



Founder's Day in Centralia

Centralia Downtown Association set to honor George Washington this weekend / Main 14



Chamber Streetball Festival

Rain doesn't dampen enthusiasm for chamber's first 3-on-3 basketball event in Chehalis / Sports 1

\$2.00
Early Week Edition
Tuesday,
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The Chronicle

Division of CT Publishing

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Woman jailed after allegedly trying to break into home

Main 4

Dolly Parton's upcoming state visit is a 'Southwest Washington origin story'

IMAGINATION LIBRARY:
Cowlitz and Lewis County United Ways, Rotary clubs, legislators implemented country music star's book program across the state

By Isabel Vander Stoep
isabel@chronline.com

Known for her perfect pitch, songwriting, philanthropy and flamboyant fashion, Dolly Parton today is a poster woman of superstardom.

Her dedication to altruistic causes, including early childhood education, endears her to people across political spectrums, religions, races and "lots in life," said 20th District Rep. Peter Abarno, R-Centralia.

Though, when referring to her childhood in the Appalachian Mountains of East Tennessee, Parton has described her family as "dirt poor."

Both in landscape and lifestyle, the country music icon's upbringings weren't so different from those of some children in Lewis, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum and other rural counties in Southwest Washington. A

please see **DOLLY**, page Main 7



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Lewis County Seniors prayer, politics policy sparks fervor



Jared Wenzelburger / jared@chronline.com

Attendees at a "prayer circle" event hosted by Elizabeth Rohr confront Lewis County Seniors President Carol Brock about recent rule changes that prohibit discussing politics and praying aloud at the senior centers on Monday, Aug. 7, outside the Twin Cities Senior Center.



Lewis County Seniors President Carol Brock responds to comments about her made during a "prayer circle" event outside the Twin Cities Senior Center on Monday, Aug. 7.

By Owen Sexton
owen@chronline.com

More than 40 people joined a protest outside the Twin Cities Senior Center on Monday to voice opposition to a controversial new policy implemented by the Lewis County Seniors nonprofit that seemingly bans prayer and discussion of politics at the facilities.

According to Lewis County Seniors Board President Carol Brock, the policy in question follows complaints from seniors earlier this summer. She said individuals approached the Lewis County Seniors Board of Directors saying they felt they were being preached at while trying

please see **SENIORS**, page Main 7

Washington man celebrates in Napavine after becoming a cheese rolling champion

ENGLAND: Cooper Cummings, of Arlington, celebrated victory over world-famous cheese event at Tumac Taproom

By Isabel Vander Stoep
isabel@chronline.com

Ten years ago, Western Washington University decathlon athlete Cooper Cummings, 23, of Arlington, was not dreaming of fame for his track and field accomplishments.

Instead, it was another challenge of athleticism and determination that inspired him.

"I thought it was beautiful. I thought to myself, 'I want to do this,'" Cummings recalled.



Jared Wenzelburger / jared@chronline.com

Cooper Cummings, the Gloucester Cheese Roll champion, holds up a wheel of cheese inside the Tumac Taproom on Saturday, Aug. 5, in Napavine.

please see **CHEESE**, page Main 11

Lewis County Amateur



Randy Sanders, Patrick Nugent finish on top / Sports

Blueberry Festival



Mossyrock comes out to celebrate at annual festival parade / Main 3

The Chronicle,
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Baptism in the Cowlitz River at Toledo



Isabel Vander Stoep / isabel@chronline.com

Members of Toledo First Baptist Church hold a baptism in the Cowlitz River on Sunday afternoon.

Lewis County Fire District 6 places new brush unit in service

By The Chronicle staff

Lewis County Fire District 6 on Monday announced it placed a new brush unit in service. "It takes years of thoughtful planning, saving and projecting costs to purchase new apparatus," the district wrote in Facebook post. This unit joins the 2001 Dodge brush unit, allowing the

district to have units at both Station 1 and Station 2 for quick responses to fires, according to the district. Fully funded by tax dollars, this unit carries 400 gallons of water attached, "powered by a Kubota super mini diesel; a larger cab for transporting more responders; and is designed to maximize tool/gear compart-

ment space and pump accessibility," the district stated. Tools for the new apparatus were purchased from Service Saw, Industrial Specialties and Tractor Supply. "We appreciate the support of our community and the opportunity to continue serving as efficiently and effectively as possible," the district wrote.



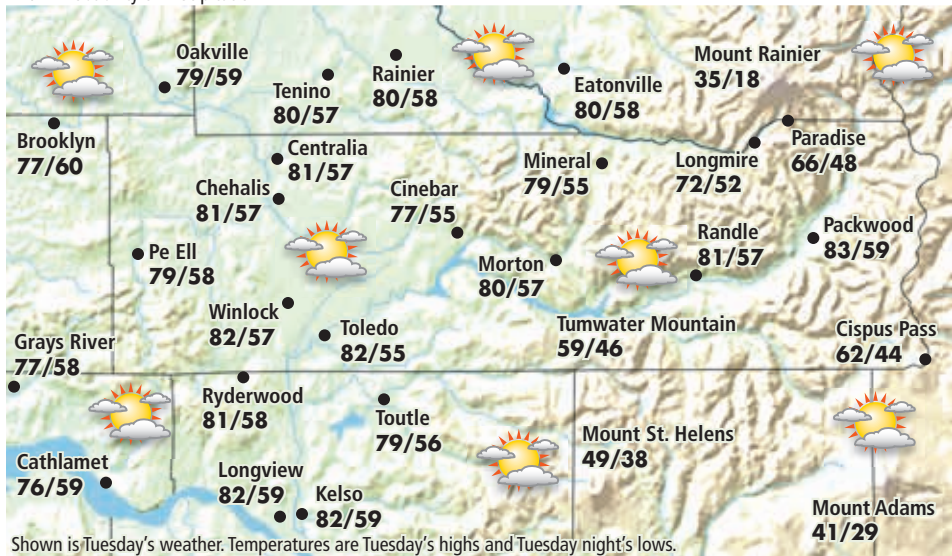
Lewis County Fire District 6 announced Monday its new brush unit has been placed into service.

TWIN CITIES WEATHER

TUESDAY	TUE. NIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Clouds and sun	Occasional rain and drizzle	Occasional rain and drizzle	Nice with times of clouds and sun	Partly sunny and pleasant	Abundant sunshine	Very warm with plenty of sun	Periods of clouds and sunshine
HIGH: 81	LOW: 57	74 54	76 51	81 52	84 57	89 58	89 59
POP: 10%	POP: 85%	POP: 85%	POP: 10%	POP: 0%	POP: 5%	POP: 0%	POP: 25%

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POP: Probability of Precipitation



Shown is Tuesday's weather. Temperatures are Tuesday's highs and Tuesday night's lows.

ALMANAC

Centralia statistics through Sunday

TEMPERATURES	PRECIPITATION (inches)
High/low 75/63	Sunday Trace
Normal high 80	Record for date 0.03 in 2004
Normal low 55	Month to date 0.06
Last year high 84	Normal month to date 0.10
Last year low 50	Year to date 7.74
Record high 97 in 1945	Normal year to date 25.28
Record low 42 in 1939	Last year to date 11.38

7-DAY TEMPERATURE TREND
Daily range — Normal high — Normal low

7/31	8/1	8/2	8/3	8/4	8/5	8/6
81	84	84	84	86	70	75
48	50	50	55	55	63	63

7-DAY PRECIPITATION TREND
Daily amount (in inches) — Normal amount

7/31	8/1	8/2	8/3	8/4	8/5	8/6
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	Trace

DAILY CONDITIONS

Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
7	4	3	7
Hiking Index			
10	5	9	9
Boating Index			
8	7	8	8

The higher the **AccuWeather UV Index** number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection. **0-2:** Low, **3-5:** Moderate, **6-7:** High, **8-10:** Very high, **11+:** Extreme. **Hiking and Boating Index: 0-2:** Poor; **3-4:** Fair; **5-6:** Good; **7-8:** Very Good; **9-10:** Excellent.

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2023

REGIONAL CITIES

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City	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	City	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.
Aberdeen	76/62/r	71/57/r	74/57/c	Mount Vernon	77/60/r	74/56/r	74/55/c
Bellingham	72/61/r	73/55/r	71/56/pc	Olympia	81/57/pc	75/51/r	76/50/c
Bremerton	80/58/r	74/54/r	74/52/pc	Omak	90/64/pc	87/59/r	88/58/s
Cle Elum	85/57/pc	76/55/r	78/54/s	Pasco	93/65/pc	91/60/s	88/61/s
Coulee City	86/65/pc	85/59/s	85/58/t	Port Angeles	72/59/r	70/54/r	72/54/pc
Eatonville	80/58/pc	73/55/r	75/54/pc	Portland	85/62/pc	81/63/pc	81/61/pc
Ellensburg	87/61/pc	82/57/s	82/57/s	Pullman	83/53/pc	79/53/pc	79/50/s
Elmer City	89/62/pc	87/54/pc	84/52/t	Richland	93/63/pc	90/59/s	88/60/s
Enumclaw	78/59/pc	71/56/r	74/54/pc	Seattle	78/60/pc	75/58/r	74/57/pc
Everett	75/59/r	72/58/r	72/56/pc	Spokane	83/59/pc	81/55/pc	80/57/s
Long Beach	70/60/pc	70/58/r	72/60/pc	Sunnyside	91/59/pc	87/52/s	89/56/s
Kelso	82/59/pc	77/58/r	78/56/pc	Tacoma	80/59/pc	74/53/r	76/53/c
Kennewick	93/67/pc	92/63/s	88/62/s	Vancouver	84/60/pc	81/59/pc	80/59/pc
Moses Lake	87/63/pc	85/58/s	86/54/s	Walla Walla	89/67/pc	84/62/s	85/63/s
				Wenatchee	87/65/pc	83/61/s	83/60/s
				Yakima	90/60/pc	87/56/pc	88/58/s

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

RIVER STAGES

In feet as of 7 a.m. Sunday

River/location	Flood Stage	Stage	24-hr. Chg.
Skookumchuck River			
near Bucoda	211.5	203.20	+0.01
at Centralia	189.0	176.84	+0.01
Chehalis River			
near Doty	318.0	306.05	+0.03
at Centralia	168.5	151.65	none
near Grand Mound	141.0	128.69	none
at Porter	48.0	30.22	+0.03
Newaukum River			
near Chehalis	202.5	192.36	+0.04
Cowlitz River			
at Packwood	10.5	0.75	+0.05
at Randle	18.0	3.93	+0.02

SOLUNAR TABLE

Four-day forecast indicates peak feeding times for fish and game.

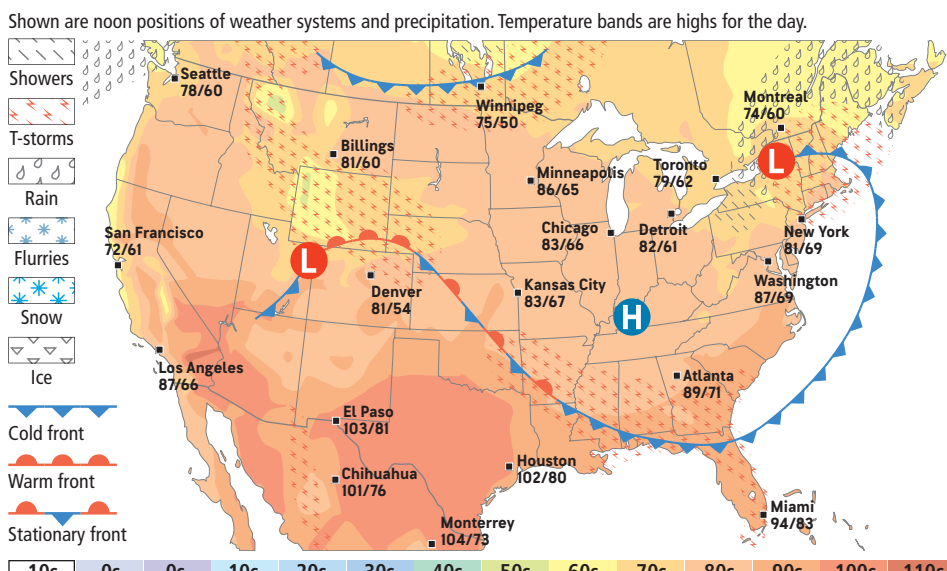
	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
Major	5:56 a.m.	6:45 a.m.	7:33 a.m.	8:21 a.m.
Minor	12:09 p.m.	12:33 p.m.	1:20 a.m.	2:08 a.m.
Major	6:21 p.m.	7:11 p.m.	7:59 p.m.	8:47 p.m.
Minor	---	12:58 p.m.	1:46 p.m.	2:34 p.m.

SUN AND MOON

	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
Sunrise	6:00 a.m.	6:02 a.m.	6:03 a.m.	6:04 a.m.
Sunset	8:34 p.m.	8:32 p.m.	8:31 p.m.	8:29 p.m.
Moonrise	11:57 p.m.	none	12:28 a.m.	1:07 a.m.
Moonset	2:50 p.m.	4:03 p.m.	5:12 p.m.	6:13 p.m.

Last Aug 8 New Aug 16 First Aug 24 Full Aug 30

NATIONAL FORECAST TUESDAY



NATIONAL CITIES

City	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	City	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.
Albuquerque	91/67/t	94/68/pc	92/67/pc	Houston	102/80/pc	102/81/s	102/81/s
Anchorage	65/54/c	59/55/r	66/53/sh	Las Vegas	104/81/s	103/81/pc	102/83/s
Atlanta	89/71/t	91/72/t	89/73/t	Los Angeles	87/66/s	82/66/pc	81/65/pc
Billings	81/60/pc	87/61/pc	82/58/pc	Miami	94/83/t	93/83/t	94/81/s
Boise	85/64/s	90/62/s	89/63/s	Minneapolis	86/65/s	82/61/s	83/65/c
Boston	81/68/t	85/67/pc	84/69/s	New York City	81/69/t	88/72/s	85/70/pc
Cheyenne	76/52/t	79/57/pc	87/58/pc	Omaha	82/64/t	78/63/t	87/68/pc
Chicago	83/66/t	82/66/t	83/67/s	Phoenix	108/89/s	108/88/s	108/86/s
Cleveland	81/63/pc	83/66/pc	79/63/t	Rapid City	77/55/t	83/59/s	81/57/pc
Dallas	104/82/pc	105/83/pc	105/84/s	St. Louis	87/72/pc	80/68/t	86/72/pc
Denver	81/54/t	82/60/s	91/60/pc	Salt Lake City	82/64/s	93/68/s	93/70/s
Detroit	82/61/sh	83/65/pc	81/63/t	San Francisco	72/61/pc	70/60/pc	72/59/pc
Honolulu	90/78/pc	89/77/pc	88/75/pc	Washington, DC	87/69/pc	89/71/pc	80/70/c



Owen Sexton / owen@chronline.com
Candy is thrown from atop the Aldrich Berry Farm & Nursery berry harvester during the Mossyrock Blueberry Festival parade on Saturday, Aug. 5.

In focus: Rainy skies don't stop Mossyrock Blueberry Festival parade

By The Chronicle staff

While overcast skies and a constant drizzle persisted throughout most of the morning, the rain didn't deter hundreds of people from lining the streets of downtown Mossyrock for the Mossyrock Blueberry Festival's parade on Saturday, Aug. 5.

Classic cars, community celebration floats, a fleet of custom

Jeeps, shadowboxers and, fittingly, a few berry harvesters rolled down East State Street for Mossyrock's annual blueberry harvest celebration.

The Mossyrock Blueberry Festival concluded on Sunday, Aug. 6.

For more information about the festival, and other Mossyrock area events, visit <https://mossyrockfestivals.org/>.



Winlock Egg Day royalty court members smile and wave on Saturday, Aug. 5, during the Mossyrock Blueberry Festival parade.



The Morton Loggers' Jubilee court sits atop their float as it rolls through downtown Mossyrock on Saturday, Aug. 5, for the Mossyrock Blueberry Festival parade.



Smokey the Bear reminds paraders only they can prevent forest fires as he rides on a U.S. Forest Service truck during the Mossyrock Blueberry Festival parade on Saturday, Aug. 5.



Little Miss Friendly 2022 Emma Britton smiles and waves at paraders while she rides the Southwest Washington Fair float on Saturday, Aug. 5, at the Mossyrock Blueberry Festival parade.



Panamerican Berry Growers members toss candy to parade attendees from atop a berry harvester on Saturday, Aug. 5, during the Mossyrock Blueberry Festival parade.

SEPT. 14TH
THURSDAY | 2023
5:30PM

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Woman allegedly attempts to break into occupied Centralia residence

By Emily Fitzgerald
emily@chronline.com

An 18-year-old woman accused of trying to break into a Centralia residence while the occupants fought her off on Thursday, Aug. 3, has been charged with first-degree burglary in Lewis County Superior Court.

Audrey Jelle, of Centralia, is accused of banging on the windows to the residence and then pushing

her way into the home “despite (the resident) attempting to keep her out,” according to an affidavit of probable cause filed in Lewis County Superior Court on Friday.

The resident, who told law enforcement Jelle is “her grandchild’s mother,” reported Jelle was “initially kicking the door and banging on windows, then when (the resident) attempted to open the door and then close it,

Jelle pushed the door open and entered and hit (the resident) in the face with a fist,” according to the affidavit.

The resident’s boyfriend reportedly “pushed Jelle out of the house.”

When contacted by law enforcement, Jelle allegedly “admitted to knocking on the windows and ringing the doorbell, and putting her foot in the door to

keep (the resident) from closing it,” according to the affidavit. Jelle stated the resident and the resident’s boyfriend “were attempting to push her back from the door,” and allegedly said she pushed the boyfriend after she pushed her. She later allegedly said she shoved the door and it hit the boyfriend, but denied hitting the resident, according to the affidavit.

Jelle was arrested and

booked into the Lewis County Jail at 12:40 p.m. on Aug. 3. She has since been charged with one count of first-degree burglary, domestic violence, which is a class A felony carrying a maximum penalty of life in prison.

Bail is set at \$25,000 and arraignment is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 10.

A no-contact order protecting the alleged victim is in place.



Jared Wenzelburger /jared@chronline.com
From left, Reade Obern, Gary Burns, John Bartholomew and Mike Brown play instruments at Winolequa Park during Pickersfest in Winlock on Sunday, Aug. 6.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Mark Roeder
1960 ~ 2023

Mark Lynn Roeder passed away on Friday, July 28, 2023, in Toledo, Washington, at the age of 63.

Born on Feb. 25, 1960, to Melvin and Beulah (Boots) Roeder, Mark was a lifelong Toledo resident. He was an avid hunter, fisherman and outdoorsman who loved working with his hands. He graduated from Toledo High School in 1978 and spent time as a logger, sandblaster, painter and diesel mechanic.

Mark will be remembered for his kind soul, willingness to help friends and creativity. He was a collector, known for collecting everything from tools to antiques. Mark was also a handyman and would

say “he could fix anything but a broken heart.” He enjoyed boating, clam digging, and camping and was involved in pool leagues.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Bruce, and parents, Boots and Melvin. Survivors include his partner, Diana Hedgers; son, Tad (Alyssa) Roeder, of Phoenix, Arizona; daughter, Hillary (Steven) Budke, of Salem, Oregon; five grandchildren; sister, Janet (Barry) Dodd, of San Antonio, Texas; and several nieces and nephews.

A service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 26, at the Toledo First Baptist Church, with lunch to follow.

TO VIEW THE OBITUARY, PLEASE GO TO CHRONLINE.COM/OBITUARIES.

In focus: Musicians pluck away at Pickersfest in Winlock



The Runaway Train band performs at Winolequa Park during Pickersfest in Winlock on Sunday, Aug. 6.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Dolores O'Laque

Dolores Marie (Bieker) O'Laque passed away peacefully at the age of 94 on Aug. 1, 2023, at Sunrise View in Everett, Washington, with family by her side.

Mom was born in Chehalis to Anthony and Ann Bieker. She graduated from Chehalis High School in 1947. In 1948, she met and married Douglas O'Laque and soon after started a family. She was a stay-at-home mom who had a large garden and did lots of canning to feed her large family of six. She was also a seamstress and made lots of prom dresses for her five

daughters. In 1970, she went to work at Yard Birds, where she later retired from.

