the debate into a campaign issue, saying the NFL should fire any player who takes a knee during “The Star-Spangled Banner.” The NFL hasn’t gone that far, but Kaepernick has yet to land another job and one of his former teammates and fellow protesters, safety Eric Reid, is also out of work.

Prep roundup

Rockets shutout Pioneers in first round of playoffs

East Oregonian

PILOT ROCK — The streaking Pilot Rock baseball team continued its winning ways during Round 1 of the 2A/1A playoffs Wednesday, as the No. 3 Rockets out No. 14 Western Mennonite 12-0.

Levi Thieme started for the Rockets (18-2) and spent three innings toeing the rubber surrendering only three hits while striking out six batters. Bryson Pierce made an appearance in the fourth and lasted two innings where he gave up two hits and struck out three, and closer Chris Weinke sealed the victory in two innings.

Cade Munkers, Weinke and Thieme all went 2-for-3 at the plate and combined for five RBIs. Tanner Corwin, Quinton Orr and Riley Lankford also contributed with RBIs.

The No. 14 Pioneers (13-9) were led by Matt Hill, who went 2-for-4 at the plate.

The Rockets now get a rematch with Sherman in the 2A/1A quarterfinals Friday in Pilot Rock. The No. 6 Huskies (16-3) punched their ticket to the next round after a 4-3 win over Lost River.

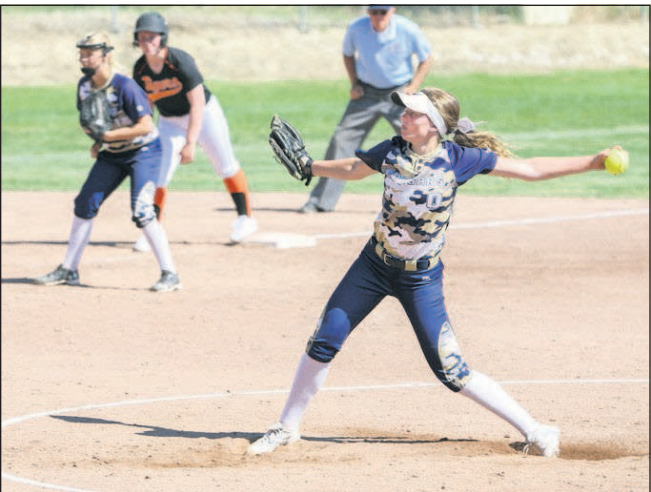
NO. 2 STANFIELD 2, NO. 15 BLANCHET CATHOLIC 1 — At Stanfield, Adrian Renner scored from third base on a wild pitch in the bottom of the eighth inning to give the Tigers a 2-1 walk-off win over Blanchet Catholic in the 3A first round on Wednesday afternoon.

Renner led off the inning with a triple — the only extra-base hit of the game — to set up the game-winning run. It was also only one of two hits for the Tigers (22-5) in the game, the other was a Damien Curiel single in the bottom of the second inning.

On the mound, TJ Smith gave the Tigers six solid innings where he allowed only one run on six hits and struck out three. Brody Woods earned the win with two innings of relief where he struck out six and gave up just one hit. Jacob Winstead was pegged with the loss for Blanchet Catholic, but he struck out 11 Tigers and allowed just two hits. Offensively, three different



Staff photo by E.J. Harris
Pilot Rocks’ Chris Weinke slides into first base as Western Mennonite’s Sean Webster falls down while attempting the tag in the Rockets’ 12-0 win against the Pioneers on Wednesday in Pilot Rock.



Staff photo by Kathyaney
Echo’s Kendra Hart pitches during Wednesday’s state playoff game against Taft.

Cavs (9-12) each recorded two hits.

Stanfield will now prepare for a matchup with Horizon Christian on Friday. The No. 7 Hawks (18-7) defeated Rainier 17-5 to advance to the quarterfinals.

NO. 5 PLEASANT HILL 4, NO. 12 IRRIGON 3 — On the road, Irrigon’s season came to an end after a 4-3 loss to Pleasant Hill in the first round of the playoffs.

