

EAST OREGONIAN

SPORTS

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UMATILLA



Staff photo by Brett Kane

Brayden Cortaberria tees off on the second hole at Big River Golf Course in Umatilla during their Junior Camp Tournament on Friday.

Coaching a new generation

Big River Golf Course Junior Camp wraps up its ninth year

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

UMATILLA — Big River Golf Course was filled with enthusiastic parents, coaches and aspiring young golfers on Friday morning for the ninth annual Junior Camp Tournament.

The tournament, played by kids aged 6-14, is part of a summer program that follows a week-long camp that teaches kids the essentials of the game. More than 50 kids met every morning from

July 23-27 and were instructed by high school golf coaches, course employees and volunteers on how to swing, chip and putt. At the end of the week, their newfound skills were put to the test in the two-hour tournament that awarded first- and second-place winners in each of its age-based categories.

This year’s turnout doubled that of last year’s thanks to a newly acquired partnership with Hermiston Parks & Recreation, which handled registration duties.

“We wanted a bigger reach than we’ve had before and we knew they could provide that,” said Megan Olsen, one of the owners of the Big River Golf Course. “We wanted to grow and get more involved with the youth —

they’re the future of the sport.”

On the day of the tournament, families and volunteers, including approximately 10 head coaches from local golf programs, flocked the greens to cheer the kids on. At the end of the day, 27 first- and second-place prizes were awarded, including three ties.

Prizes this year included Adidas sports gear, golf bags, and emoji-themed golf balls for the younger kids. Buckets of golf balls were also awarded to motivate participants to keep their game going beyond their involvement in the Junior Camp.

“Golf is awesome, and it’s amazing to see younger generations who feel the same way,” said Scott Bow, who coaches at Umatilla High School.



Staff photo by Brett Kane

A junior golfer follows through on a shot during Big River Golf Course’s Junior Golf Camp Tournament on Friday.

“I’d love to come back and do this every year”
— Scott Bow, Umatilla High School coach

SEAHAWKS FOOTBALL

Sweeping changes leave Wagner, Wright as veteran voices

By TIM BOOTH
Associated Press



AP Photo/Ted S. Warren

Seattle Seahawks strong safety Bradley McDougald (30) and line-backer Bobby Wagner (54) run an agility drill with teammates.

And with that, any question about who the leading voice is on Seattle’s defense was quickly answered.

For most of the past half-decade, Seattle’s highly regarded

defense was defined by the secondary with the catchy nickname and the flashy personalities. From there, attention often shifted to the

See SEAHAWKS/3B

MARINERS BASEBALL

Calhoun, Angels walk-off Mariners in extras

By DOUG PADILLA
Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Kole Calhoun homered on the first pitch of the bottom of the 10th inning, giving the Los Angeles Angels a 4-3 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Friday night.

Calhoun finished with three RBIs, including his 12th home run of the season off Mariners reliever Juan Nicasio (1-5).

The Mariners were unsuccessful in trying to take the lead in the top of 10th, when Dee Gordon attempted to steal home on the back end of a double-steal with Jean Segura.

Segura broke for second base on a pitch from Angels reliever Jim Johnson (3-2). Gordon then broke for home with Angels second baseman Ian Kinsler firing a return throw to catcher Chris Herrmann. Gordon was initially

ruled safe by home plate umpire Kerwin Danley, but the call was overturned via replay.

The Mariners also had a prime scoring chance in the ninth inning after Nelson Cruz singled and Kyle Seager walked with no outs. But right-hander Hansel Robles struck out Ryon Healy and left-hander Jose Alvarez got a groundout and a strikeout of Ben Gamel to end the threat.

Albert Pujols made a diving stop in the ninth inning on a ground ball down the first-base line from Herrmann to prevent at least two Mariners runs.

Angels starter Andrew Heaney continued his solid pitching at home, giving up three runs on seven hits over eight innings. He has a 1.60 ERA over nine home starts this season.

Calhoun hit a ground-rule

See MARINERS/3B

Sports shorts

Alabama signs Saban to 8-year extension

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Alabama coach Nick Saban still reigns supreme over college football — in national titles and annual pay.

The university announced a new eight-year deal Friday worth at least \$74.4 million, which would appear to make Saban again college football’s highest-paid coach based on annual salary.

The agreement runs through the 2025 season, boosting his average annual pay to \$9.3 million if he sticks around for the duration.

Bell seeking rare 3rd straight win

NEWTON, Iowa (AP) — Christopher Bell has been one of NASCAR’s rising young stars for the past few years.

Over the past few weeks, Bell and the Joe Gibbs Racing No. 20 car has been so hot that he’s threatening to put his name in some pretty select company.

Bell, a 23-year-old Oklahoma native and an Xfinity series rookie, has won each of

the last two races. He heads into Saturday night’s race at Iowa Speedway seeking to become the first series regular with a three-race winning streak since Dale Earnhardt Jr. in 1999.

Kyle Busch, who Bell won a title for in the trucks series last year, did it four times between 2008 and 2016.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1928 — The Summer Games open in Amsterdam and the Olympic flame is lit for the first time.

1929 — The Chicago Cardinals become the first NFL team to train out of state, in Michigan.

1991 — Dennis Martinez pitches a perfect game for the Montreal Expos, who beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 2-0.

1994 — Kenny Rogers of the Texas Rangers pitches a perfect game for a 4-0 victory over California.

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