

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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OREGON SENIOR OPEN



Jeff Coston watches his ball after hitting out of a sand trap Thursday during the PNW Senior Oregon Open Invitational at the Wildhorse Golf Course.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Wildhorse tamer

Jeff Coston wins sixth Oregon Senior Open

By **BRETT KANE**
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Jeff Coston of Blaine, Washington, defended his Oregon Senior Open title on Thursday, but not by much.

The 2017 champ teed off on the 18th hole with a three-stroke lead over Erik Hanson, and with a double-bogey and Hanson's par ended one stroke ahead with a three-round score of 15-under-par.

It's Coston's sixth win at the Open, hosted at Wildhorse Resort.

Coston began the final round with three consecutive birdies and added six more before the final hole, plus one bogey. He was awarded a \$5,000 check, a crystal trophy, and the prestigious title

of Senior Open Champion.

"Winning is always fun," said Coston, 62. "Everyone played well, and the course is really nice."

Hanson of the Sahalee Country Club took second place and Tom Sovay of the Redmond Ridge Golf Course finished in third. Joe Carranza of the Aldarra Golf Club, the 2016 champ, salvaged his week with a 3-under round, taking fourth place at 9-under after a Day 1 lead.

The tournament hosted 224 players divided into 56 flights of four. Teams were comprised of one PGA professional and three amateurs. The open is part of the Pacific Northwest PGA section — one of 41 sections of PGA America. It's reserved for players aged 50 and older.

This was its 16th year being held at Wildhorse. It's a big draw for players because they're able to come with friends, said Molly Cooper, director of the tournament. They also get to stay at

the resort and gamble at the casino on their down time.

"We fill out all our spots every year," Cooper said. "It's probably our most popular event."

Players faced wind gusts of up to 20 mph on the final day, but that didn't stop them from keeping their spirits high — everyone was cheering and congratulating each other after every successful drive and putt.

"I have experience playing in the wind," Coston said. "You have to visualize your shot, think it through, and commit. I putted wonderfully. I plan on coming back next year."

Coston runs a golf academy at the Semiahmoo Golf Course & Country Club in Blaine, and has done so for the past 24 years. After Thursday's big win, however, it's back to work.

"I have lessons tomorrow, and all through the weekend," he said.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Left: Mike Kerns runs along with his putt during the PNW Senior Oregon Open Invitational.

Above: Former Mariners pitcher Erik Hanson studies the green.

Morales home run sinks M's

By **DOUG MILLER**
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Kendrys Morales homered in the seventh inning to back Mike Hauschild's impressive Blue Jays debut, and Toronto beat the Seattle Mariners 7-3 on Thursday night.

With two outs in the seventh, a runner on first base and the score tied 2-2, Morales hit a fastball from Juan Nicasio (1-6) over the wall in right-center field. It was Morales' 13th home run of the season.

Hauschild (1-0), signed by Toronto after being released by Houston, was pitching in his first game in the majors since April 19, 2017. He entered the game in the second inning after Nelson Cruz's two-run homer off reliever-turned-spot-starter Tyler Clippard gave the Mariners a quick 2-0 lead in the first. Hauschild pitched six scoreless innings, limiting the Mariners to four singles and one walk while striking out five.

The Blue Jays tied the score at 2-2 in the top of the second against Mariners starter Felix Hernandez. Yangervis Solarte led off with a single and Teoscar Hernandez doubled him to third. With one out, Luke Maile walked to load the bases, and Devon Travis had a two-run single.

Felix Hernandez, whose spot in the Seattle starting rotation has been in question of late, gave up two runs in five



See **MARINERS/2B**

Ohio State closes ranks as second scandal hits

By **MITCH STACY**
AP Sports Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio State closed ranks around the rollout of its football season as the university investigates whether coach Urban Meyer failed to report domestic abuse allegations, a scandal hitting a school already accused of not facing up to sexual misconduct allegations against a sports doctor.

The Buckeyes planned to open their first football practice Friday without Meyer, who was put on administrative leave during the probe and also suspended from an endorsement deal by restaurant chain Bob Evans. It's not clear how restrictive the paid leave will be for the coach set to earn \$7.6 million for the season after getting a raise this year.

Ohio State officials said Thursday that reporters would be barred from football practices until at least next week, and university trustees announced that a six-member committee will head up the investigation.

See **SCANDAL/2B**



Meyer

Sports shorts

Kerri Walsh Jennings plans to chase gold in Tokyo, retire

(AP) — Kerri Walsh Jennings will call it a career in beach volleyball after the Tokyo Olympics in two years.

The three-time Olympic gold medalist absolutely expects to go out with another gold around her neck from the 2020 Games after she and partner April Ross wound up with bronze at Rio in 2016, a heartbreaking disappointment that still stings for Walsh Jennings yet fuels her at the same time.

Walsh Jennings will turn 42 during the next Olympics.

Patriots fan turns Tom Brady's autograph into a tattoo

(AP) — A young Connecticut woman didn't want to ever lose the autograph she got from Tom Brady.

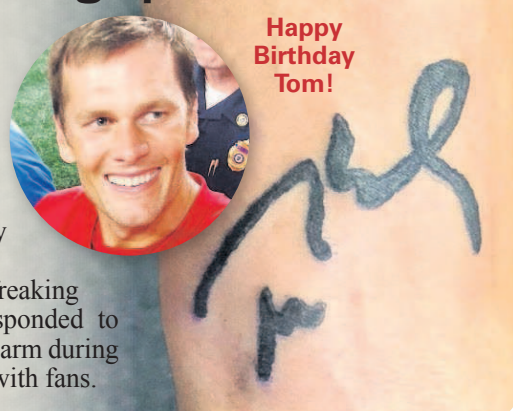
The New England Patriots star signed 19-year-old Megan Uhrynowski's arm after a practice at Gillette Stadium on Monday night that she had attended with a friend.

Uhrynowski, a college student, told WHDH-TV her friend had suggested she turn the auto-

graph into a tattoo.

So she did. Uhrynowski went to a tattoo parlor the next day and had the five-time Super Bowl champion's signature permanently etched on her arm.

She said she was "freaking out" when Brady responded to her request to sign her arm during an autograph session with fans.



Happy Birthday Tom!

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1949 — The National Basketball Association is formed by the merger of the National Basketball League (NBL) and the Basketball Association of America (BAA).

1990 — The Professional Golfers Association Tour announces it will not hold tournaments at golf clubs that have all-white memberships or show any other signs of discrimination.

2012 — Missy Franklin sets a world record in the 200 backstroke for the 17-year-old's third gold in London.

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