The No. 12 Knights’ efforts came late and were thanks to aggressive base running from Mathew Moreno and a two-RBI single of the bat of Adrian Roa.

The three-run seventh inning caught up to the No. 5 Billies, who were up 3-0 before that frame. But it was the home team that would get the walk-off, an RBI single to keep the Billies (16-7 overall) season alive.

The Knights close out the season 16-10, going 9-5 in

the Eastern Oregon League.

SOFTBALL

NO. 9 TAFT 12, NO. 8 ECHO 2 — On Wednesday, Echo hosted Taft for the first round of the playoffs. The No. 9 Tigers got out to an early 3-0 lead after the first inning and secured the win just one frame later.

The No. 8 Cougars made a dent in their 12-0 deficit with two runs in the bottom of the fourth with a sacrifice bunt from Lyndzee Keltz and a sac fly off the bat of Alyssa Ray.

Ray was handed the loss in the circle after 4 2/3 innings of work. Ray surrendered nine runs off eight hits, struck out seven and walked six.

Offensively, only three Cougars (19-7 overall) recorded hits with Kendra Hart leading Echo after a 2-for-3 performance at the plate.

SCOREBOARD

Local slate

PREP BASEBALL
Friday
Churchill at Pendleton, 5 p.m. (5A quarterfinals)
Horizon Christian at Stanfield, TBD (3A quarterfinals)
Sherman at Pilot Rock, TBD (2A/1A quarterfinals)

PREP SOFTBALL
Friday
Ridgeview at Pendleton, 3:30 p.m. (5A quarterfinals)
Lebanon at Hermiston, 5 p.m. (5A quarterfinals)
Union/Cove at Pilot Rock, 5 p.m. (2A/1A quarterfinals)

Prep slate

OSAA BASEBALL PLAYOFFS
Wednesday’s Games
(Home team listed first)
6A ROUND 2
No. 1 Westview 7, No. 17 Century 6
No. 8 West Linn 11, No. 9 Gresham 0
No. 5 West Salem 8, No. 12 Tualatin 4
No. 13 West Albany 2, No. 4 Jesuit 0
No. 3 Clackamas 8, No. 14 Grant 0
No. 6 Central Cath. 6, No. 11 Roseburg 0
No. 7 South Salem 15, No. 23 Beaverton 3
No. 2 South Medford vs. No. 15 Sprague, (Moved to Thursday)
5A ROUND 1
No. 1 Crescent Valley 7, No. 16 Marist 0
No. 9 Corvallis 6, No. 8 Hillsboro 5, 8 innings
No. 5 Churchill 10, No. 12 Lebanon 4
No. 4 Pendleton 5, No. 13 North Eugene 0
No. 3 Crater 11, No. 14 La Salle Prep 5
No. 6 Sandy 7, No. 11 Hood River 6
No. 7 Bend 3, No. 10 Wilsonville 2, 9 innings
No. 15 Summit 4, No. 2 Thurston 1
4A ROUND 1
No. 1 Henley 3, No. 16 Baker 0
No. 8 Junction City 7, No. 9 Phoenix 5
No. 5 North Bend 4, No. 12 Valley Catholic 2
No. 4 Gladstone 4, No. 13 Brookings-Harbor 0
No. 3 La Grande 1, No. 14 Estacada 0
No. 6 Banks 7, No. 11 Newport 0
No. 10 Madras 13, No. 7 Astoria 9, 11 innings
No. 2 North Marion 8, No. 15 Crook County 2
3A ROUND 1
No. 1 Taft 9, No. 16 Clatskanie 2
No. 9 Joseph 6, No. 8 Salem Academy 3
No. 5 Pleasant Hill 4, No. 12 Irrigon 3
No. 4 La Pine 18, No. 13 Vale 4
No. 3 Santiam Christ. 14, No. 14 Rogue River 3
No. 6 Cascade Christ. vs. No. 11 Warrenton, 4:30 p.m.
No. 10 Horizon Christian 17, No. 7 Rainier 5
No. 2 Stanfield 2, No. 15 Blanchet Catholic 1, 8 innings
2A/1A ROUND 1
No. 1 Knappa 16, No. 16 Riddle 0
No. 8 Monroe 11, No. 9 St. Paul 10
No. 5 Kennedy 7, No. 12 Culver 4
No. 13 Oakland 8, No. 4 Umpqua Valley 6
No. 3 Pilot Rock 12, No. 14 Western Mennonite 0
No. 6 Sherman Co. 4, No. 11 Lost River 3

