

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Redmond and Ridgeview players earn honors

Nine players from either Redmond High or Ridgeview High earned first team all-conference honors in 5A Special District 1 football, according to a Monday news release.

Redmond's Seth Womack was named the coach of the year in the conference, leading Redmond to a 5-1 overall record and a first-place finish in Special District 1.

Redmond players earning first-team all-conference honors were all seniors: running back Austin Carter, wide receiver/safety Kole Davis, defensive lineman Jax Cummings, linebacker Blaine Aamodt and cornerback Charlie Rawlings.

Panthers' quarterback Hayden Parrish was second-team all conference. La Salle quarterback Ryan Rosummy was first team and the offensive player of the year in Special District 1.

Ridgeview finished 2-4 overall, in fifth place in Special District 1.

First team all-conference players for the Ravens were all seniors as well: running back/linebacker Gannon Jeter, wide receiver Josh Biever, offensive tackle Chuck Sheldon and offensive guard/defensive lineman Logan Shenk.

— Bulletin staff report

COLLEGE MEN'S SOCCER

OSU earns berth in NCAA tourney

Oregon State is headed to the NCAA men's soccer tournament for the fifth time in school history, as the Beavers were selected Monday as one of 36 teams to participate in this year's field.

The Beavers (9-4) earned a first-round bye. OSU opens with a second-round match against Virginia Tech (6-6-3) on Sunday, May 2. Time and site is TBA. Oregon State was one of 14 at-large teams to earn a tournament berth, and join Stanford and Washington from the Pac-12.

The OSU-Virginia Tech winner advances to the third round, where it faces the Seton Hall-Air Force winner on May 6. Seton Hall is an overall No. 6 seed.

Because of the pandemic, the NCAA tournament was pared from 48 to 36 teams. The entire tournament takes place in Cary, N.C., and surrounding areas. It was moved from last fall, as most teams played soccer this spring. The tournament will be known as the 2020 champion, as it was originally scheduled for last fall.

This is Oregon State's second NCAA appearance in three years under coach Terry Boss. The Beavers previously participated in the 2002, 2003, 2014 and 2018 playoffs.

Oregon State (6-4 Pac-12) placed third in the conference, behind Pac-12 champion Stanford and Washington. The Beavers have wins over the top 10-ranked Huskies and Cardinals this season. Stanford (4-seed) and Washington (7-seed) were among the eight teams to earn tournament seeds.

The Beavers are No. 19 in last week's coaches' poll.

— The Oregonian

NFL

BELIEVING IN 'THE IMPOSSIBLE'

Quarterback Alex Smith retires after incredible comeback from gruesome leg injury

BY STEPHEN WHYNO
Associated Press

Alex Smith retired Monday after making an improbable comeback from a gruesome broken leg, saying he's ready to leave the NFL but believing he's still able to play quarterback.

Smith made the announcement on Instagram a few weeks shy of his 37th birthday, hoping to enjoy more time with his family.

"I want to say thank you for believing in me, and thank you for helping me believe in myself — and in the impossible," Smith said. "Because even though I've got plenty of snaps left in me, after 16 years of giving this game everything I've got, I can't wait to see what else is possible."

Smith earned AP Comeback Player of the Year honors for getting back on the field last season, two years removed from an injury that required 17 operations. After breaking his right tibia and fibula in a game Nov. 18, 2018, against Houston, he said he wondered if he'd be able to take walks with his wife or play with his kids in the yard — let alone play in the NFL again.

He was hospitalized for almost a month and survived a life-threatening infection in addition to the operations. Smith spent the next year and a half rehabbing and was back at practice when Washington assembled for training camp last summer.

Smith's first game action since the injury came Oct. 11 when Kyle Allen was injured, and he made his first start at Detroit on Nov. 15. He went 5-1 as the starter, including a victory at Philadelphia in Week 17 on a strained right calf that clinched the NFC East title for Washington.

"He accomplished the greatest comeback in professional sports history and was a huge part of our team's success this past season," owners Dan and Tanya Snyder said in a statement. "We witnessed every step of Alex's comeback, and he personifies perseverance, strength and the will to never give up."

The injury prevented Smith from playing against Tampa Bay in the wildcard round the next week, which Taylor Heinicke started and impressed enough to earn another contract.

See **Smith** / A7



Alex Smith announced his retirement Monday on Instagram, saying he still has plenty of snaps left in him just shy of his 37th birthday but is calling it quits to enjoy time with his family. NFLPV AP

NFL

Seahawks have deepest defensive line since winning the Super Bowl

BY BOB CONDOTTA

The Seattle Times

SEATTLE — As the Seahawks entered the 2020 regular season, one of the big questions looming over the team was this — did they have enough defensive linemen?

As the NFL offseason hits mid-April, a new question hovers over the Seahawks' defensive line — how will they fit everyone in?

After a 2020 offseason that began with a futile pursuit of Jadeveon Clowney, the Seahawks opened the regular season at Atlanta with just eight players listed as defensive linemen on their 53-player roster, which included a rookie and a journeyman veteran who had just signed.

After this week's signing of Aldon Smith and before the draft has even been held, the Seahawks have 11 players listed as defensive linemen who could be viewed as significant contributors in 2021, meaning there could be some tough decisions ahead. The Seahawks typically keep 9-10 defensive linemen on their 53-player roster.

But before delving further into that, let's compare what the Seahawks had up front entering the



Ted S. Warren/AP file

Defensive end L.J. Collier is one of 11 defensive linemen on the Seahawks' roster.

2020 regular season and what they have now.

Here's how the depth chart looked heading into the 2020 opener at Atlanta.

Defensive end: L.J. Collier/Rashawn Green.

Defensive tackle: Jarran Reed/Bryan Mone.

Nose tackle: Poona Ford.

LEO/rush end: Benson Mayowa/Alton Robinson/Damontre Moore.

That list doesn't include Bruce Irvin, who was the starting strongside linebacker but dropped down to a rush end spot in the nickel package. Throwing in Irvin, the Seahawks had nine defensive linemen to start last season.

See **Seahawks** / A7

OLYMPICS

Will Japanese Olympians be vaccinated before public?

BY STEPHEN WADE

Associated Press

TOKYO — The vaccine rollout in Japan has been very slow with less than 1% vaccinated, causing concern about the postponed Tokyo Olympics that are scheduled to open in just over three months.

Taro Kono, the minister in charge of the vaccine rollout, said last week that even if the Olympics go on, it's possible the venues will be empty. This is partly because of the low vaccination rate.

Fans from abroad are already banned from the Olympics, and it's hard to imagine venues even half-filled with mostly unvaccinated fans. Many non-Japanese entering Japan are expected to be vaccinated.

Q: Are Japanese athletes being vaccinated?

A: This is a minefield for the organizers and the Japanese government. It will be very unpopular to push young, healthy athletes to the front of the vaccination line when almost no one else in Japan is vaccinated. Traffic on social media is strongly opposed.

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