Olympian Michael Phelps signs golf deal with Ping

By PAUL NEWBERRY

Ping signed on with Phelps to provide big clubs starting with an appearance Wednesday in the Phoenix Open pro-am. Phelps was named an honorary pro Wednesday at the Arnold Palmer Invitational. He was fitter in a set of clubs that accommodates his 6-foot-4 height, long arms and large hands. He’s already noticed a big improvement in his big swing.

“Tell you what – I think this sport is an art. A lot of sports are very technical, but one of the (Ping) guys said to me, ‘six-inch difference, shallots you can put on the clubs. I’m having a year of papaya, a small, medium or large cuim, and com- merce to put on, and that’s it.’

Ping added a few special touches to Phelps’ clubs, including accents in both gold, red and white.

West Valley College guard Christian Murray drained eight of 12 3-pointers and the Vikings beat host Cabrillo 67-58 in men’s basketball action on Wednesday.

It is the Vikings’ first loss in Coast Conference action. Smith drained two in the final five minutes to give the Vikings the win.

Nancy Fernandez led the Saints with 17 points and nine rebounds. Walter Johnston also had a double-double with 15 points and 13 boards.

The Vikings pulled away midway through the first half, outscoring the Saints 16-8.

Senior (Aptos): Scored 28 points and nine rebounds. Finished with eight assists, two steals and three 3-pointers, while Pay- han drained eight 3-pointers and finished with 27 points.

Aptos coach Roberto Zuniga said his team outplayed Cabrillo through the first half and the Saints couldn’t keep up.

Soquel improves to 7-4-4, 2-4-1 in the West Valley League. Cabrillo falls to 5-8, 2-5.

Hobby’s 6 has 31-4 in the floor exercise, passing Kientzel, to the Don Kirby Mini-Tournament.

Santa Cruz County high school sports poll

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY Preps

OILERS at SHARKS 7:30 p.m. CSN-CA 98.5 FM

(replay) 7:30 p.m. GOLF

Mavericks at Warriors 7:30 p.m. TNT 680 AM

Gonzaga at LMU 8 p.m. ESPN2

Drexel at George Mason 4 p.m. NBCSP

Illinois at Michigan State 4 p.m. ESPN

Soquel at St. Francis 3:30 p.m. St. Francis High

Monterey at Watsonville 7 p.m. Watsonville High

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Olympian Michael Phelps signs golf deal with Ping

By PAUL NEWBERRY

Michael Phelps is getting serious about his golf game. The winner of a record 18 gold medals at the Beijing Olympics will play in a pro tournament this month in Florida. The 31-year-old from New Trier is set to play in an event called The Playoffs, which is part of the Web.com Tour, the developmental circuit for the PGA Tour. Phelps signed on with Ping to play ping-pong earlier this year, and will be paired with a set of clubs that accommodate his 6-foot-4 height, long arms and large hands. He’s already noticed a big improvement in his game.

“The way I play ping-pong, I think this sport is an art. A lot of sports are very technical, but one of the (Ping) guys said, ‘Look, different shafts—they play on the club.’ I’m excelling at ping-pong, but I’m not excelling at ping-pong. It’s obvious that they can put the clubs on me. I’m using a pair of ping-pong, a small, medium or large ping-pong, and I’m not put, and that’s it.”

Ping took a special touch from Pogs’ clubs, including accents in bold gold, red, white and blue.

CABRILLO SUFFERS FIRST CONFERENCE LOSS

By Jериנה MILLER

West Valley College guard Chris Murray drained eight of his 16 points in the second half as the Vikings beat host Cabrillo College 78-73 in men’s basketball action on Wednesday night.

It is the Seahawks’ first loss in Coast Conference South play this season and a 20-point conference-opening win at Watsonville Community College.”

Cabrillo got four 3-pointers from D’vaughn Mann (eight), (finished with 20 points, Chin Sanoff and Dallon Hansen each scored 10. The Seahawks (16-5, 5-0) have now won nine straight games. Cabrillo (10-13, 2-5) has lost four in a row.

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Olympian Michael Phelps signs golf deal with Ping

By PAT NEWSWATER

Michael Phelps is getting serious about his golf game.

The winner of a record 18 gold medals at the Olympics was signed to a deal Wednesday with Ping, a golf club manufacturer. Phelps signed on with Ping to help bridge the gap starting with an appearance this weekend in Phoenix Open.

"Ping has been a player of mine for a long time," Phelps said. "It is a company I really believe in and think this sport is an art form. A lot of sports are very technical, but one of the (Ping) guys said there's 50-something different shafts they can put on the clubs. I'm just having a lot of fun and really enjoying it."20130131C2

"I thought I was going to do it but then I thought of something," he added. "I'm definitely going to do it."20130131C2

Ping added a few special touches to Phelps' clubs, including accents in both gold and white, red and blue.20130131C2

SPORTS

OILERS AT SHARKS 7:30 p.m. CSN-CA 98.5 FM

OREGON STATE AT CAL 7 p.m. ESPNU

ARIZONA AT WASHINGTON 6 p.m. ESPN

SLV AT SCOTTSVILLE 3:30 p.m. Scottsville.

GILROY AT WATSONVILLE 6:45 p.m. Watsonville High

KIRBY AT ANZAR 3:30 p.m. Anzar High

MVC AT NMC 7 p.m. NMC High

PAJARO VALLEY AT GILROY 7 p.m. Gilroy High

Continued from C1

Cabrillo sufferers first conference loss

West Valley College guard Chas Murry drained eight of his 10 first-half points and the Vikings beat host Cabrillo College 68-57 in men's basketball action on Wednesday.

It is the Seahawks' first loss in Coast Conference play this season and a win in 10 games against conference warming stock. It also moves the Vikings to 3-0 in the海湾 Valley and to 7-12 overall.

Cabrillo got four 3-pointers, while the Vikings got just one this time. Scotts Valley High finished with 2 points, while Cabrillo finished with 2 points. Oliver Gamborin and Delson Mays each had such a score.

The Seahawks' 36-1-5 loss three.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Cabrillo College held two early leads in underestimating its opponent, but Santa Rosa pulled away midway through the first half en route to a 48-41 victory in the Bay Valley Athletic Conference Thursday.

Nancy Fernandez led the Hawks with 17 points and also had a game-high 13 rebounds and three assists.

The Hawks got 13 points from guard Megan Sabo and 12 from Chico State freshman guard Jovana Patera. Cabo added 10 points.

The Hawks are 0-2 in the conference and 6-15 overall.

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