No. 7 Bandon 3, No. 10 Neah-Kah-Nie 2
No. 2 Reedsport 15, No. 15 Grant Union 0

OSAA SOFTBALL PLAYOFFS
Wednesday’s Games
(Home team listed first)
6A ROUND 2
No. 1 Tualatin 8, No. 16 West Salem 3
No. 8 Jesuit 6, No. 9 Westview 1
No. 5 Oregon City 5, No. 21 David Douglas 1
No. 13 Franklin 7, No. 4 Barlow 2
No. 3 North Medford 8, No. 14 Sheldon 0
No. 11 Tigard 3, No. 6 Glencoe 0
No. 7 Grants Pass 5, No. 10 West Albany 3
No. 2 Clackamas 3, No. 15 Roseburg 2
5A ROUND 1
No. 1 Pendleton 19, No. 16 Sandy 3
No. 8 Ridgeview 6, No. 9 La Salle Prep 5
No. 5 Hood River 9, No. 12 Thurston 1
No. 4 Marist 7, No. 13 Corvallis 1
No. 14 Crater 2, No. 3 Dallas 1
No. 6 Putnam 6, No. 11 Central 0
No. 7 Hermiston 4, No. 10 Eagle Point 3
No. 15 Lebanon 6, No. 2 Hillsboro 5
4A ROUND 1
No. 1 La Grande 10, No. 16 Crook County 0, 5 innings
No. 8 Gladstone 10, No. 9 Elmira 2
No. 12 Sweet Home 7, No. 5 Mac-Hi 5
No. 4 Philomath 9, No. 13 North Valley 3
No. 3 Henley 11, No. 14 Newport 0
No. 11 North Bend 10, No. 6 Scappoose 7
No. 7 South Umpqua 10, No. 10 Banks 9, 8 innings
No. 2 Junction City 13, No. 15 Baker 0, 5 innings
3A ROUND 1
No. 1 Dayton 10, No. 16 Lakeview 0
No. 9 Taft 12, No. 8 Echo 2
No. 5 Clatskanie 10, No. 12 Harrisburg 2
No. 4 Grant Union 6, No. 13 Riverside 0
No. 3 Rainier 10, No. 14 Colton 0, 5 innings
No. 6 Glide 3, No. 11 Blanchet Catholic 2
No. 7 Cascade Christian vs. No. 10 Amity, (moved to Thursday)
No. 2 Scio 23, No. 15 Enterprise 0, 5 innings
2A/1A ROUND 1
No. 1 Toledo 5, No. 16 Butte Falls 0
No. 8 Bonanza 10, No. 9 Reedsport 0
No. 5 Union/Cove 4, No. 12 Oakland 0
No. 4 Pilot Rock 19, No. 13 Siletz Valley 3
No. 3 Central Linn 5, No. 14 Waldport 0
No. 6 Monroe 10, No. 11 Gaston 8
No. 10 North Douglas 6, No. 7 Knappa 4
No. 2 Kennedy 13, No. 15 Riddle 0

Minnesota 76, Dallas 68
Seattle 87, Phoenix 71
Thursday’s Games
Washington at Indiana, 4 p.m.
Los Angeles at Connecticut, 4 p.m.