Dolores is preceded in death by her parents, husband, grandson, a son-in-law and three brothers. She is survived by her five daughters and one son, Christine and Buff Judah, of Lynwood, Washington; Cynthia Ternan, of Adna, Washington; Constance O'Laque, of Everett, Washington; Carla and Tim Moran, of Adna, Washington; Colleen and Don Arrhenius, of Boise, Idaho; and Corey and Carrie O'Laque, of Ocean City, Washington. She also leaves behind 14 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren. She will be greatly missed.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Aug. 12, 2023, at Fern Hill Cemetery, 1414-1416 Bishop Road, Chehalis, Washington. Arrangements are made by Cattermole Funeral Home, Winlock.

TO VIEW THE OBITUARY, PLEASE GO TO CHRONLINE.COM/OBITUARIES.



From left, John Bartholomew and Reade Obern play instruments at Winolequa Park during Pickersfest in Winlock on Sunday, Aug. 6.

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COMMENTARY: Highlighting Lewis County

Emma Elisabet 'Lisa' Blomdahl's century-long symphony

More than a year ago, when I interviewed 100-year-old Lisa Blomdahl, she pedaled her stationary bike and walked on her treadmill in her exercise room overlooking Chehalis to show what a healthy centenarian can do to stay active.

Asked about the secret to her longevity, the soft-spoken petite woman with a delightful Swedish accent replied: "Believe in God." She told me, "God is the same. God doesn't change. What I have to look for is God."



By Julie McDonald

I like to think she rests in God's warm embrace now after her July 20 death at the age of 101-and-a-half, reunited with her husband of nearly 55 years, George, who died in 2008. She leaves behind two grown children, Dave Blomdahl and Anne Peterson, five grandchildren — Kurt, Daniel, Jacob, Eric and Elizabeth or "Lisa" — a great-granddaughter, Emma, named in her honor, and a great-grandson, Owen.

A celebration of her long, rich life begins at 3:30 p.m. on Aug. 18, at Grace Church at 1866 S. Market Blvd., Chehalis.

In addition to her family, Lisa leaves behind a legacy of deep and lasting friendships with people who admired her kind, gentle, gracious demeanor and words of wisdom shared in a beautiful Swedish accent. She joined the St. Helens Club in February 1962 and the P.E.O. Sisterhood's Chehalis Chapter AV two years later.

"When I think of Lisa, I remember a lady who was friendly, impeccably dressed, fond of her Swedish heritage, with an ir-repressible twinkle in her eye,"



Lisa Blomdahl

said Vicki Pogorelc, of Centralia. "She was genuinely interested in you and what you were doing. She was a delightful lady and great member of St. Helens Club."

"She really had style," said Jean Bluhm, whose daughter graduated with Lisa's. Their grandchildren also played in the band together. "We would sit in the bleachers and laugh. We had so many good times together."

Clarice Stefon, of Chehalis, another St. Helens Club member and longtime friend of Lisa and George, remembered directing the first swing choir at W.F. West High School in the early

1960s, where George would snap photographs of their events. "I also knew Lisa from many years in PEO and treasured her friendship."

Mary Metzger, another St. Helens Club member who began teaching at the Chehalis Junior High in the mid-1960s, met Lisa, who was serving as a parent chaperone.

"Lisa was always an enthusiastic parent with school events," she said. "Oh, how she loved her two children. She was also a very kind and loving friend. I can hear her voice and will carry her memory in my heart forever."

In early 2022, Barbara Ma-

son, of Chehalis, described Lisa as an inspiration for half a century. "Despite her petite stature, she is a very strong person," she said. "Her faith, her family and friends are uppermost in her life. Her Scandinavian style never waivers in the decor of her home. Her optimistic attitude is a gift she shares with all."

I met Lisa decades ago as a Daily Chronicle reporter. She served as gracious hostess at parties she and George hosted in their beautiful home and renewed our friendship more recently in the St. Helens Club.

But I'll always remember Lisa for a comment she shared with me at the 90th birthday party for our friend Pearl Miller. I had recently started writing this newspaper column, and she grasped both my hands in hers and brought tears to my eyes as she said, "Thank you for putting God back in the newspaper."

Lisa was born Jan. 11, 1922, to Axel and Johanna Petterson and raised in a family of 10 children near the small fishing village of Brantevik, Sweden, with a bedroom overlooking the Baltic Sea. After finishing school at 17, she started working as a cashier at the bank in the Royal Postal Department Sweden. She was promoted to supervisor and sorted mail — and still received a pension from Sweden decades later.

She recalled the night she met George during a New Year's Eve visit to their small Baptist church in 1946. As she strummed the guitar and sang in an angelic voice, she captured the heart of the Seattle evangelist and Army veteran who was touring his parents' homeland while attending Bible College in Stockholm. They dated before he returned to the States to study photojournalism at the University of Washington. He

returned to Sweden two more times during the next seven years before persuading her to marry him and emigrate to the United States. They were married July 25, 1953, in a Lutheran church in Malmö and, with a guitar strapped on her back bearing two hearts — one for Sweden and the other for the United States — she traveled with George to 17 countries in Europe for their honeymoon. They crossed the Atlantic Ocean aboard the Kungsholm and arrived on May 26, 1954, in New York, where she was processed through the immigration station at Ellis Island.

When George was hired at The Daily Chronicle in July 1954, they settled in Chehalis, where they raised their family. Anne said her parents had "a wonderful marriage."

Lisa, a woman of indomitable strength, survived colon cancer and a heart valve replacement in her late eighties but bounced back and declared her health at 100 was better than it had been at 75.

"She was indeed an inspiration to so many — bright, cheerful, welcoming, caring to all she encountered right to the end," said Jenny Kirk, a friend for a quarter of a century and fellow PEO and St. Helens Club member. She described her as "a mentor to me in growing old gracefully and accepting her leaving this world with assurance that she would live a beautiful life in eternity with loved ones and new friends."

Lisa's rich life epitomized resilience, courage, love and faith — a century-long symphony resonating in the hearts of those she left behind.

...

Julie McDonald, a personal historian from Toledo, may be reached at memoirs@chaptersoflife.com.

Take a leap to get a foot in the door at Centralia College

So often, we celebrate huge stories of success — the student who pulled themselves out of addiction or homelessness, the high-achieving student headed to an Ivy League university on a full ride, the student author that landed a book deal.



By Bob Mohrbacher

Those are great stories, and I love them as much as anyone.

What gets less attention are all the amazing individuals who

COMMENTARY: From the college

took a huge leap just to get their foot in the door. I'm talking about the people who complete a short certificate at Centralia College. These certificates are offered as career and technical programs and are intended to get adults into jobs quickly. Certificates of completion can typically be completed in a few months. certificates of proficiency take about a year.

For adults struggling with poverty, underemployment, homelessness, divorce or other major setbacks, a short certifi-

cate can provide just enough of a boost to find stability and security. Certificates are offered in commercial driving, early childhood education, welding, phlebotomy, accounting, industrial trades, office applications, medical administrative assistant and medical scribe. These are good, stable jobs that yield experience, higher wages, stable hours and pathways for advancement.

And completing a short certificate makes it easier to come back to college for even more training if you want it later. So

many students get the entry-level job and then return to pick away at an associate or bachelor's degree, taking the time they need to work, care for homes and families and live their lives.

For those who think they can't afford to earn a certificate, come in, tell us your story and let's find the money. There are a ton of programs to help adults into new careers. There's worker retraining funds, state grants, financial aid and specialized programs for those receiving benefits from the Department of Social and Health Services. A great place to start is the Workforce

Funding Office at the corner of Centralia College Boulevard and Rock Street. Come into room 101 and sit down with one of our amazing staff. They're warm and welcoming, and they've heard it all. They're uniquely able to help students facing all kinds of challenges and they know how to get things done.

We're open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday until Labor Day.

Now is a great time to get started.

...

Bob Mohrbacher is president of Centralia College.

Letters to the editor

Julie McDonald's interview himself.

I will vote for Joe Kent and Donald Trump again when given that opportunity.

CHERYL MATTHIESEN
Chehalis

As a senior, an organization cannot tell me not to pray

Thank you to The Chronicle for exposing a real injustice toward the folks who try to enjoy some of the last remaining and earned good years of their lives. My wife and I were disgusted to

learn that Carol Brock and the Lewis County Seniors organization have no respect for the freedoms of speech and human rights, and will affect people with more wisdom and common sense than these folks will ever know.

It is amazing that these leaders would treat seniors as preschoolers by trying to dictate what subjects are allowable or taboo. If ever a ruling class needed the help of any prayers, they may be it.

As a senior citizen, I will not allow this organization to tell me I cannot pray, enjoy telling stories of my past experiences, my thoughts on politics, beautiful women, ugly women and

men, or anything else. They do not have the right to tell me what to do or say. Please stand by our seniors. You will be one, if you are lucky.

DON CARROLL
Silver Creek

'No prayer' policy won't be accepted

We received our Lewis County Senior Dynamics monthly news for August 2023 and read page three where the Lewis County Senior Board has "set the rules."

One of the new rules is "no prayer."

"No prayer." Moments of silence are all that may be called for without any commentary or added statements.

So, we can no longer say grace before our meal.

At one point in this article in the August edition, it states "anyone participating in these negative exploits" may be asked to leave and "not return."

I'm going to say here and now to the Lewis County Seniors Board that I will continue to answer to God, not to a man-made nor woman-made board.

THOMAS R. HICKER
Vader

Editorial Mission Statement

■ We will strive to be the voice of reason for the peaceful settlement of conflict and contention on key local issues. We will work to be fair at all times and to provide a balance of opinions. We will make our opinion pages available for public discussion of vital issues and events affecting the quality of life in Lewis County and adjoining regions. When necessary, we will be willing to take a tough, definitive stance on a controversial issue.

Letters Policy

■ Please type and email opinions, if possible, and limit letters to 500 words. Letters are typically printed in the order in which they are received. Contributors are limited to publication of one item every two weeks, with exceptions as warranted. Items submitted are subject to editing and will become the property of this newspaper. Poetry is not accepted.

To Send Your Letter

■ Address letters and commentaries to "Our Readers' Opinions." Please sign them and include your full address and daytime telephone number for verification and any questions. Send them to 321 N. Pearl, Centralia, WA 98531. E-mail letters can be sent to letters@chronline.com.

Questions

■ Editor-in-Chief Eric Schwartz can be reached by email at eschwartz@chronline.com.

Seniors

Continued from the front page

to get a meal, according to Brock, board vice president Erin Frasier and board member Chris Rust.

This controversy originally started when Brock published an article in the monthly Lewis County Senior Dynamics publication, which is produced by DeVaul Publishing, earlier this month.

In the article, Brock stated the policy was created to ensure “everyone will be able to attend our centers with acceptance and without discrimination.”

“They felt like they were at a church service versus coming in for lunch and activities,” Brock told The Chronicle on Monday, later adding, “We just don’t want to have prayer led from the podium and people feeling like they have to pray whatever that prayer is. There’s just too many faiths in this country and our country was founded on freedom of religion.”

In the Senior Dynamics article, she stated acceptance, diversity and inclusion were all paramount and that no bullying, prayer or politics would be allowed.

Both prayer and political discussion are still allowed, Brock said on Monday.

“We’re not going to each table and saying ‘you can’t say that.’ As a 501c3, we have to be apolitical and there are rules we have to abide by concerning public prayer,” Brock said.

Brock said not all political talk is banned, either.

As a nonprofit, Lewis County Seniors cannot endorse any particular candidate. Rust said he heard people still discussing local politics and issues among each other during his visit last Friday.

As a nonprofit, the Lewis County Seniors organization has to abide by rules concerning prayer and political speech in order to keep certain grants and funding.

Brock also said she’s had recent push-back from seniors angry about Pride celebrations.

All holidays, including Pride celebrations, will continue to be recognized at the senior centers, she wrote in Senior Dynamics. At a recent Pride event at the Pe Ell nutritional site, to-go meals were made especially for those who didn’t want to attend the Pride event.

Brock told The Chronicle she wrote the article to let readers know the new policy was a board decision, not the decision of indi-



Marine Corps veteran Danny Draper talks about freedoms he fought for during his service as Lewis County Seniors President Carol Brock reaches for the microphone on Monday, Aug. 7, outside the Twin Cities Senior Center.



A sign is posted behind locked doors at the Twin Cities Senior Center following a “Prayer Circle” event held outside on Monday, Aug. 7. Staff at the center said lunch would no longer be served that day.

vidual senior center site leaders.

While Brock attempted to engage with the protesters for around 20 minutes on Monday during a planned event billed as a “prayer circle,” she left after the microphone she was using to respond was turned off while she was talking and after being called un-American by attendees.

Brock said the policy was based on recommendations from the Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Agency (LMTAAA), which dictates prayer must simply be done quietly and respectfully.

“The board decided, because we know our patrons are people

of faith, by and large, that we would have a moment of silence for people to use as they wish. Some people choose to use that for a prayer and some people choose to continue their conversations,” Rust said. “It works. I was here Friday for lunch. I gave thanks for my meal while other people at my table continued their conversation ... No one is trying to deny anyone’s constitutional rights.”

Many who oppose the policy maintain it’s a violation of their First Amendment rights of freedom of speech and expression and claimed the board had no right to make the policy as a

publicly funded organization.

Lewis County Seniors used to be controlled by the county, but as of 2017 is now a private nonprofit organization, according to previous reporting by The Chronicle. Some of the facilities it uses are still owned by the county, though.

The organization still receives \$100,000 in funding from the county to help pay for the senior nutrition meal program, but that is just a drop in the budget’s bucket, Frasier said. Most of the other funding comes from grants, fundraisers, donations and the LMTAAA.

Frasier added all board members are volunteers, and there are currently five board positions that need to be filled. Frasier invited those in attendance at the protest to apply.

Brock said she was disappointed with an opinion piece by Chronicle Publisher Chad Taylor published in Saturday’s edition. She felt the opinion didn’t share the full story of what she wrote in Senior Dynamics.

In his opinion, Taylor noted that Brock currently heads up the Lewis County Democrats, and claimed she was forcing her personal political bias on those at the senior centers. Brock maintained the decision was not hers alone, but the entire Lewis County Seniors Board of Directors. She again invited anyone interested in filling the vacant positions on the board to get involved.

Aside from Brock, Frasier and Rust, the other Lewis County Seniors board members include Zora De Grandpre, Judy Barr, Ron Averill, Jason Donahe, Sheila Johnson-Teeter, Olga Miller and Usha Sahadeva-Brooks, according to the nonprofit’s website. Miller notified The Chronicle she is no longer on the board.

Lewis County Commissioners Sean Swope and Scott Brummer were critical of the policy during a meeting at the Lewis County Courthouse on Monday.

“If you feel these changes are restrictive, voice your concerns,” Swope said in a statement to The Chronicle.

Commissioner Lindsey Pollock encouraged those with concerns to reach out to the Lewis County Seniors Board.

“I have faith that the Lewis County Seniors Board will find a way forward from this moment that will respect the full rights of all of our seniors, allow for prayer, and allow for political conversations,” Pollock said in a statement to The Chronicle.

The commissioners discussed the possibility of holding a meeting with the Lewis County Seniors board.

Copies of Senior Dynamics can be free at all Lewis County Seniors centers throughout the county at a Second Time Around Thrift Store in Chehalis.

For more information about Lewis County Seniors, visit its website, <https://lewiscountyseniors.org/>.

Dolly

Continued from the front page

key difference, however, is that children in Washington up to the ages of 5 now can have age-appropriate books sent to their homes every month at no cost to them, regardless of their ZIP code — thanks to Parton herself.

Next week, on Aug. 15, Parton will visit Washington to celebrate the program’s foothold across each of the state’s 39 counties. Founded in 1995, the Dolly Parton Imagination Library mailed book program now has more than 65,000 children enrolled across the state and more than 2 million worldwide. Attendance to the event will be invitation only, but it will be streamed live on TVW and on the Imagination Library of Washington’s social media channels. During her visit, the governor and lieutenant governor will proclaim Aug. 15 as “Imagination Library of Washington Day.”

Just as the singer can take credit for the effort’s benefits to early childhood learning, a few key players from Lewis and

Cowlitz counties can take credit for scaling Washington’s Imagination Library into the tens of thousands — enough to grab Parton’s attention.

Parton’s book program was first brought to Washington by Brooke Fisher-Clark, a Rotarian in Longview. Then, with the help of the United Way of Lewis County, the United Way of Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties, and the Twin Cities Rotary Club, was brought to Lewis County. As of last December, according to previous reporting in The Chronicle, Lewis County had 2,624 children registered.

Now, Angela French, a 14-year United Way of Lewis County employee, and Fisher-Clark head the Imagination Library of Washington.

Without them at the helm, a Vancouver legislator and a Centralia lawmaker whose passion for the program started at home, Parton’s visit to Washington wouldn’t have become a reality. More importantly, the tens of thousands of children across the state wouldn’t have benefitted from the Imagination Library.

“My children (were) involved in the Dolly Parton Imagination

Library for many, many years very early on,” Abbarno said, later adding, “We’d sit down and read with them. It created a really cool opportunity for our family to turn off the TV and try and put away all the other external distractions to focus on us and reading. And I think it improved their kindergarten readiness.”

Beyond their reading comprehension, Abbarno said, it created lasting positive changes in his household by solidifying a tradition of reading the same books and discussing them, even as his son and daughter kids near their tweens.

When Abbarno was elected into the state Legislature, he and Monica Stonier, D-Vancouver, co-sponsored a bill to have the

program funded half through the United Way of the Pacific Northwest and half through the state’s Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. It passed nearly unanimously, Abbarno said.

“This is not a partisan issue and it should never be a partisan issue when you’re talking about early learning and reading and kindergarten readiness,” he said. “About a year later, they had asked whether I could help with support for some additional funding. ... Now, we’re here.”

When Parton visits on Aug. 15, Abbarno will be one of the event’s featured speakers.

According to a news release from the state Department of Children, Youth and Families,

the program has distributed more than 1.6 million books across Washington, and, prior to the Centralia and Vancouver lawmakers’ legislation, was only in a “handful” of regions in the Evergreen State.

“It really is a Southwest Washington origin story,” Abbarno said, later adding, “One thing I’ve always said about Lewis County, and I think it applies to a lot of rural areas, is how giving we are. It’s just amazing to see how the Rotary groups, United Way of Lewis County, just kind of circled the wagons on this issue and said, ‘Look, we’ve identified a problem with early learning and kindergarten readiness. We found a program.’ And they just went all at it.”

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Cheese

Continued from the front page

In late May of this year, he stood atop a hill that bears his first name, full of beer and excitement, and accomplished his decadal dream.

That was the annual cheese roll competition in Gloucester, England. An annual event that dates back at least a couple centuries, it takes place on the very steep, 200-yard-long “Cooper’s Hill.”

Asked to describe the event, Cummings said: “It’s just a bunch of people hurling themselves down this really steep hill” after a 7-pound ball of cheese. There are three men’s races, one women’s race and one for children. There are no age limits in the adult bracket.

“It’s super unprofessional. It’s not sanctioned by anything, there’s no liability of injuries (that occur) every year. They’ve tried to cancel it so many times, but it continues,” Cummings said.

His years of planning culminated in just one strategy: “If you’re gonna fall, don’t fall forward, fall back.”

He remained on his feet for most of the race. At the very end, he rolled down the hill into victory.

On Saturday, the champion visited Napavine’s Tumac Taproom to cut the cheese. The taproom is owned by the family of his girlfriend, Molly Olson, of Napavine, who he met in college.

In the packed bar, Napavine residents, the town’s mayor, friends, family of both Olson and Cummings, and strangers gathered to celebrate the Washingtonian’s triumph over the world-famous event.

Besides a scarf and two tickets to a Gloucester rugby game, Cummings took home bragging rights and a roll of the crumbly, slightly tart, savory, orange cheese. The trip was organized by Olson, who, upon her partner’s success, promptly texted her family with some expletives and joyful shock. The duo spent a week in Great Britain, Cum-



Jared Wenzelburger /jared@chronline.com
Cooper Cummings watches a replay of the Gloucester Cheese Roll, that he competed in while sporting a Seahawks jersey, at the Tumac Taproom on Saturday, Aug. 5, in Napavine.

mings said, with the cheese roll their main destination.

In the video of the competition, she can be seen running up to him for a kiss on the cheek as he sports Seahawks swag. He’s only the second American man to ever win the race.

The world-record holder of cheese rolling, Chris Anderson, has won about two dozen times in the last 27 years.

“A year ago, when I’m trying to decide if I was going to do it, he was said to have retired the year before. So, I was like, ‘Oh, I’m just going to go and have an easy race. I don’t have to compete against him,’” Cummings recalled. “Because he’s like the Tom Brady of cheese rolls.”

