

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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## WNBA ALL-STAR

### Delle Donne and Wilson choose their WNBA All-Star teams

By DOUG FEINBERG  
AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK — All-Star captains Elena Delle Donne and A'ja Wilson had fun drafting their teams.

Both made sure they had their WNBA teammates on their squads and even pulled off the first two trades in All-Star Game history.

The two captains of the WNBA All-Star Game selected their teams Tuesday night on television — the first time the league has done that. They will square off Saturday in Las Vegas in the All-Star Game.

Delle Donne had first pick of the starters and chose Phoenix's Brittney Griner saying she would let Wilson have her Las Vegas Aces teammates Liz Cambage and Kayla McBride. Wilson waited on choosing McBride and Cambage to the second and third rounds picking Los Angeles point guard Chelsea Gray first.

Delle Donne of Washington rounded out her starters with Seattle's Jewell Loyd, Connecticut's Jonquel Jones and New York's Kia Nurse. Wilson added Natasha Howard as her other starter. The league will announce who will take Wilson's spot in the starting lineup at a later date. Wilson is out with an injured left ankle.

Delle Donne, who was a captain last year and lost the All-Star Game had a simple plan for her draft.

"Who's not going to party the hardest is who's going to win this game," she said. "If you have partners on your side, you're done."

While Delle Donne had the first pick of the starters, Wilson had the top pick of the reserves and chose Minnesota's Sylvia Fowles first. She later added Chicago teammates Diamond DeShields and Allie Quigley, Indiana teammates Erica Wheeler and Candice Dupree.

Wilson also got Minnesota's Odyssey Sims with the final pick. The two captains made a trade after the draft was done, sending Minnesota's Napheesa Collier, who replaced Wilson on the All-Star roster, to team Wilson for New York's Tina Charles.

Delle Donne's reserves include her Washington teammate Kristi Toliver, Phoenix's DeWanna Bonner, Los Angeles' Nneka Ogwumike, Chicago's Courtney Vandersloot and Connecticut's Alyssa Thomas.

The two captains also made a trade of coaches, putting the Aces' Bill Laimbeer with Wilson and her Las Vegas teammates. Delle Donne's group will now be coached by Mystics coach Mike Thibault.

The WNBA added festivities for the night before the All-Star Game with a 3-point shootout, skills competition and beach party.

## Pendleton 12U All-Stars take two in West Regional tournament

By BRETT KANE  
East Oregonian

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — Northern California's streak came to an end at the hands of Pendleton's 12U All-Stars softball team on Sunday.

The Pendleton Little League team took down its California opponents 4-1 in round one of the West Regional Tournament. It marked the first loss for the California program, who went unde-

feated until it met Pendleton.

"I think Northern California could have won the Oregon state title, had we not been there," Pendleton head coach Scott Wilson said. "They're that good. They're probably going to come all the way up through the losers bracket. We might see them in the (West Regional) championships."

The All-Stars would go on to take down Arizona on Tuesday in a 11-4 second-round contest.

Pendleton held the lead from

the second inning onward of game one. Josie Jenness' sacrifice fly to center field drove in Madaline Schumacher to put the All-Stars on the board, and Melanie Boatman's ground ball drove in another RBI in the following inning for a 2-0 advantage.

"The girls came out and really hit the ball well," Wilson said. "Our defense was spot-on, too."

The All-Stars knocked down a triple play in the bottom of the third to keep Northern California score-

less. Avery Krigbaum snagged a fly ball at center field, then threw it in to Nessa Neveau at third base, who threw it to second to complete the play.

"That really took the wind out of (Northern California's) sails," Wilson said. "They didn't have any retaliation after that."

Boatman scored on Schumacher's single in the top of the fifth, and with the bases loaded, Lilli

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## MAC-HI FOOTBALL BREAKS FROM THE LEAGUE



Staff photo by Kathy Aney, File

In this Sept. 25, 2015, file photo, Mac-Hi's Cole Skramstad (67) and Sam Carlson (42) rush to stop Weston-McEwen's offense in a nonleague game in Athena. The Pioneers will leave the Greater Oregon League to play football independently this season.