Baseball

MLB
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Wednesday’s Games
Detroit 4, Minnesota 1
Kansas City 5, St. Louis 2, 10 innings
Houston 4, San Francisco 1
Texas 12, N.Y. Yankees 10
L.A. Angels 5, Toronto 4
Boston 4, Tampa Bay 1
Cleveland 1, Chicago Cubs 0
Chicago White Sox 11, Baltimore 1
Seattle 1, Oakland 0
Thursday’s Games
L.A. Angels (Tropicano 1-3) at Toronto (Estrada 2-4), 9:37 a.m.
Baltimore (Bundy 2-6) at Chicago White Sox (Giolito 3-4), 11:10 a.m.
Seattle (Hernandez 5-3) at Oakland (Lucas 0-0), 12:35 p.m.
Houston (Morton 6-0) at Cleveland (Clevinger 3-1), 3:10 p.m.
Boston (Porcello 6-1) at Tampa Bay (Snell 5-3), 4:10 p.m.
Kansas City (Duffy 1-6) at Texas (Bibens-Dirix 0-0), 5:05 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Wednesday’s Games
Milwaukee 9, Arizona 2
Kansas City 5, St. Louis 2, 10 innings
Houston 4, San Francisco 1
San Diego 3, Washington 1
Philadelphia 4, Atlanta 0
Miami 2, N.Y. Mets 1
Pittsburgh 5, Cincinnati 4, 12 innings
Cleveland 1, Chicago Cubs 0
L.A. Dodgers 3, Colorado 0
Thursday’s Games
Pittsburgh (Nova 2-4) at Cincinnati (Castillo 3-4), 9:35 a.m.
N.Y. Mets (Matz 1-3) at Milwaukee (Davies 2-3), 5:10 p.m.

College Softball

NCAA SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT SUPER REGIONALS
(Best-of-3; x-if necessary)
Host school is home team for Game 1; visiting school is home team for Game 2; coin flip determines home team for Game 3
FLORIDA VS. TEXAS A&M
At Gainesville, Fla.
Thursday: Florida vs. Texas A&M, 4 p.m.
Friday: Florida vs. Texas A&M, 4 p.m.
x-Saturday: Florida vs. Texas A&M, 2 p.m.
OREGON VS. KENTUCKY
At Eugene, Ore.
Thursday: Oregon vs. Kentucky, 6 p.m.
Friday: Oregon vs. Kentucky, 8 p.m.
x-Saturday: Oregon vs. Kentucky, 6 p.m.
UCLA VS. ARIZONA
At Los Angeles
Thursday: UCLA vs. Arizona, 6 p.m.
Friday: UCLA vs. Arizona, 6 p.m.
x-Saturday: UCLA vs. Arizona, 4 p.m.
GEORGIA VS. TENNESSEE
At Athens, Ga.
Friday: Georgia vs. Tennessee, 2 p.m.
Saturday: Georgia vs. Tennessee, Noon
x-Sunday: Georgia vs. Tennessee, Noon
FLORIDA ST VS. LSU
At Tallahassee, Fla.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris
Pilot Rocks’ Levi Themie throws from the mound in the Rockets 12-0 win against Western Mennonite on Wednesday in Pendleton.

No. 3 PILOT ROCK 19, No. 12 SILETZ VALLEY 3 — At Pilot Rock, after a bit of a slow start the home Rockets put together a 14-run third inning to run away with a 19-3 win over Siletz Valley in the 2A/1A first round on Wednesday.

Grace Austin had two hits with a home run for the Rockets (21-3), one of four players with two hits. Breann Baleztena went 2-for-3 with a double and three RBI and Kaitlyn Evans went 2-for-3 with a triple and three RBI. Rhyanne Oates doubled and scored four runs.

The Rockets move on to the quarterfinals, where they face district rival Union/Cove for the sixth time this season and the third straight year in the playoffs. The No. 5 Bobcats (21-5) shut out No. 12 Oakland 4-0 in the first round game.

NO. 12 SWEET HOME 7, NO. 5 MAC-HI 5 — The Mac-Hi Pioneers’ home Round 1 playoff game didn’t go as expected with an upset from the higher ranked Sweet Home Huskies.

The No. 12 Huskies (19-8 overall) came away with a 7-5 victory to end the No. 5 Pioneers season with a 16-11 overall record.