Instead of retiring, though, Anderson returned to Cooper’s Hill in 2023.

“It was the perfect experience,” Cummings said in Napavine on Saturday. “I just wanted to do it, but I ended up winning and beating back the all-time defending champ.”

The competition, including the race Cummings won, can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdKRx30s6sk>.



Cooper Cummings, 23, the Gloucester Cheese Roll champion, poses for a photo with a wheel of cheese outside the Tumac Taproom on Saturday, Aug. 5, in Napavine.



Cooper Cummings poses for a photo with his significant other Molly Olson after cutting the cheese at the Tumac Taproom on Saturday, Aug. 5, in Napavine.

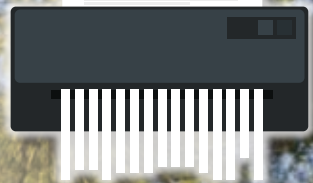
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Photos by Jared Wenzelburger / jared@chronline.com
Jacob Price, 17, of Adna, smiles while completing an Eagle Scout project at Greenwood Memorial Park with the help of family, friends and former scouts on Saturday, Aug. 5, in Centralia. The project aimed to clean the cemetery grounds and place flag holders at the graves of veterans.

In focus: Eagle Scout project completed at Greenwood Memorial Park in Centralia



Jacob Price smiles for a photo at Greenwood Memorial Cemetery alongside family, friends and former scouts helping him to complete his Eagle Scout project on Saturday, Aug. 5, in Centralia.



An Eagle Scout project organized by Jacob Price aims to clean around the Greenwood Memorial Cemetery and place flag holders at the graves of veterans on Saturday, Aug. 5, in Centralia.

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Cowlitz County family awarded millions after wrongful death lawsuit over popular herbal supplement kratom

By Matthew Esnayra

The Daily News

A Cowlitz County jury earlier this month awarded \$2.5 million to a Castle Rock family over a wrongful death lawsuit after a 39-year-old man with back pain died from ingesting a popular marketed herbal supplement and pain reliever called kratom that is not regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

A 12-member jury ruled in favor of Sybil Coyne and the estate of her late husband, Patrick Coyne, citing that Wendianne Rook and her Oregon-based company, Society Botanicals, were liable because the kratom product she sold was not reasonably safe in design, its labeling was negligent, and those factors led to Patrick Coyne's death, according to court records.

Rook declined to comment on the verdict to The Daily News.

Kratom is a tree native to Southeast Asia and its leaves are packaged in pills, powders or drinks and sold often in convenient stores as an all-natural supplement that can relieve pain, anxiety and even opioid withdrawals.

Patrick Coyne — a Portland boat mechanic with a history of back pain — took Rook's powdered product Kratom Divine's Maeng Da "several times a day at both work and home," the lawsuit alleges.

On June 27, 2020, the lawsuit states he kissed his wife and said he loved her before sitting in a recliner in their Castle Rock home. The next morning, she found him unresponsive.

Cowlitz County Coroner Dana Tucker reports Patrick



Katelyn Metzger / The Daily News

Kratom in loose powder and capsule forms. Kratom is legal in Washington state, but some states have laws against possessing or selling the marketed supplement.

Coyne died of "toxic effects of Mitragynine (kratom)," and his matter of death was an accident. Mitragynine is a compound in kratom that interacts with opioid receptors in the brain, reports the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health.

A bag of Kratom Devine was found near the body of Patrick Coyne, who left behind three children under the age of around 13, according to the lawsuit.

"My family is grateful that the jury has seen the dangers of kratom, and that it does kill," Sybil Coyne said in press release from her attorneys Talis Abolins and Michael Cowgill of the Seattle law firm mclaw.

Abolins said people need to

be aware of the risks of taking the popular marketed supplement.

"It's not the safe product it's being sold as," he said. "It's not coffee and tea like Wendi Rook said it was."

The FDA reports the administration has not approved kratom to be sold as a prescription or an over-the-counter drug in the U.S., and kratom cannot be legally added to conventional food. The administration does not regulate kratom because the law doesn't require the FDA to approve dietary supplements for safety before they reach consumers.

Rook said during her deposition she was not selling kratom for human consumption and

that she intended consumers "will do with it what they choose to do with it," according to court records. She said she knew kratom was not an approved supplement and not approved for human consumption.

She admitted several times in court that she was not a doctor, but published anecdotal evidence in an e-book about kratom's effectiveness to reduce pain, anxiety, depression, stress and fatigue. She said during court she had done extensive research on kratom prior to selling but did not know of any adverse side effects and said the product was not addicting.

But, the Drug Enforcement Administration reports kratom

can lead to addiction and can be a stimulant in low doses, a sedative in high doses and even cause hallucinations. The lawsuit alleges Patrick Coyne's use of kratom increased the longer he took it.

The FDA says kratom can cause liver toxicity and seizures.

Patrick Coyne purchased Rook's powered kratom at C and C Speedy Mart at 135 Huntington Ave. N. in Castle Rock, the lawsuit states, as well as a Portland convenient store called PDX Food Mart. Both stores were named in the lawsuit but were dismissed and are on appeal pending a decision.

As of July 29, C and C Speedy Mart sold other kratom products — kept behind the cash register with the cigarettes and liquor — including a powder by the company Remarkable Herbs; pills by the company Optimized Plant Mediated Solutions; and drinks that look similar to the packaging of 5-hour Energy shots called Kryptic Kratom.

Each of the packages state the product is for people 18 and older. The first two packages state by using this product or even opening the package "you accept full responsibility" of any adverse affects.

Some states, not including Washington and Oregon, have laws against the sale or possession of kratom, while the marketed supplement is popular across the country. A national survey states 1.7 million Americans aged 12 and older said they used kratom in 2021.

"That's what we're hoping the public starts to understand," Abolins said. "Just because the stuff is everywhere doesn't mean it's followed the regulations."

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Centralia to celebrate George Washington at first Founder's Day

By The Chronicle staff

The Centralia Downtown Association (CDA) is preparing to host the first Founder's Day event following the recent establishment of the new local holiday by the Centralia City Council.

The event will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, at George Washington Park in downtown Centralia.

Attendees will honor George Washington, the son of an enslaved man who, facing racism, moved to the West and established the town of Centerville, which later became Centralia.

This year's event will feature a welcome from Mayor Kelly Smith Johnston, followed by a talk and original song from local author and historian Brian Mittge focused on Washington's life and legacy in Centralia, according to a news release from the downtown association.

"I am excited to celebrate Centralia's first Founder's Day," Smith Johnston stated in the release. "George and Mary Jane Washington's example of resilience and generosity is an inspiration for me and has shaped Centralia in many positive ways."

Attendees will hear jazz music from Dmitri Matheny, who is donating his time for the event. Music in the Park will directly follow Founder's Day festivities until 8 p.m., featuring Seattle-based rock band King Youngblood.



A statue of George and Mary Jane Washington sits on display during a Juneteenth celebration at George Washington Park in downtown Centralia on Saturday, June 17.

Jared Wenzelburger /jared@chronline.com

"George and Mary Jane Washington's example of resilience and generosity is an inspiration for me and has shaped Centralia in many positive ways."

Kelly Smith Johnston
Centralia mayor

Library will be on hand to provide a children's activity — giant bubbles in the park, another annual favorite for locals, ac-

ording to the release. Event attendees are also encouraged to visit the library, where books on George Washington and Cen-

tralia's history will be readily available for check out.

Merchandise from the CDA will be available by donation, with proceeds going to the newly established George Washington Scholarship Fund, headed up by Mittge. Mittge will also have copies of "George Washington of Centralia," the book he co-authored with Kerry MacGregor Serl on Washington's life, available for purchase should attendees wish to delve deeper into Washington and the history of Centralia.

Alongside a self-guided walking tour of points of inter-

est in Washington's life, attendees are encouraged to check out the George Washington Museum, located in the CDA office at 214 N. Tower Ave. Free maps will be available at the event for the walking tour. Local George Washington researcher Heather Beard will be on hand to answer questions and share stories about Washington's life.

"We're thrilled to be able to honor our George Washington with this new annual event," said MacKenzie McGee, executive director of the CDA. "His legacy of generosity, caring and loving where you live truly lives on in the hearts of Centralians today, and that's something worth celebrating."

Food and drink vendors will also be present in George Washington Park, selling wares to visitors all the way through the Music in the Park finale.

The event is getting attention outside of Centralia as well. Tacoma-based PBS station KBTC will have a film crew at the event for an upcoming segment on Centralia's founder. The piece should air within a few weeks of the event.

While the city holiday is established on George Washington's birthday, Aug. 15, the CDA intends to throw an annual public event in George Washington Park on the closest Saturday to that date each year.

To learn more about Washington, visit <https://tinyurl.com/dsf4v6a>.

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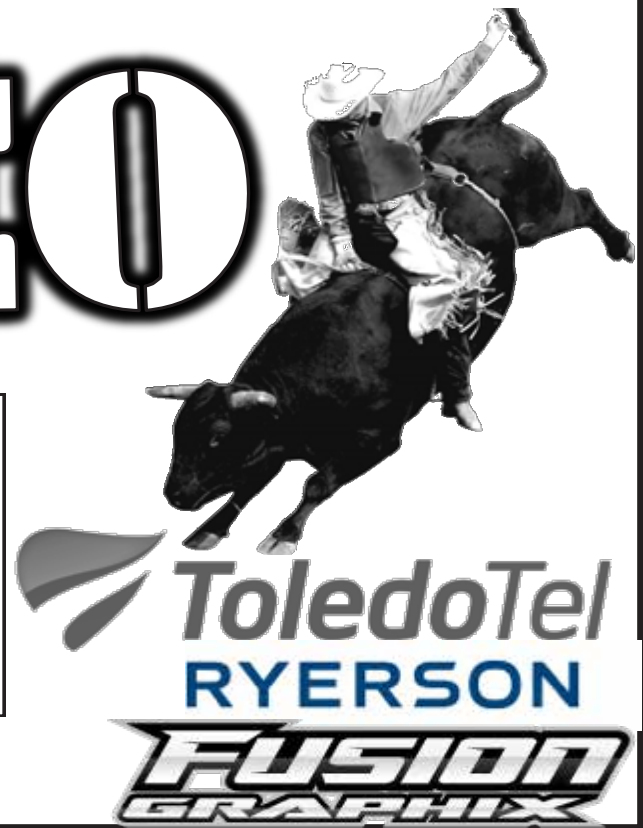
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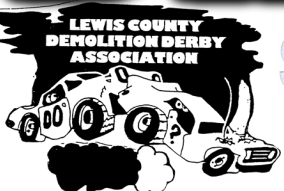
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Grandstand show tickets are not valid for Fair gate entry. You can purchase Fair gate entry tickets online in advance or at the Fair gates when you arrive. Come early - see the whole Fair!

Entertainment FREE with your Fair gate admission this year:

- >All-Alaskan Racing Pigs...Thur.—Sun. only...field behind Fair office
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- >Wool Busters...3 times daily at North end of Fairgrounds
- >5 Comedy Hypnotists...see daily schedule for stages
- >Juggler Mark Wilder...4 times daily on the Fair Midway

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- >The Pasta Bowl >Pineapple Dole Whip >Twisted Pig Concessions
- Hobbies & Crafts Dept. now in the Expo Hall /New Cowboy Chapel**
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 Master Recyclers mini golf - WA State Patrol fingerprinting booth under Grandstand - Old Firehouse activities - Centralia PUD demos - Wool Busters - Parrott shows -
 All-Alaskan Racing Pigs - Free Play Arcade courtesy of Centralia's Insert Coin - visit 100's of farm animals up close - antique pegal cars courtesy of King AG Museum

Saloon Stage Concerts:

- >Tue. Aug. 15...Little Miss Friendly Ceremony...6pm
- >Wed. Aug. 16 - Elvis Day!...Danny Vernon Illusion of Elvis...1pm
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- >Thur. Aug. 17...The Kingsmen...8pm **ALL TIME CLASSIC!**
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<<< USA falls to Sweden in Round of 16 ... B7

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Local Basketball

Commentary

Wilhelm: Good to be home

In the back of my mind, I always knew I wanted to come back to Washington state.

I was only gone for four years, and for one of them I was able to drive up almost every weekend.

But even then, I knew that Washington is where I wanted to be. I'm thrilled to be back in the state I grew up in, and I'm excited to get this sports season started here at The Chronicle.



By Dylan Wilhelm
dylan@chronline.com

Like most sports writers, I fell in love with sports at a young age. My brother and dad introduced me to football early, but my first love was baseball.

I had no idea what I was doing at my first South Hill Little League tryout, but I eventually tallied my first base hit, first strikeout, and first home run.

While my playing days eventually came to an end, I knew I wanted to do something in sports for a career and I was always told I was a good writer in school. The path became clear to me: Why not combine the two?

At Arizona State University, I was fortunate enough to cover a variety of events in the Phoenix area, including several ASU and Grand Canyon University sports, a PGA tour event, drag boat racing, a professional wiffle ball tournament and arena football.

I graduated in three years in 2022, and after a summer covering the Cape Cod Baseball League in Massachusetts, I got closer to home by joining the staff at the News-Register in McMinnville, Oregon, last September.

There, I was the leader of a one-man sports department, covering six high schools and Division III Linfield University.

While McMinnville had a school at the 6A level, the highest classification in Oregon, we also focused on smaller schools, some of which produced outstanding teams and individuals.

It was these smaller communities that also had some of the best coaches and teachers. Of course, they were interested in winning, but they were more so focused on setting their kids up for success off the field, as any high school coach should.

I've already spoken briefly with new Tenino football coach Darren Tinnerstet and Centralia College men's soccer coach Noel Vazquez, and I am looking forward to meeting and speaking with other coaches in Lewis County who share that passion for leading student-athletes.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to do it here at The Chronicle. From what I have seen and heard, I know that there is a high standard here, one that people appreciate.

You expect in-depth insight, solid information and attention to detail. I will do my best to deliver that and more.

In addition to the traditional

please see **WILHELM**, page B2



Josh Kirshenbaum / josh@chronline.com

The Rainmakers' Cody Pedersen contests Toledo Tel's Joe Nelson during an adult division game at the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce 3-on-3 Streetball Tournament, Aug. 5 in Chehalis.

Rainmakers, Winlock win in 3-on-3 Festival

STREETBALL: Rain doesn't slow down Chamber of Commerce's inaugural hoops event

By Josh Kirshenbaum
josh@chronline.com

Hoopers don't usually have to care about a bit of rain — unless the roof of the gym has a leak in it. It's why the basketball season has always been in the winter. That said, if there was a good time to get everyone out at an organized outdoor tournament, it would definitely be in the height of summer.

After all, it wouldn't rain here the first week in August, right?

Right?
"We're in the Pacific Northwest," Centralia College men's basketball coach Joe Chirhart said with a laugh. "If you can't be flexible with a bit of rain, you don't belong out here."

Saturday, Chirhart, his CC crew, and the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce dealt with the drops and a wet morning, but came away happy with the first-ever Streetball 3-on-3 Festival, held on Northwest Pacific Avenue in Chehalis.

"For what we had, we made it happen really, really well," Chirhart said.



Charlie Stratton (white shirt) battles for the ball with Landon Cline (black shirt) during the youth division finals at the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce 3-on-3 Streetball Festival on Saturday, Aug. 5 in Chehalis.

The final honors for the day, fittingly, went to a squad dubbed the Rainmakers — Toledo brothers Fano and Carlo Arceo-Hansen, along with Chehalis' own Cody Pedersen and Tim Kelly — which went a perfect 3-0 in pool play before running through the seven-team double-elimination bracket in the adult division.

The Rainmakers led from

the first possession in the championship matchup against the C-Town Ballas — a squad made up of Centralia players and alumni. The Ballas hit three straight 2-pointers — playing street rules, a shot inside the arc counts for one point, and outside counts for two — to cut an 11-3 lead down to one point, but Carlo Arceo-Hansen blocked what could have been the game-

tying shot, Fano Arceo-Hansen drilled a two, and after a stop, Pedersen cruised for an easy layup to cap a 15-11 win.

By way of prizes, the squad came home with commemorative plates courtesy of Keiper's Cards, certificates, and a pass to get into next year's tournament for free.

please see **HOOPS**, page B8

Golf

Patrick Nugent wins Lewis County Amateur gross championship

By The Chronicle Staff

Patrick Nugent, out of Olympia Country & Golf Club, took home the grand prize at the Lewis County Amateur gross championship Sunday, finishing his weekend at Riverside Golf Club with a two-day clip of 1-under 141.

Nugent surged ahead early, finishing Saturday at 5-under as the only golfer in the tournament to go into Day 2 under 70. Sunday became more of a hold-on job, shooting a 75, but he did enough to beat out Tumwater's Seth Nickerson by two strokes and earn the top prize of \$1,000.

Including secondary prizes, Nugent went back north Sunday evening with \$1,521.25 more than he came south with in the morning.

Nickerson, who finished at 1-over 143, walked away with \$750. Jon McCaslin, Warren Ayers, and Kalib Knutson all tied for third at 146, while Will Alexander was sixth at 147.

Centralia senior Von Wasson tied for seventh at 148 with last year's champion Eli McNelly.

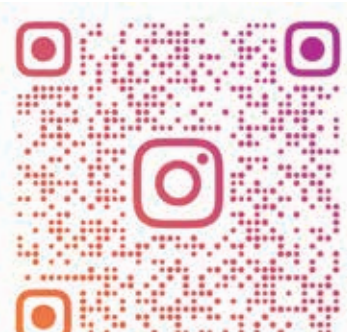
Rounding out the Wassons, Cole Wasson finished tied for 12th (152) and Brett Wasson tied for 23rd (156).

Randy Sanders, out of Newaukum Valley Golf Club, took the top prize in the net (handicap included) tournament with a two-day total of 134 in the second flight. Rolando Cornelio, from Riverside Golf Club, finished at 141 to win the first flight. Both golfers walked away with \$750 in prize money.



Chad Taylor / chad@chronline.com

From right, Lewis County Amateur net champion Randy Sanders and amateur gross champion Patrick Nugent are pictured at Riverside Golf Club on Aug. 6.



CHRONICLE_PHOTOS

MLB

Streaking Mariners win in 10 innings for 4-game sweep of Angels

ANAHEIM, Calif. (TNS) — Eugenio Suarez singled to drive in automatic runner Ty France from second base for the go-ahead run in the top of the 10th inning, and the Mariners completed a rare four-game sweep of the Los Angeles Angels with a 3-2 victory Sunday afternoon at Angel Stadium.

Left-hander Tayler Saucedo

retired all six batters he faced, including three right-handed sluggers in the bottom of the 10th for the victory.

The Tahoma High School product struck out Hunter Renfroe looking at a slider on the outside edge for the first out of the 10th.

Pinch-hitter Chad Wallach flew out and Saucedo struck out

C.J. Cron swinging through a high fastball to end it, stranding the Angels' automatic runner at second.

The Mariners (60-52) are playing their best ball of the season. They've won a season-high five in a row, and 10 of 12, sweeping a four-game set against the Angels for the first time since July 2005.

The Angels (56-57) have lost six in a row.

J.P. Crawford homered on the first pitch of the game, and Teoscar Hernandez broke a 1-1 tie in the seventh with a 110-mph rocket out to left field off Angels starter Chase Silseth.

Rookie Bryce Miller had one of his best starts of the season, tossing five strong innings,

striking out 10 with no walks.

Twice Miller struck out Shohei Ohtani, getting the Angels superstar to chase a slider in the dirt to end the fifth inning. It was Miller's 85th and final pitch of the day.

The Mariners improved to 5-9 in extra-inning games this season.

Julio Rodriguez, George Kirby lift Mariners to fourth win in a row

By Adam Jude

The Seattle Times

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Almost immediately, Julio Rodriguez was hot Saturday night.

The game had barely started, and the Seattle Mariners' 22-year-old star was visibly upset that his steal of second base had been negated because home-plate umpire Quinn Wolcott interfered with the throw from Angels catcher Chad Wallach.

Reluctantly, Rodriguez returned to first base, and a few moments later was thrown out attempting to steal second base again, ending the top of the first inning.

As a review of the play was underway, Rodriguez walked back to the top step of the visitors dugout at Angel Stadium and exchanged words with a fan, or a group of fans, close by. Rodriguez was animated. Livid, even.

Once he got inside the Mariners dugout, he continued to shout — until veteran Eugenio Suarez put his arm around Rodriguez and talked him down.

Rodriguez caught his breath, calmed down and trotted out to center field.

