

SPORTS

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Twins take advantage of Cano's errors, beat Mariners

By TIM BOOTH
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Kyle Gibson pitched one-run ball into the seventh inning and the Minnesota Twins took advantage of two errors on one play by Robinson Cano in a 2-1 win over the Seattle Mariners on Thursday night.

Minnesota avoided a three-game sweep and snapped Seattle's five-game winning streak thanks in part to unexpected blunders from one of the best defensive second basemen in the game.

With two out in the fifth inning and a runner on second, Cano misplayed Joe Mauer's slow grounder. He compounded the mistake by trying to catch Ehire Adrianza at third base, but Cano's throw was low, skipped past Kyle Seager and allowed Adrianza to score.

Gibson (3-4) managed to quiet Seattle's hot bats, pitching into the seventh inning for the first time the season. The Mariners were averaging 8.17 runs per game so far in June, but were limited to Ben Gamel's sacrifice fly to score Jarrod Dyson.

A day after giving up a game-winning home run in the ninth, Minnesota closer Brandon Kintzler got the final three outs for his 16th save.

Jason Castro homered off Seattle starter Christian Bergman (3-3) in the fourth, but was the only major mistake made by the right-hander.

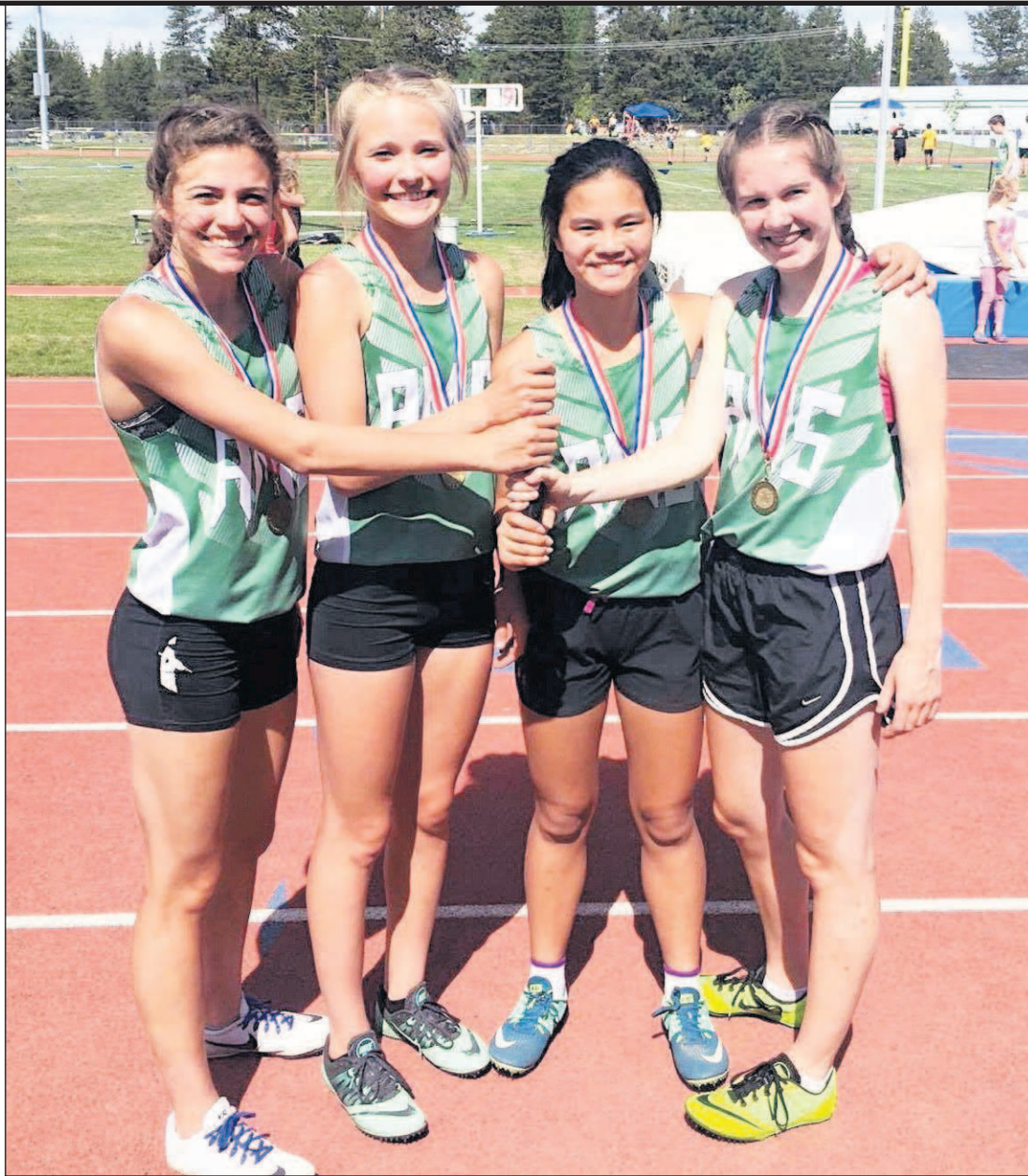
Gibson lasted just one batter into the seventh, getting pulled after giving up a leadoff single to Taylor Motter. He allowed five hits and struck out four. He also got one big defensive assist thanks to another highlight catch by Byron Buxton. With two on and two out in the fifth, Cano lined a shot to deep center field. Buxton raced back and at the last moment reached above his head falling backward to make the catch and likely save two runs.