NO. 4 GRANT UNION 6, NO. 13 RIVERSIDE 0 — On the road, the Riverside Pirates were blanked by the Grant Union Prospectors, 6-0. The shutout loss ended No. 13 Riverside’s season with a 12-10 overall record.

Soccer

MLS
Friday’s Games
FC Dallas at Toronto FC, 5 p.m.
New York City FC at Houston, 5:55 p.m.
San Jose at LA Galaxy, 8 p.m.
Saturday’s Games
Real Salt Lake at Seattle, 2 p.m.
New England at Vancouver, 2:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at New York, 4 p.m.
Chicago at Orlando City, 4:30 p.m.
Montreal at Minnesota United, 5 p.m.
Portland at Colorado, 6 p.m.
D.C. United at Los Angeles FC, 7 p.m.
Sunday’s Game
Columbus at Sporting Kansas City, 3 p.m.

Golf

PGA TOUR
FORT WORTH INVITATIONAL
Site: Fort Worth, Texas.
Course: Colonial CC. Yardage: 7209.
Par: 70.
Purse: \$7.1 million. Winner’s share: \$1,278,000.
Television: Thursday-Friday, 1-4 p.m. (Golf Channel); Saturday-Sunday, 10-11:45 a.m. (Golf Channel), 12-3 p.m. (CBS Sports).
Defending champion: Kevin Kisner.
Last week: Aaron Wise won the AT&T Byron Nelson.
FedEx Cup leader: Justin Thomas.

Motorsports

NASCAR CUP SERIES
Upcoming Schedule
Sunday — Coca-Cola 600, Charlotte Motor Speedway. TV: FOX, 3 p.m.
June 3 — Pocono 400, Pocono Raceway. TV: FS1, 11 a.m.
June 10 — FireKeepers Casino 400, Michigan International Raceway. TV: FOX, 11 a.m.
Points Standings Through May 22
1. Kyle Busch, 503; 2. Joey Logano, 491; 3. Kevin Harvick, 484; 4. Brad Keselowski, 396; 5. Kurt Busch, 393; 6. Clint Bowyer, 386; 7. Denny Hamlin, 380; 8. Martin Truex Jr., 376; 9. Ryan Blaney, 365; 10. Aric Almirola, 342; 11. Kyle Larson, 338; 12. Jimmie Johnson, 286; 13. Erik Jones, 285; 14. Alex Bowman, 271; 15. Chase Elliott, 266; 16. Ricky Stenhouse Jr., 265; 17. Austin Dillon, 241; 18. Paul Menard, 240; 19. William Byron, 229; 20. Ryan Newman, 225.

NFL awards the 2019 draft to Nashville, home of the Titans

ATLANTA (AP) — The 2019 NFL draft will be held in Nashville.

The home of the Tennessee Titans was selected Wednesday during the league’s spring meetings in Atlanta. Nashville will be hosting the draft for

the first time.

The draft was held in New York City from 1965-2014, but the league has been moving it to different cities in recent years.

Chicago was the site in 2015-16, Philadelphia hosted in 2017 and this year’s draft was

NFL awards Super Bowl to Arizona (2023), New Orleans (2024)

ATLANTA (AP) — The NFL has awarded future Super Bowls to Arizona and New Orleans.

The decision was made Wednesday at the league’s annual spring meeting in Atlanta, which will host the 2019 Super Bowl at Mercedes-Benz Stadium.

The 2023 title game will be played at University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Arizona, while the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans will be host in 2024.

This will be eighth time the game is held at the 43-year-old Super-

dome, more than any other stadium. Its most recent Super Bowl was in 2013, which is remembered for the power going out during the second half, resulting in a 34-minute delay.

The retractable roof stadium in suburban Phoenix previously held the Super Bowl in 2008 and 2015.

After this season’s game in Atlanta, the next three Super Bowls will be held at Miami’s Hard Rock Stadium (2020), Raymond James Stadium in Tampa (2021) and the new Hollywood Park stadium in Los Angeles (2022).