He would stay hot at the plate, though, hitting a two-run double in his next at-bat to drive in the game's first runs, and Andres Munoz struck out Hunter Renfroe to end the game with two runners in scoring position, sending the Mariners to a 3-2 victory for their fourth win a row.

George Kirby pitched seven stellar innings, and Munoz earned his third save of the week the hard way as the Mariners (59-52) beat the Angels for the third straight night.

The Mariners will go for a series sweep of the Angels on Sunday afternoon with rookie Bryce Miller scheduled to start.

Rodriguez finished with three hits — he's reached base seven times the past two nights — and scored an insurance run they would end up needing in the eighth inning on Ty France's



Kevork Djansezian / Getty Images

Seattle's Julio Rodriguez (44) scores a run as Los Angeles catcher Chad Wallach looks on during the eighth inning of the Mariners' 3-2 win over the Angels on Saturday, Aug. 5, 2023, in Anaheim, California.

clutch, two-out single to right field to make it 3-1.

Kirby had one of his best starts of the season, allowing just three hits and one run over seven innings, with no walks, five strikeouts and one hit batter.

Randal Grichuk's solo homer in the third inning was the Angels' lone run.

Mariners shortstop J.P. Crawford had two more brilliant web gems. In the third, he made a diving stop in the hole to rob Wallach of a hit.

And in the eighth, he dived up the middle to snag a ground ball off the bat of Brandon Drury and in the same motion flipped the ball with his glove to

second baseman Jose Caballero, who made the turn for a 6-4-3 double play.

The Angels (56-56) have lost five in a row to fall six back in the American League wild-card chase.

The Mariners remain 2.5 games back of Toronto for the third wild-card spot.

In 22 starts this season, Kirby has a 10-8 record with a 3.32 earned-run average over 135.2 innings.

Most important, Kirby was able to keep Shohei Ohtani in check Saturday.

He got the Angels designated hitter to ground into a 4-6-3 double play in the first inning, and Ohtani flew out to right

field on a hard-hit line drive in the fourth. In the sixth, Kirby struck out Ohtani on three pitches, getting him to chase a slider in the dirt for strike three.

With one out in the ninth, Munoz fell behind Ohtani 3-0 before coming back to strike him out swinging through a slider.

Ohtani hit his league-leading 40th homer against the Mariners on Thursday night. Since then, he's 1 for 8 with one double, one walk and five strikeouts.

Munoz walked C.J. Cron with two outs on a borderline 3-2 slider on the outside edge, and Mike Moustakas singled past a diving Caballero.

Drury followed with a ground-rule double to left field

that took a fortunate bounce for the Mariners, forcing pinch-runner Andrew Velazquez to stop at third base.

Munoz then struck out Renfroe on a 98-mph inside fastball to end it.

Dylan Moore had an opposite-field double and Crawford walked, putting two runners on with two outs for Rodriguez in the third inning against former Seattle lefty Tyler Anderson.

On the fourth pitch of the at-bat, Rodriguez turned on a changeup and sent it 384 feet off the top of the wall in left scoring, driving in Moore and Crawford to give the Mariners a 2-0 lead.

Rodriguez doubled again in his next at-bat in the sixth.

Trade deadline additions continue to help Dodgers pad their NL West lead

SAN DIEGO (TNS) — Final assessments of this year's trade deadline won't become clear for a couple more months.

One week in, however, the Dodgers' new arrivals are making a strong first impression.

While Freddie Freeman led the way in the team's 8-2 win over the San Diego Padres on Sunday — collecting two hits, including a three-run homer — the core of the Dodgers' seemingly underwhelming deadline class continued to outpace expectations, as well.

Lance Lynn pitched six strong innings in his second Dodgers start, yielding just a lone solo home run while striking out six and giving up only four hits.

Amed Rosario opened the scoring in the first inning with a two-run blast, giving him nine RBIs through his first eight Dodgers games.

Kiké Hernández added three hits, improving to 11 for 33 (.333 batting average) in his first 10 contests back with the team.

Since Tuesday's deadline passed — lapsing without the Dodgers landing any of the big-name players they pursued over the previous week — the club is now 5-1.

It's NL West lead is up to four games, matching a season-high.

And over the last couple series at least, all the new pieces have fallen into place, with the

Dodgers new-look lineup jumping all over a left-handed pitcher (this time, ex-Dodger Rich Hill) once again.

Rosario started the onslaught early, slicing his two-run homer into Petco Park's short right-field porch in the top of the first. Rosario finished the day batting .296 in his first week as a Dodger. He also now has two home runs with L.A., one shy of the three he hit in 94 games with the Cleveland Guardians to start the year.

Hernández helped extend the lead in the second.

The utility man hit a leadoff single off Hill, who has been renting Hernández (his former teammate with both the Dodgers and Boston Red Sox) a house

he owns in Los Angeles since Hernández was traded back to the Dodgers last week.

Hernández later advanced to third on a Miguel Rojas single, then scored on a sacrifice bunt from catcher Austin Barnes. Hernández was initially ruled out on the play, but the Dodgers successfully challenged that Padres catcher Gary Sánchez was blocking the plate.

With two outs in the inning, Freeman delivered an early knockout blow.

In a 10-pitch battle with Hill, Freeman fell into an immediate 0-and-2 hole, fouled off four pitches while working the count full, then turned on an inside sweeper, launching his 23rd

home run of the season on a no-doubt trajectory to right field.

Gifted an early six-run lead, Lynn limited the stress the rest of the way.

He gave up a long solo shot to Sánchez in the third inning, the fourth homer Lynn has allowed in two starts with the Dodgers and the MLB-high 32nd he has given up all season.

From there, however, the former Chicago White Sox right-hander cruised through much of the rest of the day. He worked around a couple baserunners later in the third, escaping the inning on a key double-play. After stranding two more runners in the fourth, he retired nine of the final 10 batters he faced.

Oakland A's legends watch team even Bay Bridge Series behind Allen's home runs

OAKLAND, Calif. (TNS) — Before Sunday's game against the San Francisco Giants, the Oakland A's inducted five legendary Athletics into the team's hall of fame.

Jason Giambi, the 2000 AL MVP who hit 241 home runs in eight seasons in the East Bay, was among those honored.

If one had to pick a current A's player to replicate one of Giambi's moonshots, 5-8 Nick Allen would probably not be near the top of the list.

But after hitting just a single home run in his first 59 games, Allen tripled his season total, slamming two over the left field wall with a

who's-who of A's legends in attendance.

His surprising home runs keyed an 8-6 Oakland (32-80) win that tied the two-game series against the Giants (61-51). While the pregame was all about celebrating the past, great performances from young players gave the fans a glimpse into what could be a bright future.

The Oakland offense's unexpected shot in the arm from light-hitting Allen was even more surprising given his splits and who he was facing.

Taking advantage of facing San Francisco righthander Alex Cobb, the 24-year-old who hits just .133 against righties belted a

two-run homer, only his second of the season, in the second inning.

Starting for the A's was 24-year-old rookie Luis Medina, who was making his 12th start of the season, having allowed only seven earned runs in his past four starts and going at least five innings in each of his previous six.

But after posting a 2.92 ERA over his last seven games, Medina more resembled the pitcher who struggled early in the year. He gave up four runs in 3 1-3 innings on five hits and five walks before being pulled for Sam Long.

The A's also scored in the first inning, when Zack Gelof

smacked a double and then came home on Seth Brown's first triple of the season.

Gelof, a rookie who has hit four home runs in his last seven games, had to settle for a 3 for 4 day with a double as he continued his strong debut season.

The A's got back within two on Allen's second home run, and then the A's cut the lead to one on a bases-loaded Tyler Soderstrom walk with the bases loaded.

Shea Langeliers had the stadium of 27,381 Bay Area fans rocking when his two-run single into left gave the A's a lead, then Tony Kemp added an insurance run with a sac fly.

Wilhelm

Continued from page B1

write-ups, I also hope to take you beyond the box score by going deeper with coaches and athletes.

While the next week or so will likely be quiet, I know we'll be rolling soon. Football camps start on Aug. 16, and Week 1 isn't far behind. Boys tennis, girls soccer and volleyball are also set to start early next month.

We'll be busy here, but I wouldn't want it any other way.

NBA

Winderman: Heat bidding against themselves for Damian Lillard? Not necessarily

By Ira Winderman

South Florida Sun Sentinel

When it comes to a potential trade of Damian Lillard, the Portland Trail Blazers clearly are working with a different version of the math than the Miami Heat. Thus the current stalemate, as we enter the second month of Lillard's desire for a South Florida address.

The perception is of limited to no other outside interest for a 33-year-old point guard with four seasons at nearly \$200 million left on his contract.

So are the Heat bidding against themselves?

Or is there a trailblazer (lower case) of sorts poised to enter the equation?

In many ways, it is an elimination pool, with various factors putting most of the league on the sidelines.

So who could be in?

Who definitively is out?

Again, a process of elimination.



Matthew Stockman / Getty Images

The Portland Trail Blazers' Damian Lillard, right, drives against the Denver Nuggets' Nikola Jokic (15) in the first quarter at Ball Arena on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023, in Denver.

tishow analyst insists (loudly) that this should be the play for the Knicks. And perhaps it still could. But New York already has a ball-dominant point guard in Jalen Brunson who is seven years younger than Lillard and earning half as much.

— Oklahoma City Thunder: Perhaps higher here on Josh Giddey than others. But it seems to make far more sense to continue to grow from within.*

— Phoenix Suns: As it is, the Suns are attempting to make Bradley Beal a point guard so he can start alongside Devin Booker.

— Sacramento Kings: De'Aaron Fox has proven to be part of the next wave at the point. (* — And also a landing spot that would come off as punitive or petty for Portland to send Lillard.)

Different timelines (3)

— Orlando Magic: Yes, the Magic are talent-limited in the backcourt, but it's not as if a shoot-first 33-year-old mentor is the path alongside Paolo Banchero, Jalen Suggs, Franz Wagner and Jett Howard. Lillard wants Florida, just not Central Florida.*

— Washington Wizards: You don't move off of Beal and Kristaps Porzingis and then move to Lillard in the same offseason.*

— San Antonio Spurs: An argument could be made for Lillard as the bedrock of the franchise rebirth with Victor Wembanyama. And the Spurs

do have a nice mix of pieces and picks to offer. But it's not as if Lillard would be positioned to find immediate success with a franchise that likely again will miss the playoffs.

(* — And also a landing spot that would come off as punitive or petty for Portland to send Lillard.)

Lacking the pieces (4)

— Chicago Bulls: A Lillard-for-Zach LaVine swap would only add to the Blazers' backcourt redundancy. Otherwise, would Patrick Williams, Dalen Terry and other young pieces entice?

— Los Angeles Clippers: If the premise is adding Lillard to Paul George and Kawhi Leonard then there isn't much, if anything, to entice from a remaining personnel standpoint.

— Los Angeles Lakers: As with the Clippers, once you move beyond the Lakers' untouchables, there isn't much there in terms of tradeable talent, or picks.

— Toronto Raptors: Both Pascal Siakam and O.G. Anunoby would be quality starting points for discussion with the Raptors. But the Raptors in many ways appear to be moving in the very direction of youth that Lillard is attempting to escape in Portland.

What's left (5)

— Boston Celtics: With the commitments to Jayson Tatum,

Jaylen Brown and Porzingis, there isn't much left for the taking, particularly after Malcolm Brogdon was deemed damaged goods in a previous Celtics trade bid. Still, the Blazers could do worse than some combination of Rob Williams, Derrick White, Payton Pritchard and picks. Yes, Lillard has expressed a disinclination toward Boston, but this hardly would be banishment, with the best surrounding talent of his career.

— Brooklyn Nets: With Mikal Bridges and Cam Johnson off the table, there still is a potential package of picks and pieces (Nic Claxton? Dorian Finney-Smith? Cam Thomas?). But does Brooklyn again want to play the wandering-star game after the chaos of Kevin Durant, Kyrie Irving and James Harden?

— New Orleans Pelicans: First, a Lillard-C.J. McCollum reunion seemingly would be the most unlikely of resolutions. But there are pick/prospect permutations that could work.

— Philadelphia 76ers: With Tyrese Maxey on the table there at least would be an avenue for discussion. But if you think Portland's situation with Lillard is convoluted, the 76ers first would have to address their Harden headache.

— Utah Jazz: The Jazz, with Lauri Markkanen, John Collins, Jordan Clarkson and Walker Kessler are closer to contention than some would think of a team

classified as rebuilding. A package of picks and prospects could be a return STFU volley from Danny Ainge to the Heat's Pat Riley. And it would be difficult for Lillard to try to block a move back near his collegiate roots. (Although it also would seem the Blazers would not want to jumpstart a West rival.)

The Heat option

And then there are the Heat, with a buffet that could include first-round picks (at least two immediately available, more possible), pick swaps (three or more), prospects (Jaime Jaquez Jr. and/or Nikola Jovic) and ample matching salary (Tyler Herro, Duncan Robinson, Kyle Lowry).

What could/would change all the aforementioned calculus is the clock.

Should the Blazers wait until after Dec. 15, then most players signed this offseason would become trade-eligible (which could, for example, sweeten a Lakers package). And if the wait goes to the February NBA trading deadline, then teams with trepidation about Lillard's Heat-only stance could find a different stance if they evolve into enticing contenders.

For now, it would appear the Heat are bidding against no more than five teams, if even that — and perhaps only against themselves.

Anthony Davis agrees to three-year contract extension with Lakers

LOS ANGELES (TNS) — All-Star forward Anthony Davis has agreed to a contract extension with the Lakers, tying him to the team for the next five seasons, according to his management team at Klutch Sports.

Davis agreed to a three-year maximum extension worth an

estimated \$186 million. Davis had two years remaining on his deal, the second of which was a player option, before agreeing to stay with the Lakers.

Davis, when healthy, has been a force for the Lakers. In his first season with the team, he helped the Lakers win an

NBA championship. Last season, his fourth with the organization, Davis and the Lakers made it to the Western Conference finals before losing to eventual champion Denver.

Davis, 30, has struggled with injuries sandwiched between the highs — playing only 76 com-

bined games in his second and third years with the Lakers. The team didn't win a playoff series in those seasons.

Last season, Davis returned from a foot injury to push the Lakers back from a disastrous season to make a deep run in the playoffs, thanks largely to

his defensive dominance. He averaged 25.9 points, a career-high 12.5 rebounds, 2.0 blocked shots and 1.1 steals last season. He upped his rebounding average to 14.1 and his blocks per game to 3.1 in the postseason. Both led the league.

WNBA

Ionescu scores 31, Liberty get revenge against Las Vegas with 38-point blowout win

NEW YORK (TNS) — The rematch between the WNBA's two best teams featured a much better game for the Liberty compared to the first meeting in June.

The difference this time around: Sabrina Ionescu.

Ionescu had an awful offensive performance and was targeted on the defensive end in the first matchup. On Sunday, she lived beyond the three-point line, created opportunities for teammates and even disrupted some possessions on the defensive end. Her strong outing led to a comfortable 99-61 victory at Barclays

Center in a game where the Aces were down by 42 points.

Ionescu started her hot streak in the second quarter. She had four treys in the period and entered halftime with 23 points. She finished with 31 points, five rebounds and seven assists. She shot 6-for-10 from beyond the arc and the sharpshooting was contagious.

The Liberty shot 45% from deep. The whole Liberty starting lineup — except for Jonquel Jones — knocked down at least two treys in the game. Each trey led to the Barclays Center crowd

to erupt and resulted in the game being over before the fourth quarter even began.

In the first game, the Aces broke away in the third en route to an easy 18-point victory. The Liberty got revenge Sunday and won comfortably in a game they entered as 5.5-point underdogs.

Sunday's game started with aggression and grit by both teams. The first 18 points of the game were scored in the paint. Reigning MVP A'ja Wilson blocked three shots in the period before shortly leaving the game.

She got hit with an inadvertent elbow from Jonquel Jones in the paint. Jones received a flagrant foul. Wilson shot her free throws and later stayed in the game.

The reigning MVP struggled Sunday. She shot 2-for-14 from the field and ended with nine points in 25 minutes of action. She also grabbed seven rebounds.

Sharpshooting Aces guard Jackie Young shot 6-for-9 from the field while scoring 16 points. Chelsea Gray scored 15 points and dished six assists. Kelsey Plum went 4-for-16 from the

field and contributed 12 points.

Sunday's game is the first of four matchups scheduled in August. The two teams will meet again for the Commissioner's Cup Final in Las Vegas on Aug 17.

Jones will look to continue her stellar post-All-Star Game play when the two teams meet. The center finished with 12 points and 14 rebounds. Breanna Stewart scored 23 points, grabbed six boards and dished five assists. Betnijah Laney contributed 13 points, nine rebounds and three assists.

College Football

UW president: Big Ten move was necessary to deliver 'stability for our players, for our coaches, for our teams'

By Mike Vorel

The Seattle Times

Washington and Oregon will officially join the Big Ten Conference in 362 days.

It might take that much time — or decades more — to dissect the far-reaching implications of Friday's falling dominoes. At 3:10 p.m., the Big Ten welcomed the Huskies and Ducks ... before Arizona, Arizona State and Utah jointly bolted for the Big 12 barely three hours later.

With the Pac-12's most valuable properties effectively pilaged, only Washington State, Oregon State, Stanford and California remain.

Twenty-four hours after the 108-year-old partnership with the Pac-12 was assigned a deadline, UW president Ana Mari Cauce and athletic director Jen Cohen met with media members in a virtual news conference Saturday afternoon.

And, according to Cauce, the Pac-12's proposed media-rights deal with subscription streaming service Apple+ simply wouldn't work for Washington.

"In the end, we looked at the deal that we had — the only deal that we had — and it was clear that it was not giving us what we thought," she said. "It was not the deal we had been discussing just days before, and it was not going to secure [the conference]. When you have a deal where people are saying one of the best aspects of it is that you can get out of it in two years, that tells you a lot. We really needed to have the stability for our players, for our coaches, for our teams."

According to a source, that deal did not include a linear television component and would have been worth \$23 million annually, though subscription incentives might have added to the Huskies' haul.

"We're really confident in the agreement we have with the Big Ten and the resources that are going to be provided for us, not just short term but long term," Cohen said. "We're not going to get into the details of the financial agreement today, but we are looking forward to sharing that in the very near future."

Those financial details include a partial share of Big Ten media rights revenue — according to a source — worth \$30 million in Year 1 and an additional



Dean Rutz / The Seattle Times

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee, right, hands off the Apple Cup Trophy to University of Washington president Ana Mari Cauce and Huskies head coach Chris Petersen, left, at Husky Stadium on Nov. 29, 2019, in Seattle.

\$1 million each year through the contract's conclusion in June 2030. The school has the option to borrow up to \$10 million per year against future earnings as well, to cover added travel costs and other expenses.

The Huskies will earn a full share of the conference's next media-rights deal and project that share to be worth two to three times the \$30-35 million they'll receive over the next six years, per a source.

When asked how the Huskies will maneuver through the morass of cross-country travel headaches, Cohen said: "We made this decision in a very deliberate and thoughtful and intentional way. And part of that decision was that we felt very confident in the agreement we had with the Big Ten to have the resources to adapt to the challenges, including travel costs, and additional resources that our student-athletes are going to need to have a successful experience in the Big Ten."

For Washington, the Big Ten's current media rights deal with Fox, NBC and CBS — reportedly worth \$7 billion over

six years, with annual member payouts reaching \$65 million to \$70 million — offers more than just money.

Cauce valued the conference's widespread linear reach as well.

"I want to be clear: This was not just about dollars and cents," Cauce said. "This was about national visibility for our players — being on linear TV so they could be seen, so they could have the national exposure. It was about stability. It was about a contract that didn't have a 'two years and you can all split up' [clause]. It was about having a future that we could count on and build towards."

Elaborating further on the proposed Pac-12 deal's pratfalls, Cauce said, "We had expected to have a couple deals to look at, and it didn't turn out that way."

She also noted that commissioner George Kliavkoff navigated a "really, really difficult situation" and "worked really hard. I have every reason to believe that offers fell apart because of other factors beyond his control. But in the end, I do think that at least some level of linear TV mattered. We have a history with the Pac-12 Networks that

wasn't a good one."

Indeed, there is history to consider — including 114 football meetings between in-state rivals Washington and Washington State.

Cauce reiterated Saturday that "I want to make 100% clear, we are fully committed to continuing the Apple Cup against Washington State. There is no question that the Apple Cup is a cherished tradition, and we want to continue our long history with the Cougars, including Apple Cup matchups across all of our sports as part of our non-conference schedule."