AP Photo/Ted S. Warren
Seattle Mariners starting pitcher Christian Bergman throws against the Minnesota Twins during the first inning of a baseball game Thursday in Seattle.

UP NEXT: MARINERS

• Toronto Blue Jays (29-31) at Seattle Mariners (30-31)
• Today, 7:10 p.m. TV: RTNW



Submitted Photos
Astoria Middle School's winning 1,600-meter relay team of (from left to right) Sophie Long, Kelsey Fausett, Lily Randall and Emma Roe. More photos online at DailyAstorian.com/sports

Astoria Vikings score big in state track meet

The Daily Astorian

La PINE — The Astoria High girls track dynasty appears to be set for years to come, following the performance of athletes from Astoria Middle School at the recent middle school state championships in La Pine.

Astoria athletes won two individual events on the girls' side, with six other top-five placers.

Eighth-grader Sophie Long highlighted her meet with a win in the 800 meters, finishing in a time of 2 minutes, 38.27 seconds to edge Myrtle Point's Sarah Nicholson (2:38.55).

The other win came from Astoria's foursome of Lillian Randall, Emma Roe, Kelsey Fausett and Long, who teamed up to win the 1,600-meter relay in 4:41.81, well

ahead of Roosevelt's 4:48.94. The same four placed fourth in the 400-meter relay (53.69).

Fausett, an eighth-grader, took second in the 400-meter final in a personal best time of 1:06.75. She added a third-place showing in the javelin, with a career-best toss of 84 feet, 4 inches.

In the 1,500 meters, Astoria sixth-grader Hannah Groncki was fourth (5:58.08) and eighth-grader Abby Groncki placed fifth (6:01.96).

In the 100-meter hurdle final, Astoria eighth-grader Isabella Clement took third in 16.76, and seventh-grader Maddie Sisley was close behind in fifth (17.43).

Clement and Sisley placed sixth and seventh, respectively, out of 34 competitors in the long jump.

The Astoria boys had one indi-

vidual event winner, as eighth-grader Josh Condit scored a victory in the javelin with a personal best throw of 117-1.

Teammates Nathan Pacheco Moulin and Daniel Garcia Camacho placed fourth and fifth, respectively.

Elsewhere, Jeremy Owen, Zachary Schaueremann, Axil Pineda and Condit teamed for a second-place finish (4:21.26) in the 1,600 relay, and the foursome of Condit, Moulin, Stanley Wozniak and Thomas Colvin placed fourth in the 400 relay.

Colvin was fifth in the 200; Daniel Messing cleared 5-0 for fifth in the high jump; Condit was sixth and Ronan Linnett place sixth and seventh in the 400; and Rocky Rub was seventh in the 110-meter hurdles.



LEFT: Astoria sisters Abby and Hannah Groncki, fifth and fourth, respectively, in the 1,500-meters. RIGHT: Astoria's Isabella Clement soared her way to a sixth-place finish in the long jump.



SPORTS IN BRIEF

Predators on brink as Rinne struggles again in Pittsburgh

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Pekka Rinne's struggles in Pittsburgh have his Nashville Predators on the brink of elimination.

The Predators are hardly blaming Rinne for their predicament.

The Penguins overwhelmed Rinne again, sending Nashville's star goaltender to the bench in Pittsburgh for a second straight game in the Stanley Cup Final. He was pulled after the first period by coach Peter Laviolette after surrendering half the goals in a 6-0 rout by the Penguins in Game 5 on Thursday night.

