



Ronald Bond/The Observer

Jack Bentz was among the saddle bronc riders at the EOLS rodeo Saturday.



Ronald Bond/The Observer

Rainy Robinson led in the barrel racing after Saturday before finishing second.

## Stewart earns all-around at EOLS rodeo

Observer staff

Jason Stewart was named the all-around cowboy of the 2019 Eastern Oregon Livestock Show PRCA rodeo after taking the two-head average in the steer roping and placing third in team roping over the weekend, according to the final results on the PRCA website. Stewart, who was one of only two competitors to turn in two qualified times in the steer roping, had a combined time of 40.9 seconds to win the average. Caleb Berquist, the other cowboy with two successful attempts, had a time of 42.5 seconds, including the fastest time in the second round of 16.6 seconds. Gabe Richardson had the best

time in the first round at 16.2 seconds. Roger Nonella was second in the first round at 17.0 and Stewart was third at 17.7. Caleb McMillan was second in round two at 18.4, just ahead of Mitch Lawrence, who was third at 18.9. Stewart and his teammate, Calgary Smith, took third in the team roping in a time of 7.3 seconds. Shane Erickson and Brent Falon claimed the top spot on Sunday with a time of 5.5 seconds. Dex Maddock and Kurtis Barry, who led through Friday and Saturday, finished in second at 6.0. Josh Frost headed a strong final day in bull riding to win with a score of 79.5 points, just ahead of Parker

Breeding. The champion of the Ed Miller Xtreme, Breeding finished in second with 77 points. Jake Davis and Derek Kolbaba tied for third with scores of 76. The quartet all posted their rides on Sunday to lift what had been a tough two days in the event. Through Saturday, only Ruger Piva, who placed fifth with 73 points, had turned in a qualified ride. In barrel racing, Jessie Telford found her way to the top of an ever-changing leaderboard with a winning time on Sunday of 17.42 seconds. The second- through fourth-place riders — Rainy Robinson (17.56), Olivia Train (17.61) and Katie Davis (17.67) — each

briefly moved into the lead Saturday before being overtaken. Kelsie Miller (17.68) was fifth, and Bekkie Bowerman and Mary Moe tied for sixth with 17.69 seconds as part of a crowded leaderboard. Mike McGinn worked his way to the top of another crowded leaderboard in steer wrestling with a winning time of 4.3 seconds. The top six finishers, in fact, were separated by just 0.4 seconds. Brandon Mackenzie followed in 4.4 seconds, Jesse Brown and J.W. Crenshaw tied for third in 4.5, Ryan Bothum was fifth in 4.6, and Frost was sixth in 4.7. Cline Laye, one of four bareback riders to crack 80 points, had the

top score with 83.5 points on Saturday. Both Jake Stemo and Grant Denny scored 81 points to tie for second, and R.C. Landingham was fourth with 80 points. Saddle bronc riding was also tight atop the leaderboard, as winner Leon Fountain, who scored 86.5 points, was one of five riders to break 80 points. Rusty Wright placed second with 85 points, Taos Muncy scored 83 for third, and both Mitch Pollock and Tate Owens scored 82 points to tie for fourth. The tie-down roping champion was Cooper Martin, who recorded a winning time of 8.1 points. Joey Dickens was second at 8.5 seconds, and Cody Craig came in third in 8.7.

## Legends open Legion season with win in Hodgen tourney

Observer staff

The La Grande Legacy Ford Legends Seniors baseball team opened the 2019 American Legion season in style by winning the Ashlee Hodgen Memorial Tournament over the weekend in Pendleton. In the championship game Sunday, La Grande earned a 6-2 victory over Meridian, Idaho. The Legends fell behind 2-0 early, but scored three times in the third to take the lead for good, then added three more runs in the fifth. In the third, Devin Bell hit an RBI single, and both Logan Paustian and Parker Robinson scored on an error on the play for a 3-2 edge. Another Meridian error allowed Justin Frederick to score in the fifth, and Robinson followed with a two-run double for the final margin. Robinson, who led the team with those two RBIs,