When asked if that includes football matchups every other year inside Martin Stadium, Cohen added: "As many of you know, [WSU athletic director Pat Chun] is a dear friend of mine and we're both really committed to this series and committed to this state and all of our fans, not just for football but for all of our sports. We are still working on the complexities of our football schedule in general for the future years, so Pat and I will continue to work on the best plan to play the Apple Cup every year."

At this point, the Cougars have bigger, more financially dire fish to fry.

Which is why Cohen called it "one of the most difficult decisions we've had to make, because of the relationships and the people that are involved."

It's a decision that might doom the Cougars — and Beavers and Cardinal and Golden Bears — to athletic exile, without a path back to prominence. It's a decision that ignited an avalanche with economic implications from Pullman to Corvallis, Ore. It's a decision that sacrificed century-old partnerships, in search of stability.

It's a decision, according to Cauce, that the Huskies had to make.

"I've been at this University of Washington for 38 years," she said. "I understand commitment. I understand loyalty. This was heart-wrenching. But at the end, it is my responsibility to do what I think is right for our university, our student-athletes and our programs, and this was the right decision."

UW running back Rogers suspended

Washington running back Tybo Rogers has been suspended for a violation of team rules, a team spokesperson confirmed Saturday.

Rogers — a 5-foot-11, 185-pound freshman — impressed this offseason after enrolling early and had positioned himself to push for playing time. UW coach Kalen DeBoer told The Times this summer that "Tybo had a great winter and spring. We've got some good running backs, but he brings a little different element, too. So him being ready could be critical."

But as DeBoer alluded to, running-back depth is not an issue. The Huskies enter the fall with six other scholarship running backs — senior Richard Newton, juniors Cameron Davis, Dillon Johnson and Daniyel Ngata, and sophomores Will Nixon and Sam Adams II. Davis (who led UW with 13 rushing touchdowns in 2022), Johnson (who transferred in from Mississippi State this offseason) and Nixon have split starting carries across the Huskies' first three preseason practices.

Former Washington athletes react to UW's decision to leave Pac-12

By Kate Shefte

The Seattle Times

"After UCLA and USC left, I thought it was probably time for us to leave because we didn't know what was going to happen. I'm not disappointed ... this is the way that college football is going, and if it's going to go this direction, I'm happy that we actually got into the Big Ten. I look forward to competing, because that conference is great, and it's been a minute since we've actually had great competition and made it far. I think we have a better chance of competing for a national title if we're in a conference like this."

— Mario Bailey, Franklin High school alumnus and 1991 Huskies All-American

"My mind goes to the players and the staff. I think about them flying across the country every week after going to school and practicing all week. Not just having a two-and-a-half-hour flight at the most, but sitting on the bird for five hours each way. And when you're banged up and you're a warrior, that definitely takes a toll on you."

— Dave Hoffmann, Huskies linebacker (1989-92) and 1992 All-American

"I'm still in shock. All I can tell you is it's hurtful as a former Pac-10 athlete. The history of the conference is gone. It just doesn't feel good or right."

— Eldridge Recasner, three-time All-Pac-10 Conference guard (1986-90), via text

"It almost felt like a punch in the gut. Man, the Pac gave me some of the best memories of my life that I'll cherish forever."

"It's unfortunate and maybe I don't know all the ins and outs behind decisions like this, but I do know that no one can take away Washington's first-ever national championship in the Pac-10 back in 2009 for UW softball. Forever grateful for every opportunity this conference has given me."

— Danielle Lawrie, All-American pitcher (2006-10) and Olympic medalist, via text

"(It's) bittersweet. My dad and uncle went to UW, and my grandpa rowed crew in the Pac-8, going back a while. We've been a Pacific Coast conference family

for a while now. That's what I was raised on and what I always took a lot of pride in. It's sad to see it crumble the way it has. But being a Husky first, you kind of know that it's what has to happen for the program — all the programs across the board — to have the opportunity to continue to thrive."

"I feel bad for the Cougs. My mom's a Coug, and I have an aunt that played basketball there. So I feel terrible that, along with Oregon State, they're kind of the ones getting left holding the bag. I think Cal and Stanford will probably figure it out sooner than later. I hope, especially with the Apple Cup, that there's a way to figure out continuing that rivalry. That part stings, knowing that that 100-plus-year conference

rivalry is coming to an end."

— Spencer Hawes, Seattle Prep and Huskies center (2006-07)

"It's kind of a mixed bag of feelings. One side of me is really disappointed, just that the traditions of the Pac-10 and having that premiere league on the West Coast, is kind of dismantling. The other side of it is that if you have any of the teams on your schedule from the Big Ten, that's going to be a big game, typically, for the Huskies. The fact that that's going to be the league, every game is going to be a huge game. That side of things I'm very excited about."

— Jon Brockman, Huskies power forward (2005-09) and team captain

Which Washington State defenders stood out in the Cougars' fourth fall practice?

By Greg Woods

The Spokesman-Review

PULLMAN — Kyle Williams is open about it: He's a trash-talker.

"I love to get in people's heads," Williams said.

Washington State's transfer wide receiver made that abundantly clear during Saturday's fall camp practice, the Cougars' fourth and final of the week. He exchanged a few words with defensive back Cam Lampkin, who figures to feature prominently in WSU's secondary this season. He made sure the defense heard him.

That was one of the few times in Saturday's practice when the offense imposed its will.

Washington State's defense unleashed perhaps its best practice of fall camp. The Cougars'

pass rush was efficient. Their secondary covered the field well. And, in what could be the best news for the unit, the linebackers made serious plays.

WSU has some gaps to plug on that side of the ball. By all accounts, several Cougars have turned heads early in fall camp. In Saturday's practice, the team's second in shoulder pads, freshman defensive back Warren Smith had an interception. Tariq Al-Uqdah got into the backfield. Edge rusher Ron Stone Jr. did the same.

If nothing else, it underscored that the players looked energized.

"I think it's increased each day, and that's been the challenge," WSU defensive coordinator Jeff Schmedding said of his players' intensity. "I think, the second day, and then we built

on that to the third day. Yesterday, there was a lot of intensity as well. Today, there was great competition, both sides, and I thought the juice actually picked up throughout practice, and that's what you want to see."

Several names popped in Saturday's practice.

Al-Uqdah, a redshirt freshman, made several plays, including a (fake) tackle for loss and a tipped pass. He might have surprised just about everyone but himself. He'll be competing with several others for snaps at linebacker, including Devin Richardson, Ahmad McCullough, Kyle Thornton. Still, it's encouraging for WSU.

"Just where he was in the spring to where he is now (impresses me)," Schmedding said. "The understanding of the defense. He plays with physicality,

aggression, has great instincts. He's still young, so there is a learning curve at linebacker. Linebackers are in the middle, heart of the defense.

"We always say when you have linebacker next to your name, it's like having quarterback next to your name. So he's gotta grow in a lot of areas, but he's starting to understand and pull the trigger, and eliminate hesitation, is really what (head coach Jake Dickert) is preaching, and he's starting to do that."

WSU will also need to fill out the interior of its defensive line, which is flanked by Stone and Brennan Jackson, two all-conference edge rushers. Who will be between them? Judging by Saturday's practice, it could be redshirt sophomore David Gusta and junior Nusi Malani.

Both played in spots last

season. Malani, a transfer from Virginia, played in all 13 games. Gusta played snaps in 10 games, including one as a starter. They profile as guys whose workloads will see a serious increase this fall.

"Nusi's doing a great job. There's no question about that," Schmedding said. "He also brings the juice. He's a great teammate as well. He has leadership ability. If you're with him off the field, he's very stoic. You get on the field that, he (flips the switch), so to speak, right?"

"(Gusta) is coming along. There's a lot of guys in there battling. But I think that room, coach (Pete) Kaligis does a great job of creating competition within the room. I think that group has a lot of room to grow, but they have the ability to grow."

College Football

Stone: We'll all adjust, but the Pac-12's demise just feels wrong

By Larry Stone

The Seattle Times

SEATTLE — Objectively and intellectually — coldbloodedly — I understand why Washington hitched its athletic future to the Big Ten. I might begrudgingly even acknowledge it's the right thing for the Huskies to do. Or, to put it slightly differently, that they had no other choice.

But I'd like to at least take a little time to properly mourn the demise of the conference that has been at the core of my athletic focus my entire life. I started out as an avid Pac-8 fan as a kid growing up in Southern California in the 1960s, then watched it grow into the Pac-10 as a student at Cal in the 1970s, and finally have been chronicling its incarnation into the Pac-12 as a sports writer in first Yakima and then Seattle since the 1980s.

It's hardly a story unique to me. I'm surpassed in both the length and depth of my Pac passion by legions of fans. But that's roughly six decades of emotional investment that I'm being asked to toss aside as if it never happened, just so Washington and Oregon can maximize revenue and exposure.

I daresay I'm far from alone among readers of this newspaper and website, and followers of the conference everywhere, in finding it difficult to instantly sever our emotional attachments to the rivalries, traditions and history of the Pac-12, all in the service of an increased media-rights share.

Oh, that will come eventually. New rivalries will form, new traditions will develop, new history will be written. In his recent column, my colleague Matt Calkins wisely advised people to put emotion aside and look at the practical advantages of a move to the Big Ten. You can find those on spreadsheets and ratings lists, and I'll get there in due time.

But before bottom-line, bloodless practicality takes over, I'd like just a little time to wax nostalgic, if you don't mind. My head will take over tomorrow, or at least in a few weeks. For now I want to lead with my heart — which is broken by the cruel fate being foisted upon Washington State and Oregon State. These are proud teams with muddled futures now that they've been scorned by the conference they've helped nurture for more than a century.

And then there's my alma mater, Cal, which has no viable



Jennifer Buchanan / The Seattle Times

The Washington Huskies huddle up during their 37-34 win over Oregon in Eugene on Nov. 12, 2022.

fallback if the Big Ten decides not to take it and Stanford. In the expansive spirit of the occasion, I'll even depart from my Golden Bear instincts and hope for a soft landing for denizens of The Farm. The dirty, dark secret is that I never had any animosity for Stanford; that disappeared when I started covering their athletes, men and women, and found them, much to my displeasure, to be approachable and engaging. Damn the Cardinal and their infuriating likability.

But I digress. Right now I'm thinking about those great USC football teams in the 1960s of Mike Garrett and, yes, O.J. Simpson. I'm thinking about John Wooden's UCLA dynasties of Lew Alcindor (before he became Kareem Abdul-Jabbar), Bill Walton and Marques Johnson. I'm thinking of the Cal powerhouses during my time on campus of Steve Bartkowski, the late Joe Roth, Chuck Muncie and Wesley Walker, and the wondrous John Elway across the bay. I'm thinking about the brilliant Throwin' Samoan, Jack Thompson, at Washington State and the fun times I had

interviewing WSU's loquacious Jim Walden, the most accessible coach I ever covered. I'm thinking of the great Don James teams at Washington and all the superb athletes over the years in the Pac-12's women's sports and so-called minor sports — there was nothing minor about them — that so enriched our athletic enjoyment.

I'm cutting this list drastically short, because I have a word limit, but suffice it to say I could fill pages reminiscing about the great teams and great players that came out of the Pac. People love to mock Walton's ceaseless reminder of the "Conference of Champions," but it produced 553 national-championship teams over the years, far more than any other conference. That's a legacy that shouldn't just be shunted aside without at least a nod of appreciation.

As with most eulogies, you tend to gloss over the rough patches and distasteful elements. The fact of the matter is, the Pac-12 has been in decline for a decade or longer, spiraling under the weight of a series of misguided or incompetent administrators, wrongheaded decisions and

shortsighted strategic planning.

That's why it all fell apart this week, a stunningly quick disintegration that was actually years in the making. And while I know it's absolutely the right thing for Washington and Oregon as far as self-preservation, something about the demise of the Pac-12 just feels wrong. We'll adjust, but there's a deep sense of loss that I won't apologize for. The new set-up will surely be more lucrative, but I can't help but wonder if it will ever be as fulfilling.

Poof, the Apple Cup — which has produced more than a century of indelible memories, will never quite be the same, even if it can be maintained in some fashion. Poof, the Rose Bowl is gone as the coveted determinant of Pac-12 and Big Ten superiority (a ship that started sailing a long time ago).

You can't tell me that teams located nearly 3,000 miles apart in the same conference makes sense to anyone but an accountant or TV executive. I acknowledge that chaos is titillating, and change can be exciting, and I understand the lure of joining an elite conference and what that can mean as far as prestige and

visibility. But those road trips to Iowa City and Piscataway, N.J., are going to take some getting used to.

When USC and UCLA bolted the conference around 13 months ago, I wrote about how the departure hit me most deeply on an emotional level. It wasn't hard to see where this was going to ultimately lead, even though the demise of the conference came about far more quickly than most of us imagined.

So here we are, with the Pac-12 splintered in multiple directions, and Washington prepared to start an entirely new athletic chapter in 2024. It's a merger of former rivals that no one could have even fathomed when I first fell in love with the conference more than half a century ago watching the likes of Gary Beban and Charles White.

By 2024, most of us will have had time to process the vast changes that are coming, and grudgingly admit that it's all for the better.

It just doesn't feel like that right now.

UW coach Kalen DeBoer talks Big Ten move, QB Austin Mack shows early improvement

By Mike Vorel

The Seattle Times

Kalen DeBoer has often repeated that he strives to be where his feet are.

Which, in other words, means maintaining a focus on one's present situation.

For now, DeBoer's feet are firmly planted in the Pac-12 Conference. So UW's second-year coach was hesitant Sunday to expound on the Huskies' Big Ten move in 2024, beyond saying "it's an exciting thing for us to know and be able to put a plan together on what it's going to look like down the road."

That road, he hopes, first includes a stop in Las Vegas for the 2023 Pac-12 championship game.

"There's [been] a lot of pride and a lot of great times [in the Pac-12 for Washington]. The hope is to add to that," DeBoer said Sunday, following UW's fourth preseason practice. "So this team is focused on now. They're really not getting caught up in all of that. It really wasn't a distraction to them, because they know they can't control it anyway. So making the most of the 2023 season is right now what this team is focused on, for sure."

And yet, the Huskies are not wholly unaffected by Friday's move. DeBoer acknowledges that his program's murky conference affiliation had become a talking point among prospective recruits. The clarity associated with a stable home "really helps with a lot of that," he said. "I know our guys are committed and many others are excited

about the announcement and excited about the future. It's drummed up some interest again with some guys.

"It's not like we feel like we have a ton of [open] spots, so those spots are competitive. But it's exciting to see how the response has been in regards to recruiting."

In all, the Huskies have 12 verbal commits in a 2024 class ranked fifth in the Pac-12 and 52nd in the nation by 247Sports. The looming Big Ten move should only boost UW's profile as DeBoer and Co. attempt to complete their class.

But individual stability, of course, comes at a cost. With the Big Ten and Big 12 raiding the Pac-12's most prominent programs, the "Conference of Champions" has irreparably cratered — and Washington State, Oregon State, California and Stanford have been left behind.

When asked about the Pac-12's swift demise, DeBoer said: "It's unfortunate, right? Most of you have a lot more history with the Pac-12 than I even do. But so many great things have happened through so many years. But from our end, we had to do what we felt was best for our student-athletes and the future of UW."

"I give president [Ana Mari] Cauce and [athletic director] Jennifer Cohen a lot of credit, because these are not easy choices. But just thinking years down the road, it came to a point where the resources that we need to be able to provide for our student-athletes ... going to the Big Ten

allowed for a lot of that."

Penix rests and Mack impresses

Standout quarterback Michael Penix Jr. essentially received a rest day Sunday, dressing for practice but not participating in drills.

According to DeBoer, this is not a cause for concern.

"If Mike had to play today, he'd play. There's nothing like that," DeBoer said. "It's just a matter of keeping him fresh, keeping him sharp. He's been looking as good as I've ever seen him. I really mean that. He's sharp and slinging it down the field, really on top of his game."

"I just thought it was a great time to take the wear and tear off him, and tomorrow we have practice off and we'll hit the ground running at the beginning of the week next week."

In Penix's absence, junior Dylan Morris took the entirety of starting reps, and freshman Austin Mack received a heaping helping of backup reps as well. The 6-foot-6, 226-pound Mack was particularly impressive (though understandably imperfect), effectively maneuvering the pocket and delivering accurate passes on short and intermediate routes.

Specifically, the Folsom, Calif., product hit fellow freshman Taashaun Lyons on a precise out route during a 7-on-7 drill, before linking up with running back Will Nixon along the right sideline on the following play. Mack did take a number of touch sacks, but also showed the arm talent that may position him as

Penix's likely successor.

The lone glaring mistake for Mack — who showcased a quick and easy release on deep balls as well — was an errant throw after rolling out right that was intercepted by safety Makell Esteen. But those are expected issues for a former four-star recruit who skipped his senior year of high school to enroll a season early in Seattle.

"You know it's going to look a little rough at times [for Mack], there's no question about it," DeBoer said with a smile. "The cool thing about him is you can see he is learning and getting better and growing by the minute, by the play. He was prepared for this time. He's not out there wondering what the responsibilities of his own side of the ball are. There's a lot of things he's looking at in front of him from the defense, and I think sorting through that is just a matter of reps."

"It doesn't matter if you're a freshman or a senior. Your first reps, those are always tough. But I just love what he's showing. We needed to see [that], because we've got to figure out short term and even long term, between D-Mo [Morris] and the other quarterbacks, what does it look like for us? I thought those two did a great job running the ones and twos for us, for sure."

The running back pecking order

UW freshman running back Tybo Rogers has been suspended for a violation of team rules, the team confirmed Saturday. A day later, DeBoer said, "I don't have

a specific timeline [for getting Rogers back]. I'm hoping that it isn't too long. We'll play it day by day."

But though the 5-foot-11, 185-pound Rogers is a highly favored freshman, the Huskies aren't hurting for available options. From a reps standpoint, juniors Cameron Davis and Dillon Johnson and sophomore Nixon appear to be UW's primary options — with senior Richard Newton, junior Daniyel Ngata and sophomore Sam Adams II taking second- and third-team reps.

"It's a position where there's enough guys, as opposed to a year ago in spring and even in fall camp, where we were short numbers with all the guys at running back," DeBoer said. "There's guys that are fighting for spots, so there's plenty of reps to go around for all of them."

Extra points

- Junior receiver Rome Odunze had his best practice thus far, snatching a 55-yard touchdown from Morris behind safety Karmen Fabiculanan, before leaping to wrestle away a jump ball from cornerback Davon Banks later in the day. Redshirt freshman wideout Denzel Boston also continues to impress, as he flipped his hips to snatch a back-shoulder pass from Morris along the sideline for a sizable gain.

- After an off day, UW will return to Husky Stadium for preseason practice No. 5 at 9:20 a.m. on Tuesday.

NFL

Why Seahawks' Nwosu re-signed: 'Why would I want to chance going somewhere else?'

By Gregg Bell

The News Tribune

Uchenna Nwosu could have played hard ball.

Seattle's leading pass rusher last season could have said no to the Seahawks' offer to extend his contract beyond it ending with the end of the 2023 season. Next spring, he could have become a free agent for the first time in his NFL career. He's 26, in his prime at a position, pass-rushing outside linebacker, the league pays handsomely. Particularly after open-market bidding wars.

He did none of that.

He signed a three-year extension with Seattle two weeks ago, on the eve of this Seahawks training camp beginning.

"I want to be here," Nwosu said, before the Seahawks had their ninth practice of training camp Sunday. "I don't want to have the possibility of having to go somewhere else. The culture here, the young team here, Pete (Carroll), the connections of people I see all the time, it feels like a home here. It's not too far from L.A. (Nwosu's hometown), 2 1/2-hour flight. It's on the west coast. The weather is nice. And I just want to be here."

"It just makes sense for me to be here. So why would I want to chance going somewhere else, when I'm right at home being here?"

The team didn't exactly low-ball Nwosu. They didn't take advantage of his affinity for Seattle and coach Pete Carroll's players-loving culture.

The Seahawks paid Nwosu \$32 million guaranteed, a hefty sum for this team. The deal has a base value of \$45 million over the three years. It can pay up to \$59 million including incentive bonuses.

It's part of up to \$124.5 million Carroll and general manager John Schneider spent this offseason to re-make Seattle's defensive front seven.

They uncharacteristically spent \$51 million in the first wave of free agency this off-season to make former Denver Bronco Dre'Mont Jones the Seahawks' new defensive end.