"We've got to be better in front of him," Laviolette said. "I don't think that they were necessarily bad goals. Our guys have a tremendous amount of confidence in him. We just have to do a better job in front of him."

The Predators are in a 3-2 hole with Game 6 coming up Sunday night in Nashville.

"We know we can be a lot better," Predators' captain Mike Fisher said. "We're going home and we're going to be re-energized. Our focus has to be on that game and getting one win."

3-on-3 hoops added to 2020 Tokyo Olympics

Associated Press

LAUSANNE, Switzerland — The IOC has added 3-on-3 basketball as an Olympic event for the 2020 Tokyo Games.

In another move toward urban youth sports, BMX Freestyle cycling will join the Olympic program for the first time among a "net increase of 15 events."

However, the IOC says there will be 285 fewer athlete places than in 2016.

Track cycling will add men's and women's madison races, and swimming will add men's 800-meter freestyle and women's 1,500 freestyle.

IOC President Thomas Bach says the 2020 Games will become "more youthful, more urban and will include more women."

Mixed gender medal events rise to 18 from nine.

Events confirmed today are in addition to decisions last August to include sports climbing, skateboarding, surfing, baseball and softball, and karate to the Tokyo program.

Pulisc scores twice, US beats Trinidad 2-0 in qualifying

Associated Press

COMMERCE CITY, Colo. — After sliding to score a goal with his left foot, Christian Pulisic got back up, raced for a corner and glided across the grass on both knees.

Just a teenager showing exuberance.

Pulisic rescued the United States with a pair of second-half goals, and the Americans beat Trinidad and Tobago 2-0 on Thursday night to move into third place at the halfway point in the final round of World Cup qualifying.

Pulisic, an 18-year-old phenom from Hershey, Pennsylvania, ended a frustrating start for the U.S. offense with a goal in the 52nd minute, then added another in the 62nd.

"They were tough in the first half, definitely," Pulisic explained. "They had a lot of guys behind the ball and we couldn't work our way through them. Once we got the first one, it kind of opened up."

Pulisic made his international debut 15 months ago and has seven goals and five assists in 15 appearances, including four goals and three assists in his last four contests. He has scored or assisted on seven of the last eight American goals.

Oregon State pitcher has sex case in past

By GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Luke Heimlich, a standout pitcher for Oregon State's top-ranked baseball team, pleaded guilty to a single count of molesting a 6-year-old girl when he was a teenager.

Heimlich's criminal history was reported by The Oregonian on Thursday, a day or two before he's slated to pitch in this weekend's regional final against Vanderbilt. The winner advances to the College World Series.

The left-hander from Puyallup, Washington, is projected to be an early round pick in next week's Major League Baseball draft.

In an editorial accompanying the article, the newspaper said it learned about Heimlich's 2012 conviction while doing a routine background check before running a lengthy profile

on him.

Heimlich failed to renew his registration as a sex offender in Oregon within 10 days of his most recent birthday and was cited in Benton County on a misdemeanor charge that was dismissed last month, according to court records reviewed by the AP.

That citation led The Oregonian to the Washington state case and it obtained those records using a public information act request.

Heimlich did not respond to requests for comment from the newspaper. Coach Pat Casey declined to comment.

Heimlich's attorney, Stephen Ensor, did not return a call from the AP.

Oregon State spokesman Steve Clark declined to say when Oregon



Luke Heimlich

State became aware of Heimlich's status as a registered sex offender or answer any questions about the case, citing federal laws that protect student privacy.

The state police provide the school with a list of registered sex offenders who are affiliated with the campus on a regular basis, Clark said, and the school then interviews each person and puts safeguards in place to protect other students and staff.

Heimlich ultimately pleaded guilty to one count of molestation between February 2011 and December 2011, a period during which he was 15. Prosecutors dismissed the other charge as part of a plea bargain.

He entered a diversion program, received two years of probation and was ordered to attend sex offender

treatment for two years, according to court records. He was sentenced to 40 weeks of detention at Washington's Juvenile Rehabilitation authority. But that sentence was suspended and he served no time, according to court records, because he successfully completed probation.

Heimlich was classified in Washington state as the lowest-level sex offender with little risk of repeating the behavior. He finished his probation and court-ordered classes in fall 2014, around the time he moved to Corvallis, Oregon, to attend Oregon State.

Clark, the OSU spokesman, said he didn't know if publicity about the case would lead to any changes in this weekend's pitching line-up.

Heimlich is the top pitcher on Oregon State's No. 1-ranked baseball team, compiling an 11-1 record with a 0.76 ERA.