## Pioneers' football program will play independently starting this fall

By BRETT KANE  
East Oregonian

**M**ILTON-FREEWATER — The Mac-Hi football team has had enough of league play — at least for the time being.

This season, the Pioneers are breaking free of the Greater Oregon League in favor of playing independently. They'll say goodbye to league standings, a shot at the 4A state title, and their former GOL rivals starting this fall.

It was a decision that was made after the conclusion of their most recent season, in which they went without a win — 0-8 overall and 0-6 in the league. That record saw them finish fourth, behind Baker, Ontario, and the league champions in La Grande (7-3, 5-1 GOL).

"We kept going to the sidelines against teams like Ontario, with 60 guys," Mac-Hi athletic director and head foot-

ball coach Gary Robertson said. "Meanwhile, we're standing there with 20 guys. The other teams had 20 guys that were seniors. We put ourselves in a bad, bad situation. At the end of the day, we were undermanned. Until we get more players, this is how it's going to be."

During a February meeting, the OSAA Executive Board gave the Pioneers the go-ahead to leave the league and play their season independently. Instead of facing their usual three opponents in league play this season, they'll face an entirely new set of teams from across the state.

Their upcoming season, which includes four home games and five away, will pit the Pioneers against Madras, Tillamook, Philomath, Stanfield, Siuslaw, Henley, Phoenix, North Valley, and Washington's Kiona-Benton.

"It was interesting," Robertson said of the OSAA meeting. "They (the OSAA) were the ones that brought the idea to my attention. I never knew it was an option. We had several meetings about it."

Things finally fell into place, and Mac-Hi's next season's schedule has been set. They'll open play with a home jamboree against Stanfield on Aug. 31, followed by a home game against Madras on Sept. 6. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.

"The OSAA stepped in to help piece together the schedule," Robertson said.

"We're playing teams that we normally never play because they're so scattered around the state of Oregon. I feel very good about the teams that we're going to compete against."

The Pioneers have gone without a win since Sept. 22, 2017, when they took down Riverside/Ione 35-6 in a nonleague game. According to OSAA records, they have not won a GOL game since before 2013.

Robertson said his biggest concern was keeping his team's roster filled with enough athletes.

"Soccer is more popular over here," Robertson said. "I'd love to have kids come out in participate (in football), but we're not getting enough. Frankly, between all of the boys last year, our participation was down 20 percent. We only had 12 guys on our wrestling team."

Mac-Hi's football team is the only one in the school that will be affected by the deal. Every other sport in the school remains a part of the GOL.

Instead of a shot at the postseason, the Pioneers' football program will simply begin preparations for the next season, Robertson said.

"This is for our kids to have success moving forward," Robertson said. "Hopefully soon, we'll have 30-40 kids in our football program."

## SPORTS SHORTS

## Shaun White pushes forward on Olympic skateboarding track

NEW YORK (AP) — Shaun White is pressing forward with plans to shoot for the Summer Olympics in skateboarding.

White said Tuesday on NBC's "Today" show that he will compete at world championships in September "and see what happens" before deciding whether to try to earn a spot on the U.S. team for skateboarding's Olympic debut next summer in Tokyo.

The three-time Olympic snowboarding champion has won five

of his 23 X Games medals on the summer side in skateboarding.

But when snowboarding became an Olympic sport, and with no similar option on the Summer Games side, White focused on the Winter Games.

He announced last summer that skateboarding was in his plans but only competed in one contest last year.

Street and park skateboarding are on the 2020 Olympics program, neither of which is consid-

ered White's specialty.

He is expected to focus on the park version, which mixes vertical jumps like those seen on the half-pipe with street features like rails and stairs.

Josh Friedberg, the CEO of USA Skateboarding, said last month "the question we always get is the Shaun White question."

"The answer is, if anyone can do it, it's Shaun, but he has a long, hard road in front of him," Friedberg said.



In this Feb. 14, 2018, file photo, gold medal winner Shaun White celebrates after the men's halfpipe finals at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

AP Photo/Lee Jin-man, File