"He's just been living in the backfield," so far in training camp, defensive coordinator Clint Hurtt said of Jones, who did it again on Friday night in the team's annual mock-game scrimmage.

"Counting on that to continue."

Seattle's spending on defense

The Seahawks brought back Jarran Reed (two years, up to \$10.8 million) after he was away two years with Green Bay and



Dean Rutz / The Seattle Times

Uchenna Nwosu celebrates his 6-yard sack of Giants quarterback Daniel Jones in the fourth quarter of Seattle's 27-13 win over New York on Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022 at Lumen Field in Seattle. Nwosu just signed a three-year extension with the Seahawks.

Kansas City, to be Seattle's new nose tackle. They brought back Bobby Wagner after they sent him away to the Los Angeles Rams last year. Wagner got a one-year deal for up to \$5.5 million to be the new middle linebacker.

And now they've retained Nwosu beyond 2023. Carroll is rewarding him for the example he sets for teammates, as much as for his production affecting opposing quarterbacks.

"Getting Uchenna back and the commitment from him is a really important statement for us, because he's a perfect Seahawk," Carroll said. "He's hard-nosed, tough, smart, diligent, physical. He's everything."

"He weighed in at 268 coming in; he was in great shape. He's got a great attitude and you can see why we champion the guy."

"That's the guy we want to reward. And he deserved it."

Nwosu fell in love with Carroll's vibe, culture and the Pacific Northwest last year. That was after he left his hometown Chargers to sign with the Seahawks in the spring of 2022. That two-year deal was worth \$19 mil-

lion. Carroll last year moved to a 3-4 scheme that matched what Nwosu did in more situational roles with the Chargers, and Seattle's coach wanted Nwosu as an every-down linebacker in it.

Nwosu's freedom from Carroll

Carroll saw during last summer's Seahawks training camp Nwosu's keen sense of offensive tendencies and skill at reading opposing blockers. The veteran coach gave his edge linebacker the freedom to decide when to go where on most plays, often away from his assigned spot in the defensive call.

Nwosu often charged straight up the field at the quarterback. Sometimes he slanted inside a slower offensive tackle into the backfield. Pretty much whatever Nwosu saw and wanted to do, he did.

The result was his career high in sacks, 9 1/2. That was sacks as many as he'd had in the previous two seasons combined with Los Angeles. He played 78% of Seattle's defensive snaps, another career high. The Seahawks couldn't afford to take

him off the field.

Asked what it is about Carroll's system that makes this a better fit for him than the Chargers' similar 3-4, Nwosu immediately cited that freedom.

"It fits me because I am able to do what I naturally do, which is fly around and make plays," he said. "It's basically like not having any handcuffs on. Just go out there and whatever you see and be the best you can. Pete does a lot and gives me a lot of, you could, say freedom to be out there and be the player he knows I can be, which is a playmaker."

"And I like that about this defense a lot and I hope to continue it this year."

Just don't call it freelancing. Not to him, anyway.

"Not freelancing. Playing within the scheme of course," Nwosu said, "but taking my shots when I can here and there if I notice certain things, formations, looks and being able to shoot my shot."

This year, the Seahawks are paying — and needing — him to be a pass rusher AND a run stopper. That's been the three words of this Seahawks camp: Stop the run.

If Nwosu has fewer than 9 1/2 sacks but is part of a run defense that improves from being 30th in the NFL allowing more than 150 yards on the ground per game last season, Seattle can be more competitive with rugged San Francisco atop the NFC West.

Hurtt has set out to change the mindset of the pass rushers, to be run stoppers first.

"You've got to earn the right to rush the passer," Hurtt said.

Nwosu says he can already feel a difference in Seattle's front seven stopping the run.

"(It's) an emphasis on everybody buying in," he said.

"We added some new pieces in the offseason, as you guys know with Reed coming back, Dre'Mont in free agency, and Bobby coming back. You got guys with multiple years in the system, so that all ties into the run game."

"We're making a point from day one. That's the emphasis on the whole defense, is not letting anybody run the ball."

For now, Seahawks appear to have decided on a starter at center

By Bob Condotta

The Seattle Times

RENTON — What for years has felt like one of the biggest annual question marks for the Seahawks entering the regular season — the offensive line — suddenly appears as stable as any position group on the team.

Seattle entered training camp with four seemingly sure things on the line in returning starters or co-starters Charles Cross (left tackle), Abraham Lucas (right tackle), Damien Lewis (left guard) and Phil Haynes (right guard).

And all have lived up to that billing so far in camp, each working with the starters every day other than when Lewis missed one practice due to illness.

And what was the one question mark on the line — center — appears to have an answer, as coach Pete Carroll said Sunday that if the season started today, veteran free-agent signee Evan Brown would be the starter.

Brown has been in a competition with rookie Olu Oluwatimi, a fifth-round pick out of Michigan, and through the first week of practices the two traded off days working with the starters.

But Brown, who has 24 starts in an NFL career that dates to 2018, worked every play with the No. 1 offense in Friday's mock game, and then again in Sunday's practice at the VMAC in

Renton. And afterward, Carroll confirmed that the move meant that for now, Brown is the guy manning the center of the line and snapping to quarterback Geno Smith.

"Evan is ahead," Carroll said. "He is ahead just because of his experience. So if we were playing today he would go first."

Carroll reiterated that Oluwatimi "is doing a great job" and that "the competition continues."

And there is no doubt that Oluwatimi remains a big part of the team's future, signed to a four-year rookie contract while Brown is on a one-year deal that could pay him up to \$2.25 million.

As Carroll noted, Oluwatimi was slowed a little for a few days while dealing with a wrist injury on his left (non-snapping) hand.

"He hasn't had anything negative about (his play) other than his wrist was sore for a couple days that held him back," Carroll said. "But other than that he is right in there."

But the Seahawks — as do all NFL teams — also value continuity on their offensive line, and having what appear to be the starting five work together as much as possible may take priority now that they are through the first week and a half of camp and heading into game-week modes with the preseason opener Thursday against the Vikings at Lumen Field.

"Evan is a vet and he's versatile and he's really smart in there," Smith said.

So for now, the Seahawks are hoping that maybe the 26-year-old Brown can be the guy to put at least a temporary stop to what has been a revolving door at center since the trade of Max Unger to New Orleans as part of the Jimmy Graham trade following the 2014 season.

Since then Seattle has had seven starting centers — Patrick Lewis, Drew Nowak, Justin Britt, Joey Hunt, Ethan Pocic, Kyle Fuller and Austin Blythe.

Britt had the longest tenure at roughly three and a half seasons before a knee injury midway through the 2019 season essentially ended his Seattle career.

Pocic took over and held the job for two seasons before leaving for Cleveland as a free agent in 2022.

Seattle then signed veteran free agent Austin Blythe in the spring of 2022 and he started all 17 games before deciding to retire entering what would have been his age-31 season.

That had Seattle back on the market again for a center, deciding first to sign Brown — a free agent after two years as a starter at center and guard with the Lions — and then draft Oluwatimi.

Brown played at Southern Methodist and after going undrafted had brief stints with the Giants, Dolphins and Browns

before finally finding something of a home with Detroit in 2021, starting 12 games at center when Frank Ragnow was injured.

When Ragnow returned in 2022, Brown moved back to guard.

But when the Seahawks signed Brown, it was with an eye on him playing center — he was ranked as the fifth-best center by Pro Football Focus in 2021.

"With Evan Brown, it was really cool," general manager John Schneider said on an appearance on Seattle Sports 710 in the spring. "We had our free-agent meetings at the end of December, early January, and he was the guy that really stood out [our scouts] were really focused on. This is a guy that he's been playing guard, but ideally he's a center ... So he can play both, but he's really truly a center. It was pretty cool to be able to identify that guy and kind of watch the process go."

Oluwatimi will remain available, and the team also has Hunt working with the third team — he would seem a logical candidate for the practice squad and ready in an emergency.

But Brown becomes the missing piece to a line that the Seahawks may be as enthusiastic about as any they have had in years, maybe even since the Super Bowl season of 2013

when Unger and Russell Okung served as anchors.

Lewis is coming off a third year in which he was quietly considered to have had his best season. Haynes was re-signed after sharing time last year with veteran Gabe Jackson and has been healthy throughout camp and playing as well as any time in his career.

And then there are the twin bookend second-year tackles in Lucas and Cross.

Cross played all but two snaps last season and Lucas all but one game. And after having offseason shoulder surgery, Lucas has been back working with the starters throughout at right tackle.

Sunday, Carroll praised the play of the line and its protection of Smith in Friday's mock game.

"A big part of it is working together with the O-line," Carroll said of Smith's play in the mock game, in which he went 10-15 for 171 yards with at least two other passes that could have been caught. "They're doing a really good job for him. So, he gets a chance to see things clearly. And he knows he's going to get time and he can feel that he is. ... the guys up front did a great job of giving him a chance to see everything."

And for that, Brown has been rewarded for now with the starting job at center.

Women's World Cup



Quinn Rooney / Getty Images

Sophia Smith (center) of USA is consoled by Lindsey Horan (left) after the team's defeat through the penalty shootout in the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023 Round of 16 match against Sweden at Melbourne Rectangular Stadium on Sunday, Aug. 6, 2023, in Melbourne, Australia.

USWNT falls to Sweden in penalty kicks, eliminated from the World Cup

By Kevin Baxter

Los Angeles Times

MELBOURNE, Australia — The end, like so much of this World Cup for the women's national team, came cloaked in doubt and confusion.

U.S. goalkeeper Alyssa Naeher saved Lina Hurtig's shot in the seventh round of Sunday's tiebreaking shootout. She had batted the ball away, she was lying in front of the goal, how could it be otherwise?

The Americans celebrated and the Swedes mourned as referee Stephanie Frappart tugged at her earpiece. A voice in her head was telling her a video replay showed the ball had crossed the line. By the narrowest of margins, Sweden was going on to the quarterfinals, and the U.S. was going home.

"By like a millimeter or something," Naeher said. "It's tough to have your World Cup end by a millimeter."

But if the World Cup ended there for the U.S., that's not where it was lost.

It was lost when the U.S. failed to score in its final 238 minutes, the team's longest-ever drought in a World Cup. It was lost when the U.S. failed to beat the Netherlands or Portugal, in two games it could have won. It was lost when a national team that had long played with joy, creativity and confidence became uncertain, predictable and indecisive.

As a result, the U.S. is out of the tournament short of the semifinals for the first time, an unfitting end for veterans Alex Morgan, Kelley O'Hara and Megan Rapinoe, who had gone to three straight World Cup finals.

"We want to be successful, be able to uphold the legacy that this team deserves," Morgan said. "And we failed at that."

Morgan watched the shootout from the sidelines, having been subbed out of the game in the first of two 15-minute extra periods. Rapinoe and O'Hara, meanwhile, were two of the three Americans who missed their penalties, Rapinoe sending hers well over the crossbar and O'Hara bouncing a soft try off the right post.

For Rapinoe, 38, who has already announced her retirement, the errant shot will be her last touch for the U.S. in a Hall of Fame career that included more than 200 appearances, 63 goals and the Golden Ball in the last World Cup, where she won her second title. Rapinoe, who doesn't like to show when she's been wounded, tried to make light of the irony. But the tears in



Robert Cianflone / Getty Images

Lina Hurtig of Sweden celebrates with teammates after scoring her side's winning penalty in the penalty shoot out during the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023 Round of 16 match against the USA at Melbourne Rectangular Stadium on Sunday, Aug. 6, 2023, in Melbourne, Australia.

her eyes were testament to how much it hurt.

"There's some dark humor," she said, her voice beginning to crack. "I mean, missing a penalty at the end of this game?"

For the Americans, this game never should have come down to a penalty. They put in their best performance of the tournament, outshooting Sweden 22-9 and putting 11 of those shots on target, 10 more than the Swedes. But as has been the case throughout the tournament, they couldn't finish and the game ended scoreless — though Swedish goalkeeper Zecira Musovic contributed to that, making a number of ridiculous saves.

"We didn't put anything in the back of the net. I didn't put anything the back of the net," said Morgan, who had 16 shots in the tournament and put three of those on goal Sunday, but failed to score. "As a forward you're judged, deservingly, on goals. And there was none for me."

If the U.S. had finished off the Netherlands when it had them on the ropes, it would have played South Africa, not Sweden, in the round of 16. And the U.S. has some history with Sweden, having played them six times in the World Cup or Olympics since 2011, winning just once.

Two of those last three games have been decided in shootouts, and Sunday's was dramatic. The U.S., shooting first, beat Musovic on all three shots, something they couldn't do during the game. When Nathalie Bjorn, Sweden's third shooter, sent her try over the bar and Naeher stuffed Rebecka Blomqvist's shot in the fourth round, the U.S. had an opening. But Rapinoe and Sophia Smith gave it back, both missing the goal completely with their shots.

Naeher went sixth for the U.S. and converted her try, but when O'Hara dinked hers off the post, the Americans' World Cup came down to Hurtig and the U.S. keeper. Naeher guessed correctly, diving in front of the shot and popping the ball up, then batting away the rebound. But sensors in the ball said it had crossed the line — barely — a finding VAR officials confirmed to Frappart through her earpiece.

That sent off a wild celebration with the Swedish team burying Hurtig under a dogpile behind the end line as ABBA's "Dancing Queen" — apparently the only Swedish song anyone could find — blasted over the stadium sound system. The U.S. players, meanwhile, linked arms in a huge circle in the center of

the field, gathering for several long minutes in a combination of silence and tears.

Naeher gave up one goal in four games in this World Cup, keeping her punchless team alive, only to be undone by a sensor, a video replay and a millimeter. She was taking neither comfort nor consolation from her heroic performance.

"I don't think there's any moral victories in a round-of-16 game," she said. "Unfortunately, a loss is a loss."

And that loss, combined with a third-place finish in the Tokyo Olympics — where the U.S. also lost to Sweden — marks the first time the Americans have missed the finals in consecutive major tournaments. Vlatko Andonovski coached the team in both competitions after replacing Jill Ellis, who led the U.S. to its consecutive World Cup titles, four years ago.

Asked if she felt the coaching staff had prepared the team to succeed in this tournament, Morgan declined to answer.

"I mean... I can't even process that question," she said.

Andonovski, who almost certainly has coached his last meaningful game with the national team, was equally evasive.

"It's a very tough moment,"

he said. "We didn't expect to be out in this moment. We didn't expect to go out the way we did. It's emotional. It is hard. I don't even want to think about me. It's selfish to think about my future, what I'm going to do, when we have 20-year-old players going through this situation."

"You know, I love them. I love them all," he added. "They're my players, but they're my friends. We've spent four years together. So I don't want to see them like that."

They came within a millimeter of moving on, but Monday, they all begin making their individual journeys home, cloaked in doubt and confusion over whether they'd ever be together again.



CHRONICLE_PHOTOS



Josh Kirshenbaum / josh@chronline.com

Landon Kaut goes to the rim during the finals of the adult division at the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce 3-on-3 Streetball Festival, Aug. 5 in Chehalis.

Hoops

Continued from page B1

Just before that, Winlock's Landon Cline and Carter Svenson teamed up with Hudson Chambers (Napavine) and Adam Kruger (Toledo) to take the youth title, downing a team simply called Unknown — Matthew Martinez-Jenkins, Kadin Yeung, Jonah Lowe, and Charlie Stratton — which had gone winless in pool play and lost its first bracket matchup before ripping off three straight loser-out games to make the title tilt.

Chirhart and the Chamber originally planned for the event to be spread across Saturday and Sunday. Due to lower-than-expected turnout, that turned into one very full day Saturday, with pool play games beginning at 9 a.m. After two hours of pool play in the rain, the seven adult squads and five youth teams took an hour off for lunch, before coming back for bracket play.

By the time everything wrapped up just after 3 p.m., the skies had dried, and many of the players and fans of eliminated teams stuck around to watch the two championships.

"For the most part, I think it went off without a hitch," Chirhart said. "We had zero injuries. We had a lot of people playing, having fun. I'm really thankful for everyone that was able to be here."

As Chirhart and his CC play-



The Fam's Geordyn Shinard gets up to come down with a rebound at the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce 3-on-3 Streetball Festival, Aug. 5 in Chehalis.

ers — who had been out at Pacific Avenue until 2 a.m. the night before setting things up — got to work tearing down the courts and giving Chehalis its street hoops to use as it will.

Chirhart talked about the possibilities of moving the event to Centralia next year and alternating back and forth between the Twin Cities, of trying to set up a younger division for elementary and middle schoolers, of trying to set up a partnership

with the Capital City 3on3 tournament in Olympia.

There are a lot of ways to grow, and a year to figure it all out. But Saturday, as everyone who braved the rain in the Mint City to get some hooping in could tell you, was a good start. "It's kind of nostalgic back for

the times where there weren't cell phones and video games, and you always saw kids filling the courts, walking down the sidewalk, dribbling basketballs," Chirhart said. "I think that's what I kind of envision — getting people out and into the community, lots of support."

Reign forward Tziarra King said of the USWNT result. "I don't know what it feels like to be on the World Cup stage and be in that moment, but we can all say the collective pain they feel, we feel here in Seattle, too. But we're so proud of them. They gave it their all and now they come back and hopefully flying ready to kick some (butt) in the NWSL."

Reign stars Megan Rapinoe (U.S.) — who announced her retirement — Alana Cook (U.S.), Rose Lavelle (U.S.), Emily Sonnett (U.S.), Sofia Huerta (U.S.), Quinn (Canada), Jordyn Huitema (Canada), and Angelina (Brazil) could all be available for selection against the Current.

Quinn and Angelina were in attendance Sunday. The Reign also hope to have midfielder Jess Fishlock recovered from a leg

injury. Harvey shared her World Cup bracket is busted. She had Brazil and the U.S. playing for the title. Now she's contemplating deleting her social media apps because there's a demand for her to replace USWNT coach Vlatko Andonovski. "I've lived it before four years ago," Harvey said of questions regarding her interest in the national team position. She signed a contract extension with the Reign in July that's supposed to have her in Seattle through 2025. "I committed to the future of this club," Harvey continued. "I haven't got any critique about (Vlatko), he's a phenomenal coach, a phenomenal human being. I was so privileged to work with him. My focus right now is the Reign. We're in the middle of a season and we've put ourselves in really good position in both competitions that we're in, so right now my focus is solely on the Reign."

Soccer

OL Reign draw with Thorns in final group-stage match of Challenge Cup

By Jayda Evans

The Seattle Times

Normalcy returned to the Cascadia derby Sunday.

OL Reign managed a 0-0 draw at Lumen Field against rival Portland in their final Challenge Cup group-stage match. In their previous trip to Seattle, the Thorns dismantled the Reign in getting a 2-0 win in June.

Sunday's draw clinched the top overall seed in the tournament for the Reign. They'll host Racing Louisville FC in a semi-final match in September and continue to increase their cut of the \$1 million purse.

"It was just a 'let's get it done' match," Reign defender Shae Holmes said. "Everyone did a good, hard battle, especially toward the end because we knew we just needed that one point. Feeling good overall. Hard but good."

Star forward Bethany Balcer went down twice in the opening half with knocks that required on-field medical attention. She

was able to remain in the match both times, but had a conversation with referee Matthew Corigan after the whistle signaling halftime was blown.

Portland dominated possession (62%), but Reign keeper Laurel Ivory had a save in stoppage time to keep the match goalless at the break.

Balcer (Sam Hiatt), Nikki Stanton (Olivia Van der Jagt) and Rianne Brown (Elyse Bennett) were subbed off at halftime. The adjustments balanced possession and the Reign (4-0-2) created more scoring opportunities but neither side could break the deadlock.

The Bold aimed to keep the Thorns (2-3-1) off the board, pushing their Challenge Cup clean sheet run to seven consecutive matches.

"That's an exceptional stat," Reign coach Laura Harvey said.

A tournament-record 12,061 fans attended the match Sunday, which was marketed toward kids. The derby was an

entertainment overload, with Blue Angels flyovers headed for the air show at Seafair on Lake Washington and an on-field dog show at the break.

"I screamed my lungs out," Holmes said of defensive calls when the Blue Angels unexpectedly made a pass over the stadium. "That was a little tough, but it was a little cool to hear them over the top — just maybe not the right moment."

The Reign have an 11-day layoff before they return to regular-season league play. The Bold (7-5-3) are fourth in the 12-team league and will travel to play Kansas City on Aug. 18.

Harvey was hopeful to not have any of her internationals back due to the FIFA Women's World Cup. But in stunning fashion, the national teams for Canada, Brazil and the United States were booted from the tournament in Australia and New Zealand.