also pitched 5-2/3 innings for the win allowing two runs on three hits with five walks and six strikeouts. Frederick, Bell and Wyatt Earp each had two hits. Earlier Sunday, La Grande took down Baker, 5-1, to reach the finals behind a strong pitching effort from Bell. Bell allowed just one unearned run on five hits with a walk and three strikeouts, and was efficient, needing just 83 pitches to navigate the seven innings he worked. La Grande took a 1-0 lead in the first on Robinson's sacrifice fly, then broke the game open with four runs in the third inning. Robinson and Bell both had RBI singles, Payton Cooper drove in a run with an RBI groundout and an error allowed Riley Gregg to score for a 5-0 lead. Robinson had two more RBIs and both Frederick and

Cole Jorgensen had two hits. On Saturday, La Grande edged Vancouver, Washington, 6-3, then won a shootout against Hermiston, 15-13. The Legends took an early lead in their win over Vancouver, going ahead 3-0 in the first on a Paustian RBI double, an RBI groundout by Robinson and a run-scoring single by Bell. In the third, Robinson's RBI single and Riley Miller's two-run single made it 6-0. That was enough offense for the pitching combination of Earp and Cooper. Earp, who was credited with the win, tossed 3-2/3 shutout innings, allowing just a walk, a strikeout and three hits. Robinson drove in two runs and both Bell and Miller had two hits. Later Saturday, the Legends built an early 10-run lead, then held on against a furious Hermiston rally. See **Legends** / Page 7A

## Bruins roll, force Game 7

By Jay Cohen  
The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Facing elimination in an oh-so-hostile environment, Brad Marchand and Tuukka Rask stepped up for the Boston Bruins once again. The Stanley Cup Final is heading to Game 7 because two of Boston's biggest stars love the biggest moments. Rask made 28 saves, Marchand had a goal and an assist, and the Bruins beat the St. Louis Blues 5-1 on Sunday night to even the bruising, physical final at three games apiece. David Pastrnak had one of Boston's four goals in the third period and an assist, helping the Bruins force the 17th Game 7 in Stanley Cup history. Brandon Carlo, Karson Kuhlman and Zdeno Chara also scored. Boston also was involved in the last Game 7 in the final, winning the championship against Vancouver in 2011. Rask was a reserve goaltender on that team eight years ago, while Marchand was a key performer. They will go for another championship Wednesday night in Boston after losing to Chicago in the 2013 final. "The whole hockey world loves a Game 7. May the best team win," Boston coach Bruce Cassidy said. Ryan O'Reilly scored in the third period for St. Louis, which is looking for the franchise's first Stanley Cup title. Rookie Jordan

Binnington finished with 27 stops. Backed by an electric Enterprise Center crowd that included actors Jon Hamm and Jenna Fischer and Cardinals catcher Yadier Molina, wearing a No. 49 Blues jersey in honor of suspended forward Ivan Barbashev, St. Louis looked a step off for most of the game. Prime scoring opportunities were derailed by misplaced passes or ever-so-slight timing issues. Of course, the unflappable Rask can have that effect on a team. And whenever the Blues threatened, the 6-foot-3 Finnish star was there. "He's our best player," Bruins defenseman Charlie McAvoy said. "He just steps up when it matters and we have all the faith in the world in him. ... He's our rock." Rask was at his best while Boston killed off four power plays, dropping St. Louis to 1 for 18 with the man advantage for the series. He smothered a big Colton Parayko slap shot with Chara in the box near the end of the first period, and made a fancy glove stop on an even-strength try for Brayden Schenn 7:42 in the second. He got some help after Marchand was whistled for tripping Alex Pietrangelo midway through the second. With the Blues applying heavy pressure in search of the tying goal, Pietrangelo had a backhand See **NHL** / Page 7A



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