

ALL-STARS: Jean Segura in Final Vote

Continued from 1B

ger, who is eligible for free agency after this season, is batting just .218 for disappointing Washington but has 21 homers and 50 RBIs.

He was joined by ace right-hander Max Scherzer and reliever Sean Doolittle from the Nationals. Scherzer, a three-time Cy Young Award winner, could get the start in his home ballpark.

“That’d be an unbelievable experience,” he said in an interview on ESPN.

Nationals shortstop Trea Turner could join Scherzer and Co. if he wins the online vote for the 32nd and final NL roster spot. Brewers first baseman Jesus Aguilar, Giants first baseman Brandon Belt, Cardinals infielder Matt Carpenter and Dodgers infielder Max Muncy also are in the mix.

“Very excited to represent the Nationals in D.C.,” Harper said. “Looking forward to this week to hopefully get one of our other teammates in there as well.”

Candidates for the final AL slot are Red Sox outfielder Andrew Benintendi, Twins outfielder Eddie Rosario, Mariners shortstop Jean Segura, Angels shortstop Andrelton Simmons and



AP Photo/Stephen Brashear

Seattle Mariners closer Edwin Diaz also earned his first career All-Star selection.

Yankees slugger Giancarlo Stanton.

“It’s something I’ve watched for a long time. To be a part of it would be pretty cool,” Benintendi said.

Markakis and Matt Kemp will join Harper in the NL outfield. Kemp’s return to the Los Angeles Dodgers has been a smashing success. Markakis has been a key performer for the Braves and made an All-Star team for the first time in his 13 major league seasons.

“It is kind of emotional. I know my kids and my fam-

ily are going to be ecstatic,” he said. “Whether it came in my first year or this late in my career, it is going to be an exciting time.”

The Chicago Cubs will have two starters after catcher Willson Contreras and second baseman Javier Baez each won a close race at their position in fan balloting. Braves first baseman Freddie Freeman, Colorado Rockies third baseman Nolan Arenado and Giants shortstop Brandon Crawford round out the NL starting lineup.

“My first reaction was

like, ‘I have no words to say,’” Contreras said, “but I started crying when I went down to the cage because I hoped for it and I’ve been working hard every single game that I’ve played and played it like it was my last one.”

As usual, there were some notable snubs — with several changes surely coming due to injuries and withdrawals.

Tampa Bay left-hander Blake Snell, who is 12-4 with an AL-best 2.09 ERA, was the most incomprehensible omission.

LILLIARD: Was hoping for an offseason splash

Continued from 1B

man would become Portland’s version of Miami’s Udonis Haslem. But shortly after free agency opened, Davis agreed to a 1-year, \$4.4 million deal with the Brooklyn Nets, prompting Lillard to tweet a broken heart emoji.

That, combined with the fact that the team also let backup guards Shabazz Napier and Pat Connaughton go, rankled the Blazers’ franchise cornerstone.

“I loved Ed,” Lillard said. “One of my best friends in the league (and) favorite teammates I’ve played with. To lose him, that’s a loss for our team. Bazz played big minutes for us. Pat played big minutes for us. So we lose three rotation players that gave us a lot, that contributed to our season last year.”

President of Basketball Operations Neil Olshey entered the offseason saying he wanted to bolster the Blazers’ bench with more seasoned, play-off-tested players. But as free agency inches on, the Blazers have drafted two

teenagers, signed two relatively young players — Seth Curry and Nik Stauskas — with potential but no playoff experience and re-signed restricted free agent center Jusuf Nurkic. Lillard, who initiated a sit-down with owner Paul Allen last season to talk about the direction of the franchise, was hoping for more.

At this point, Lillard said, he’s accepted the obvious: The Blazers’ finances and Portland’s reputation among NBA players were to blame for the relative quiet offseason and his path to the playoffs will only be more challenging next season.

“It’s going to be a battle,” Lillard said. “The way I see it, you’re going to have the Golden States, the Rockets. We were the third best team in the West and every other team behind us, they brought their guys back. So they’re going to be one more year experienced together, probably going to be a little bit better. Teams like Denver, Utah and Minnesota, all those teams are going to be improved.

PENDLETON: Baseball all-stars have won two straight by a combined 23-1 score

Continued from 1B

Medford, the Pendleton All-Stars have won twice and lost once.

Pendleton started the tournament with a close 11-7 loss to Medford on Saturday, but have dominated twice in the

loser’s bracket with a 12-0 win over Grants Pass on Sunday and a 11-1 win over Scappoose on Monday.

In the win over Grants Pass, Pendleton collected 11 hits with its 12 runs. Connor Cook and Evan Lehnert each went 3-for-3 in the game, with Cook

contributing a double and three runs and Lehnert scoring three runs and driving in two runs. Anson Dressler, Miller Johnson, Tugg McQuinn, Deacon Pace and Vance Nelson each had one hit.

Jacob Neistadt, Cook and Dressler combined to pitch a

four-hit shutout, striking out seven batters and walking only three.

Then against Scappoose the team put together 11 hits with its 11 runs, recording four triples and one double. Nelson was 3-for-3 with a triple, a run and an RBI, while Keegan

Kline was 2-for-3 with a triple and two runs and Dressler was 2-for-2 with two runs.

Art Hill and Lehnert both tripled and scored twice, while Cook doubled and drove in a run. McQuinn, Kline and Neistadt all pitched and the trio combined to allow only

four hits and one run in five innings

Pendleton will next play on Tuesday at 6 p.m. in loser’s bracket semifinals. A win sends Pendleton to the loser’s bracket finals, while a loss will end its season.

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