Most of the team either watched replays of the USWNT

with the Capital City 3on3 tournament in Olympia.

Reign stars Megan Rapinoe (U.S.) — who announced her retirement — Alana Cook (U.S.), Rose Lavelle (U.S.), Emily Sonnett (U.S.), Sofia Huerta (U.S.), Quinn (Canada), Jordyn Huitema (Canada), and Angelina (Brazil) could all be available for selection against the Current.

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Charges filed against four suspects arrested as part of JNET investigation into sale of fentanyl, meth and heroin in Centralia area

By Emily Fitzgerald

emily@chronline.com

Charges against the four suspects the Joint Narcotics Enforcement Team (JNET) arrested last week for alleged involvement in the sale of fentanyl, meth and heroin were filed in Lewis County Superior Court on Friday.

Three of the suspects, identified as Wade W. Pierce, 60, Donald R. Pender, 68, and Mindy M. Ferguson, 43, all of Centralia, were arrested the morning of Aug. 3 following the execution of a search warrant at a property in the 200 block of Blanchard Road.

JNET reportedly identified the property, which is allegedly owned by Pender, as “a location that sells large amounts of fentanyl-laced pills, heroin and methamphetamine” in 2022, according to documents filed in Lewis County Superior Court on Friday, Aug. 4. Pierce is accused of selling a total of over 300 fentanyl-laced M-30 pills “on multiple occasions” between March and August 2023. Pender was allegedly present for at least one of those drug transactions, according to court documents.

JNET obtained a search warrant for the residence after a year-long investigation and executed it with aid from the Centralia Police Department and the Chehalis Police Department at approximately 11 a.m. on Aug. 3, according to court documents.

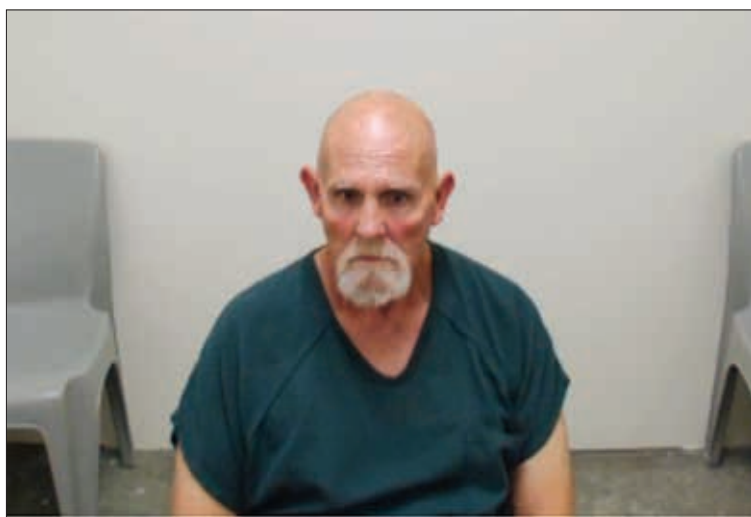
Pender, Pierce and Ferguson and a fourth subject were reportedly at the residence when the search warrant was executed. The fourth subject is not facing charges.

A search of Pender’s bedroom reportedly yielded a few grams of heroin and approximately 32.7 grams of fentanyl, according to court documents.

“It’s reasonable to believe that Pierce provided this fentanyl to Pender, possibly in exchange for rent,” the Lewis County Prosecutor’s Office noted in an affidavit of probable cause filed in Lewis County Superior Court.

Investigators noted fentanyl is sold by the 10th of a gram due to its high potency, “showing that what Pender possessed could easily be over 300 doses.”

A search of Pierce and Ferguson’s



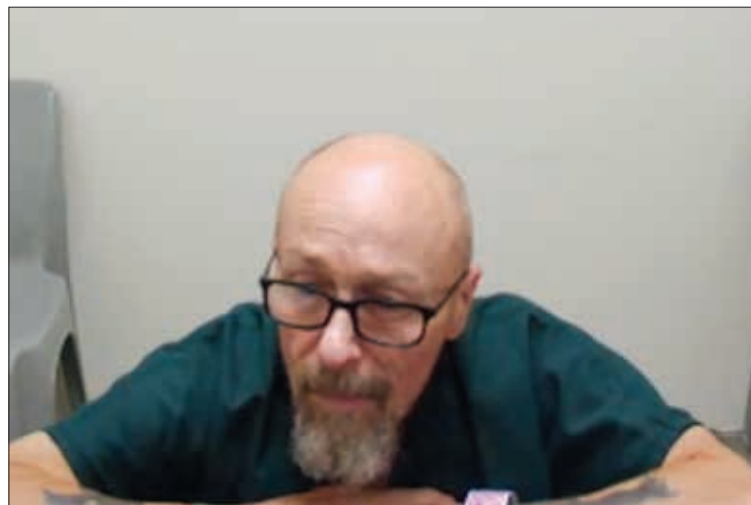
Howard D. Eslick, 60, of Centralia, appears in Lewis County Superior Court on Friday, Aug. 4.

son’s room yielded approximately 1,000 fentanyl-laced M-30 pills, 100 grams of fentanyl powder, 90 grams of heroin, a digital scale and “a plethora of clean and unused baggies.”

When questioned by law enforcement, Pierce reportedly “denied any drug use or sales,” but when Pierce was asked about a traffic stop conducted on Oct. 11, 2022, “that yielded drugs,” Ferguson, who was present for that traffic stop, allegedly “excitedly uttered the fact that all drugs in that van during that stop had been hers,” according to court documents. Law enforcement reportedly found one bag containing 12.2 grams of heroin, 7.4 grams of meth, two scales and empty bags and another bag containing several M-30 pills, 1.9 grams of meth, heroin and a digital scale inside the vehicle during that October 2022 traffic stop, according to court documents.

While Ferguson reportedly “later changed her statement,” the alleged statement made on Aug. 3 gave officers probable cause for arrest, according to court documents.

Pierce and Ferguson were charged Friday with three counts and one count, respectively, of violation of the uniform controlled substances act (VUCSA) by possession with intent to deliver or manufacture a controlled substance. Pierce’s charges were spread across two case numbers to differentiate the allegations stemming from the October

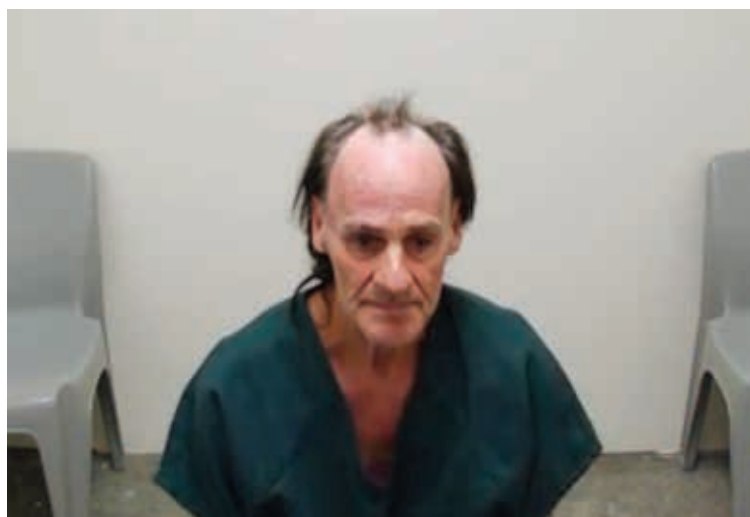


Wade W. Pierce, 60, of Centralia, appears in Lewis County Superior Court on Friday, Aug. 4.

truck stop and the allegations stemming from the investigation into the Centralia address.

Pender faces one count each of VUCSA by possession with intent to deliver or manufacture a controlled substance and VUCSA by maintaining a building for the purpose of unlawfully manufacturing, delivering, selling or storing a controlled substance. Each VUCSA violation is a class C felony, which carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison.

The fourth suspect, Howard D. Eslick, 60, of Centralia, was arrested shortly before 4:40 p.m. on Aug. 3 in the 7300 block of Prather Road Southwest in connection with JNET’s investigation. Eslick is the alleged driver of a red pickup truck that JNET detectives observed contacting “another vehicle believed to be trafficking controlled substances” on Feb. 6, 2023, according to court documents.



Donald R. Pender, 68, of Centralia, appears in Lewis County Superior Court on Friday, Aug. 4.

Commissioner Paul Strophy ruled Friday that, due to the alleged amount of controlled substances involved, each suspect posed a significant community safety risk. Due to their respective criminal histories, Eslick’s bail was set at \$100,000, Pierce’s at \$30,000 per case for a total of \$60,000, Ferguson’s at \$50,000 and Pender’s at \$25,000.

Each defendant has a separate arraignment hearing scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 10. JNET’s investigation is ongoing, the organization stated Friday in a news release.

“The Joint Narcotics Enforcement Team is committed to identifying and arresting those who choose to sell and distribute poisonous drugs in our communities,” JNET stated in the release.

Anyone with information about the case is encouraged to call Centralia police at 360-330-7680 or Lewis County Communications at 360-740-1105.

JNET is a multi-jurisdictional task force made up of detectives from the Centralia and Chehalis police departments, Washington Department of Corrections and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Local resources for substance abuse disorders and recovery can be found through the Recovery Navigator Program at <https://www.grbhaso.org/rnp> or by calling the crisis line at 1-800-803-8833.

Information about the dangers of fentanyl can be found at <https://www.dea.gov/factsheets/fentanyl>.

News in Brief

Self-serve gasoline is now legal across Oregon

By The Oregonian

Oregon gasoline stations are officially free to let drivers pump their own gas.

Gov. Tina Kotek signed House Bill 2426 into law Friday morning, reversing a decades-old ban on self-serve gasoline that set Oregon apart from nearly every other state. She issued an accompanying signing letter, which described her hesitation in approving the bill even as a “narrow majority” of the 5,000 people who wrote to her supported the request.

Kotek previously expressed ambivalence about the policy approved by the Oregon Legislature and asked Oregonians to weigh in before she decided whether to sign or veto the bill.

In her letter on Friday, Kotek said she was worried gas stations might not provide adequate staffing now that self-serve is legal, even though most stations are still required to staff at least half of their pumps. She said that could affect people who want or need assistance, like elderly or disabled drivers.

She said the bill puts the onus on those users to report violations of the new law, and the enforcement process for the law is unclear.

“Widespread violation of the service attendant provision would undermine the intent of the law, which is to provide Oregonians with options at the gas pump,” she wrote.

The law will allow gas station owners statewide to open some unattended pumps, permitting drivers to pump their own gas and skip the wait for an attendant if they choose.

Prices must be the same at

both self-serve and staffed gas pumps.

Fuel companies have claimed they won’t lay off employees in response to the new law because of ongoing staff shortages that have stretched their attendant crews thin already.

The bill had bipartisan support, but it’s long been one of the most polarizing issues in Oregon. While some drivers have pushed for the chance to skip the wait and fill up their own tanks, others have argued that the state should maintain the convenience of full-service gas stations — and the jobs of attendants.

In 2021, 60% of Oregonians polled said they were in favor of self-serve gas. And in 2022, lawmakers introduced a similar bill, which died before reaching a vote.

Some rural and coastal Oregon counties legalized self-serve gas at night starting in 2015. And every summer since 2020, Oregon has temporarily allowed self-serve gas due to heat waves and wildfires. The new law will simplify all those rules, legalizing self-serve gas everywhere in Oregon.

Teen arrested in fatal Pierce County stabbing allegedly recorded himself stomping victim

By The News Tribune

A 17-year-old boy was arrested by Lakewood police Thursday on suspicion of murder for allegedly stabbing and stomping a man who confronted him and others about a loud party at an apartment complex. Court records allege the teenager recorded at least part of the attack.

Charging documents filed Wednesday in Pierce County Superior Court state Brodey Drew

Brownell taunted the 64-year-old victim while he assaulted him in the early hours of Monday, then fatally stabbed him before dragging the body into a dumpster enclosure. Surveillance video allegedly captured Brownell telling others at the party what he’d done.

“I ain’t playing bro. I really stabbed the (expletive) out of that (expletive), bro,” Brownell allegedly said as he ran up the stairs of the apartment complex after 3 a.m.

The News Tribune typically does not name juveniles charged with a crime. It is doing so in this case because the defendant will be charged as an adult.

Brownell appeared via Zoom for arraignment Friday afternoon to face charges of first-degree murder and first-degree assault. The defendant is being held at Remann Hall, the county’s juvenile detention center. After hearing from a deputy prosecuting attorney and the defense, Judge Grant Blinn set bail at \$1.5 million.

Prosecuting attorney Afton Gregson argued for that amount of bail, telling the judge the victim’s death was an “absolutely horrific crime.” She called Brownell a danger to the community and said he was a flight risk, describing how he tried to flee from police when officers moved to arrest him in Yelm.

Groans erupted from a packed courtroom gallery as Gregson described how Brownell allegedly videotaped himself beating the victim, showed the footage to other people at a party and then returned to stab the victim in the head and neck six to seven times when he realized the man was still alive.

Brownell has prior convictions for reckless endangerment and reckless driving, Gregson said. He was also previously arrested in 2021 in Thurston

County on suspicion of harassment and making threats to kill.

The victim has not been publicly identified. Lakewood Police Department spokesperson Sgt. Charles Porche said the man was a resident of the apartment complex. Porche said detectives are gathering evidence about how the assault began.

“It also sounds like, unfortunately, another one of those kind of random ‘you looked at me sideways’ kind of things,” Porche said.

Police responded just after 7 a.m. Monday to a report of a man dead near the dumpsters of an apartment complex in the 8100 block of 83rd Avenue Southwest, according to the declaration for determination of probable cause. When officers found the victim, records state, blood was flowing under the walls of the dumpster enclosure into the parking lot.

While officers investigated, police learned that an upstairs apartment 75 feet from the crime scene had been a “near constant” source of 911 calls in the last few weeks, according to the probable cause document. Complaints had reported wild parties, weapons and underage drinking.

Witnesses and a resident’s surveillance camera helped officers identify Brownell as a suspect. Charging papers allege that he showed a video of himself stomping on the victim’s head to at least two people.

Fast-food chicken joint set to open first Washington location

By The News Tribune

A chicken and frozen custard franchise with restaurants across the nation is set to open its first Washington state location this month in the Frederickson area.

Still to come, a new site near the Tacoma Mall to give Chick-fil-A a run for its money.

But first, Washington’s inaugural Super Chix was set to soft launch Monday with a grand opening 11 a.m. Aug. 12 at the Frederickson Place shopping center, 17710 Canyon Road E., Suite 100.

The dates were confirmed this week by franchise owners Mohammad and Elina Khadar, who shared updates with The News Tribune.

Super Chix offers a variety of chicken sandwiches, from “The Simple” with a breaded, fried chicken filet and kosher pickles to “The Cordon Bleu” with a chicken filet, ham, Swiss cheese and honey mustard. Frozen custard offerings include standard vanilla and chocolate and a flavor of the week, most recently key lime pie, according to its online menu.

Super Chix announced in April 2022 that the Khadars, along with their operating team, would develop at least 35 new Super Chix restaurants in Washington and Oregon.

The News Tribune reported on plans for the first Washington state Super Chix site in March. Frederickson Place shopping center includes an Amazon Go and ATI Physical Therapy.

The Khadars told The News Tribune on Wednesday that their other planned Super Chix locations include 2555 Hogum Bay Road NE, Suite A, Lacey, on the other side of Interstate 5 from a Chick-fil-A; 1507 S. 348th St., Federal Way; and 4201 S. Steele St., Suite C, Tacoma — mere blocks from Chick-fil-A at 3902 S. Steele St.

Opening dates for the Tacoma, Lacey and Federal Way locations are to be determined, but the Tacoma site opening would likely be next year, according to Mohammad Khadar.

Puzzles

Find Answers to the Puzzles in the Next Edition

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Recognized
 - 6 Sign
 - 10 Imposed taxes
 - 12 Was merciful
 - 14 Stinker
 - 15 Arctic sight
 - 16 Means of escape
 - 18 Sponge (up)
 - 19 "Hogwash!"
 - 21 Lascivious glance
 - 23 Contractor's figure
 - 24 — Paulo, Brazil
 - 26 Beer, slangily
 - 29 Wabash loc.
 - 30 Student stats
 - 32 Femur, for instance
 - 34 Look at amorously
 - 36 Parisian street
 - 37 Congeal
 - 38 Watches carefully

- 40 Always, to Byron
- 42 Valuable mineral
- 43 Mongol ruler
- 45 Aroma
- 47 Magazine fillers
- 50 Legendary king
- 52 Ancient scrolls
- 54 Noted sci-fi writer
- 58 Moderated
- 59 Lady of Lima
- 60 Glass ingredient
- 61 Clay target sport

- DOWN**
- 1 Eur. airline
 - 2 Bridal notice word
 - 3 Fish roe
 - 4 Dinner beverages
 - 5 Sounds from the paddock

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	G	T		G	A	L	E		E	C	H	O
L	E	E		E	D	I	E		L	O	R	D
O	A	R		C	E	L	L		U	L	O	S
B	R	I	N	K					S	H	E	
				I	O	C			O	N	U	S
B	A	W	L			A	R	C	H		P	T
O	B	I	E			D	U	H			D	O
S	O	D				E	L	I			C	O
C	U	E				I	T	E	M		P	S
				T	R	A	M			E	P	A
						O	S	U			O	S
A	N	D	R	O	C	L	E	S			U	N
G	O	A	T			L	A	C	E		N	E
E	D	N	A			A	M	O	R		T	E

- 6 Musical works
- 7 Spoil
- 8 Psyche's suitor
- 9 Despot who fiddled
- 11 Van — Waals force

- 12 Courtesy encl.
- 13 Drop bait on water
- 17 Good on the podium
- 19 Spree
- 20 In a strange way
- 22 Apply salve
- 23 College maj.
- 25 Mammal's requirement
- 27 Lie —
- 28 Look of loathing
- 31 Catch a glimpse of
- 33 Stately tree
- 35 Startled cry
- 39 Apportioned
- 41 Wakes up
- 44 Saharan
- 46 Beverage
- 47 Chest-beater
- 48 Beaver projects
- 49 Pet adoption org.
- 51 Holds
- 53 Longing
- 55 Curly's colleague
- 56 Copper source
- 57 Big tub

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9			
10				11		12				13		
14						15						
			16			17			18			
	19	20				21			22			
23				24	25			26		27	28	
29				30		31		32			33	
34			35		36				37			
	38			39		40		41		42		
			43		44			45	46			
47	48	49		50				51				
52			53					54		55	56	57
58								59				
	60							61				

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WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to community papers.

P O T E R R

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Report

Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

	4		7	8		1	3	2
			3	9	2	6		
2					1		7	
				3		4		7
	7			1			6	
6		4		7				
	8		9					6
		7	8	5	4			
4	5	2		6	3			8

1/18

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

2	4	3	1	8	9	7	5	6
7	9	5	6	2	4	3	8	1
8	1	6	5	3	7	9	4	2
9	8	7	3	6	2	5	1	4
5	2	4	8	9	1	6	3	7
6	3	1	4	7	5	8	2	9
1	6	2	7	5	3	4	9	8
4	5	8	9	1	6	2	7	3
3	7	9	2	4	8	1	6	5

HOW TO PLAY:
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

Blueberries Word Search

B	A	K	I	N	G	X	C	O	M	P	O	U	N	D	S	O	B	S	N
T	A	F	D	N	I	T	V	G	K	T	K	W	H	S	U	B	W	L	B
L	G	N	E	A	C	A	K	L	T	V	X	U	Y	Y	S	N	A	I	M
C	T	J	F	U	H	Y	N	Y	O	S	K	R	L	W	W	N	F	J	A
I	C	W	I	E	K	P	W	T	P	W	Y	T	E	I	O	A	M	R	N
Q	F	L	A	V	O	N	O	L	H	V	S	E	E	I	W	M	A	J	I
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| BAKING | COGNITIVE | HEART | MANGANESE | PURPLE | SWEET |
| BENEFITS | COMPOUNDS | JAM | MYRICETIN | QUERCETIN | VITAMINS |

GET FUZZY by Darby Conley



NON SEQUITUR by Wiley



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RHYMES WITH ORANGE by Hilary B. Price



DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham



TAKE IT FROM THE TINKERSONS by Bill Bettwy



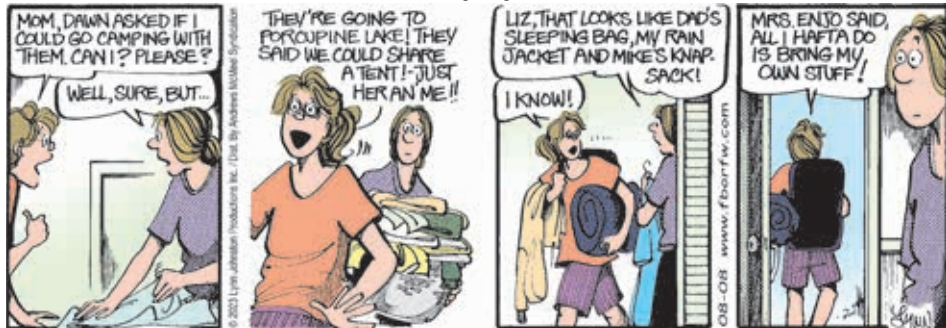
PICKLES by Brian Crane



WIZARD OF ID by Parker & Hart



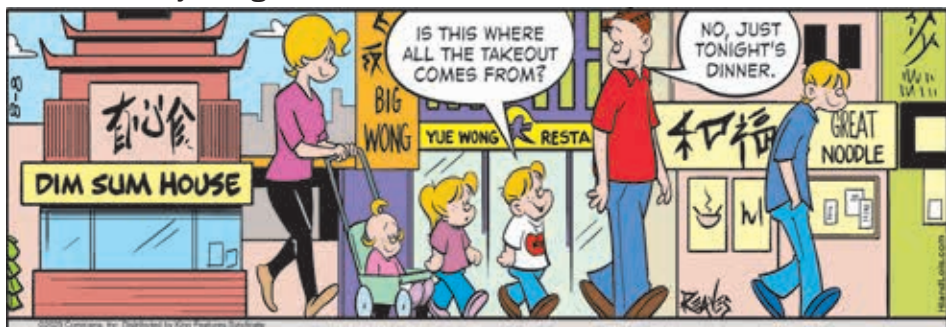
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE by Lynn Johnston



CLASSIC PEANUTS by Charles Schulz



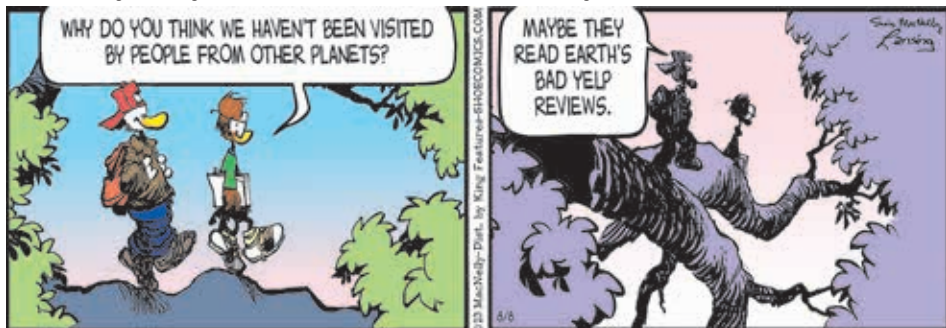
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BLONDIE by Dean Young & John Marshall



SHOE by Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



FRANK & ERNEST by Bob Thaves



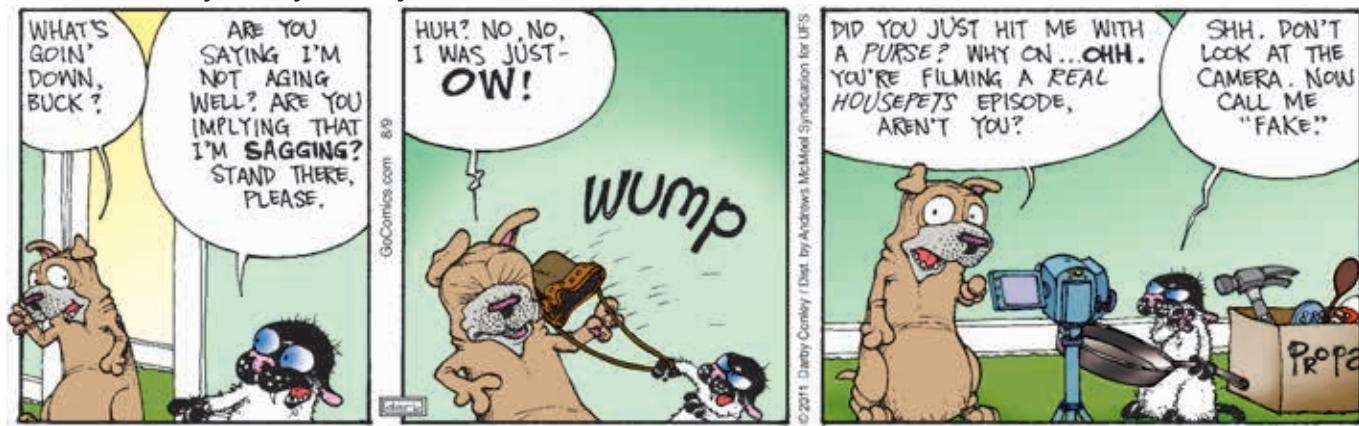
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For availability or to reserve this space call 360-736-3311



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FOUND
• Backpack with content, 6/26/23, Packwood area, case #23C7665.
Please call Lewis County Sheriff's Office to describe & claim. 360-740-1470

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RENTAL WANTED

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The Chronicle Customer Service 360-736-3311

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ROOM FOR RENT

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BEAUTIFUL PUPS



Beautiful, perfectly healthy pups born May 15, 2023. Friendly & playful! Health certified by Vet. Comes with 1st shot, wormed, flea treatment & a toy. Black-1 boy & 1 girl. Golden-2 boys & 3 girls. Parents on site, Dam is pure Golden Retriever from show lines, Sire is stunning Tri-color Aussie, ranch bred, \$900, SE Chehalis. 360-262-9321 bjpowell11950@gmail.com

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NEW TODAY!

VISIT VISITED

SHED/YARD SALE!
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Vehicle lettering and decals. For one vehicle or a whole fleet, call Sign Pro today, (360)736-6322.

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To place your ad, call 360-736-3311! classifieds@chronline.com

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Remember to check your ad for errors and report any changes the first day. (360) 807-8203.

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Photos by Jared Wenzelburger / jared@chronline.com

Attendees mingle around vendors and vintage vehicles on display outside the Doty General Store during a car show event on Saturday, Aug. 5. The show was hosted by the Hub City Cruisers. Car enthusiasts were invited to check out classic and custom cars and enjoy burgers and ice cream at the event.

In focus: Hub City Cruisers host car show at Doty General Store



Jennifer Johnson walks with kids Andrew, Zale and Jessea outside the Doty General Store during a car show event on Saturday, Aug. 5.



Trophies were awarded by category at the Doty General Store during a car show event on Saturday, Aug. 5.



Truck engines were on display outside the Doty General Store during a car show event on Saturday, Aug. 5.



A Ford Bronco sits parked with a raised hood outside the Doty General Store during a car show event on Saturday, Aug. 5.



Burgers and hot dogs were grilled outside the Doty General Store during a car show event on Saturday, Aug. 5.

Northwest News

Man accused of forcing couple off road, shooting at brother sentenced to eight years in prison

By The Yakima Herald-Republic

A Sunnyside gang member was sentenced to eight years in prison after pleading guilty to assaulting four people in two separate incidents.

Francisco Rodolfo Samaniego, 35, had pleaded guilty earlier to two counts of second-degree assault in each case. In return, prosecutors dropped four counts of first-degree assault and one count each of drive-by shooting and second-degree unlawful possession of a firearm.

At a July 31 sentencing hearing, Yakima County Superior Court Judge Richard Barthel sentenced Samaniego to seven years on each count, to run together, as well as a one-year firearm enhancement. The base sentences are at the top of the sentencing range based on the

charge and Samaniego's prior criminal history.

In the first case, Samaniego was accused of ramming a Tacoma-area couple's car on July 15, 2022. Deputies were heading to Samaniego's home in the 300 block of Kriner Road to investigate a report of a drive-by shooting when a 911 call came in around 12:40 a.m. from a man who said his vehicle had been rammed in the 8300 block of Van Belle Road, about a mile away.

Sunnyside police found Samaniego in the area and detained him, according to court documents. The man told police he and his wife were driving to see their children at a church camp in Goldendale when a larger vehicle hit them in the rear, then came around the driver's side and slammed into them to force them off the road, according to court documents.

Investigators said the evidence suggested that Samaniego believed the couple's vehicle was involved in the shooting at his house, and he pursued them, court documents said.

At the time of the incident,

Samaniego was out on bail pending trial on a charge of first-degree unlawful firearms possession, and he has prior convictions in Yakima County Superior Court for second-degree robbery, first-degree unlawful firearms possession, second-degree assault and methamphetamine possession. He also has a federal conviction for possession of a firearm by a prohibited person.

After posting bail in July 2022 case, Samaniego was arrested after his brother and another person said he shot at their car in February while they were inside it.

The alleged victims said the car was followed from Legends Casino Hotel, where the victim saw Samaniego, the affidavit said. At the Outlook exit, the victims' vehicle's rear window was shot out, and the car following them pulled alongside and Samaniego was seen firing at the car, the affidavit said.

Grandview and Sunnyside police and a Yakima County sheriff's deputy went to the house where Samaniego was said to be staying and found a

car parked there that matched the description of the one in the incident, the affidavit said, and its hood was warm to the touch. Officers also found a spent shell casing at the bottom of the windshield, according to the affidavit.

Drive-by shooting turned police chase leads to four arrests early Monday

By The News Tribune

A 19-year-old and three juveniles were arrested on multiple gun- and assault-related charges after a drive-by shooting in Tacoma early Monday morning, police said.

Officers saw shots coming from a car at 1:22 a.m. at the Alta Apartments at 97th Street and Steele Street, said Sgt. Darren Moss, spokesperson for the Pierce County Sheriff's Department. It's unknown whether the suspects were shooting at Tacoma police or the apartments nearby. The police cruiser was undamaged.

Police chased the car for six

minutes until the driver lost control and crashed near state Route 512 and Steele Street South. The people inside ran from the car at 1:28 a.m. and were chased down by police. The car caught fire for an unknown reason and was extinguished by the Tacoma Fire Department.

All four suspects were taken into custody by 1:30 a.m., police said. The 19-year-old was arrested and booked into Pierce County Jail. The juveniles were booked into the Remann Hall juvenile detention center. The car was stolen, police confirmed.

All four suspects are facing charges of aggravated assault, drive-by shooting, unlawful possession of a firearm and possession of stolen property. Pierce County sheriff's deputies later found the alleged victim of the shooting, Moss said.

"He was driving through, and they pulled up next to him and started shooting so he shot back," Moss said. "We recovered at least 25 shell casings in the apartment complex."

The victim's car had bullet holes in it as did several other cars in the apartment complex, Moss said.

Officials: Climate change is making PNW hydropower less reliable

By Isabella Breda

The Seattle Times

As drought settled in over the Pacific Northwest this year, some electric utility managers did something unusual: They looked to California for hydro-power.

While the Golden State's reservoirs retained an abundant supply of water after an abnormally wet winter, in Washington, the nation's leading producer of hydropower, some systems saw less water than expected.

The hydropower variability this year represents one example of some of the changes the country can expect in a warming world, according to a new report from Stanford researchers.

The report challenges the notion that hydropower will carry the Northwest into its clean energy future. Instead, it found that as climate change has driven worsening drought in the Western U.S., utility operators have increased electricity generation from fossil fuels.

The report suggests that without meaningful modeling for climate change in energy resource planning, the West will be ill-prepared to meet demand and its ambitious clean-energy goals.

At the turn of the 20th century, settlers encroached on Indigenous people's homelands of the West and began building dams to make rivers run like machines — a series of stagnant pools and turbines. Dams transformed the free-flowing freshwater highways that once supported abundant salmon runs, lamprey and other life. They were harnessed to instead light up homes and businesses, and fire up lumber, pulp and paper mills.

In 2022, hydropower accounted for 67% of Washington's energy generation. But many of the pieces of these dammed rivers are approaching or have passed their 100th birthdays and some operators are faced with expensive upgrades and with choices about their future. For some utilities, the benefits of removal outweigh the costs of keeping them running.

Since 2000, the Western U.S. has seen record-breaking droughts and a decline in total runoff coming through the region's dammed rivers. In times of drought, utilities have fired up coal and gas facilities, driving up greenhouse gas emissions, and increasing methane leaks and air quality-related deaths, Stanford researchers reported in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in July.

The decline in hydropower generation in the Western U.S. led to an extra 121 million metric tons of carbon emissions from 2001 to 2021. Electricity generation from fossil fuel plants was 35% higher in the driest months in California. In the Northwest, that generation crept up about 11% in the driest months.

In 2019, for example, Wash-



Karen Ducey / The Seattle Times

The Skagit River seen from Diablo Dam in May. Seattle City Light's Skagit River Hydroelectric Project consists of three dams on the Skagit River that supplies some power to the city of Seattle.

ington's greenhouse gas emissions reached their highest levels in over a decade. That largely stemmed from a higher reliance on fossil fuels — mainly coal and natural gas — for electricity because of poor hydropower production, according to the state. The state electricity sector's emissions rose from 16.5 million metric tons in 2018 to 21.9 million metric tons in 2019, the equivalent of adding more than 1 million gas-powered cars on the road.

This, the researchers found, is an unaccounted cost of climate change, one that amounted to \$20 billion in the Western U.S. from 2001 to 2021. Greenhouse gas emissions from these power plants, researchers suggest, cost \$14 billion, while deaths associated with pollution accounted for \$5.1 billion and methane leaks were responsible for just under \$1 billion, according to the study.

Even when up and running at full speed, hydropower isn't carbon neutral. Reservoirs of all sorts are sources of the potent greenhouse-gas methane. The gas is produced by decomposing organic material underwater.

The Northwest isn't experiencing anything like the bathtub rings on the drought-stricken Colorado River. But hydropower, like wind and solar, depends on the weather. Sometimes that makes for swings in power supply, but it often won't hit all of the West's major hydropower

“What this study shows is that there is just this increasing vulnerability of the hydropower systems that we need to account for in the energy-grid transitions.”

Minghao Qiu
researcher

systems at one time.

“What this study shows is that there is just this increasing vulnerability of the hydropower systems that we need to account for in the energy-grid transitions,” said lead researcher Minghao Qiu.

For some Washington utilities, the current drought is a reminder of what's to come.

Seattle City Light relies on hydropower for more than three-quarters of its electricity generation, with about half coming from its dams on the Skagit River and Boundary Dam on the Pend Oreille River. Much of the rest is purchased from the Bonneville Power Administration, which sells the power generated from the dams in the Columbia River Basin.

“If you just flicked up the data back in March, snowpack would be pretty good,” said Mike Haynes, interim general manager at Seattle City Light.

Then, Haynes said, the runoff came hard and fast. It was

abnormally hot in May and June and it's been dry ever since, so a lot of the precipitation didn't make it into Ross Lake, the utility's largest reservoir, he said.

Utilities including City Light and BPA historically relied on data spanning from the 1920s as the baseline for power generation. But as the regional climate continues to warm, older data becomes less relevant.

Bonneville is now using the three most recent decades of hydrologic data to inform future generation estimates. The federal agency noted that the effects of climate change felt in the Pacific Northwest include warming, earlier spring snowmelt, higher winter and early spring flows, earlier spring runoff and longer periods of low summer flows.

As Puget Sound Energy builds its clean energy portfolio to meet Washington's target of nearly carbon-free electricity generation by 2045, it's factoring in the need for backup generation from other renewables,

namely solar and wind. Currently, the investor-owned utility gets about half of its electricity from coal and gas power plants. PSE serves 1.2 million electric customers and 850,000 natural gas customers, mostly in north-west Washington. In 2020, the utility relied on coal and natural gas for half of its electricity generation.

Hydropower has always been variable, largely at the whims of rainfall and snowpack, said Elizabeth Hossner, manager of resource planning and analysis at PSE. But the utility is planning for more hydropower generation in the winter, lower generation in the summer and a need to ensure there's more water stored in reservoirs.

“We're paying close attention to climate as a whole,” Haynes said. “And just challenging all of our historic assumptions and trying to remind people it's not always the way it's been, that is not always the way it's going to happen going forward.”

For some, hydropower's renewable value is often eclipsed by its effects on salmon recovery.

“How are we looking at energy into the future?” Nez Perce Chair Shannon Wheeler said. “Are we just looking at it from an economic standpoint? Are we looking at it from a holistic view? Both the damage that is caused through emissions or through the hydro system that is causing environmental issues for the salmon themselves.”

Community Calendar

Lewis County Youth Mentorship Program “Back to School” Supply Drive

Aug. 10 outside of the Centralia College TransAlta Commons, 615 W. Pear St. in Centralia; 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Vendors will be on hand outside of the TransAlta Commons for the Lewis County Youth Mentorship Program “Back to School” supply drive. Anyone with school supplies to donate can drop them off there, and kids can get free haircuts to get ready for the new school year too. For those who can't make it to the college to donate supplies, donations can also be made at the Lewis County Juvenile Court, Chehalis City Hall, both Thorbeckes Wellness Center locations, The Station powered by Lewis County Coffee, the Juice Box Public House, Dick's Brewing Company and Main Street Storage.

Morton Loggers' Jubilee

Aug. 10 to Aug. 13 at 451 Knittles Way, Morton

The “Granddaddy of all Logging Shows,” this weekend of events celebrates the history of

loggers in Morton with a parade, lawnmower races, a pageant and logging show competition featuring ax throwing, tree topping, pole climbing and many other categories.

Visit loggersjubilee.com for more information.

38th annual Mount St. Helens Bluegrass Festival

Aug. 11-13 at Toledo High School

Featured bands at the 38th annual Mount St. Helens Bluegrass Festival will be The Baker Family, Kentucky Sky, Annie Staninec and Whiskey Deaf, Farmstrong and Hillbilly Fever. A weekend pass is \$45. Day passes are also available. Camping starts Thursday and costs \$30 for 3 nights. For more information visit <http://www.washingtonbluegrassassociation.org> or call General Cothren at 360-520-4524.

Onalaska Volunteer Firefighters Car Show

Aug. 12 at the Lewis County Fire District 1 fire station, 1733 state Highway 508 in Onalaska; 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Join the volunteer firefighters of Lewis County Fire District 1 for their annual car show to see classic cars, motorcycles and fire trucks on display.

Gemini Events' Vendor Blender

Aug. 12 at the Veterans Memorial Museum, 100 SW. Veterans Way in Chehalis; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Vendors and companies from throughout the county will be on hand for Gemini Events' Vendor Blender, which will be held outside the Veterans Memorial Museum. For more information, email geminieventsanddesign@gmail.com.

Tenino Farmers Market

Aug. 12 in the 200 block of Sussex Avenue in downtown Tenino; 10 a.m. 3 p.m.

The Tenino Farmers Market is open each Saturday through the end of September.

Founder's Day Celebration

Aug. 12 at George Washington Park, 110 S. Silver St. in Centralia; 3 to 8 p.m. Join your neighbors for a cel-

bration of Centralia's founding father, George Washington, organized by the Centralia Downtown Association. Free to attend, families can enjoy music and family-friendly activities.

Hot Rods for Holli Car Show

Aug. 13 at the Veterans Memorial Museum, 100 SW. Veterans Way in Chehalis; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Gearheads and car enthusiasts are invited to the museum for a car show.

Evergreen Playhouse Season 64 general auditions

Aug. 14-15 at the Evergreen Playhouse, 226 W. Center St. in Centralia; 6:30-8:30 p.m.

General auditions for the entire 2023-2024 Season will be held Monday, Aug. 14 and Tuesday, Aug. 15. A list of shows, performance dates and audition instructions are available online at <https://evergreenplayhouse.com/>. Drop-ins are welcome. Video auditions will be accepted up until 7 p.m. on Aug. 15.

To add upcoming events to the Community Calendar, email news@chronline.com

University of Washington STEM camp

Aug. 7-10 at W.F. West High School; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

At \$25 per student, this camp offers education to engineering and medical science from the University of Washington and is open to all students heading into grades nine through 12.

Registration is open for the camp at <https://stemchehalis.org>.

Chehalis Farmers Market

Aug. 8 at Boistfort Street in Downtown Chehalis; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Chehalis Farmers Market is on Tuesdays.

Winlock Cemetery District Public Meeting

Aug. 9 at 407 Cowlitz Road, Winlock; 7 p.m.

The public is invited to this meeting. Meetings take place on the second Wednesday of each month.