

SPORTS

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Gary Henley | Sports Reporter
ghenley@dailyastorian.com


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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Fishermen, Pirates split twinbill

The Daily Astorian

The Neah-Kah-Nie and Astoria Ford Junior Baseball teams split a doubleheader Wednesday afternoon at Aiken Field, with the Fishermen scoring a 6-3 win in Game 1 and the Pirates posting a 6-1 victory in the nightcap.

Astoria pitchers Tristin Wallace, Will Reed and Dylan Rush combined in Game 1, with Wallace getting the start and striking out five.

Sophomore-to-be Brooks Fromwiller had two hits and scored three runs to lead the Fishermen, while Ebin Hillard and Wallace added two hits apiece.

Astoria Ford pulled away with three runs in the sixth inning.

Neah-Kah-Nie pitcher Bryce Bridge tossed a two-hitter in Game 2, as he faced a lineup of mostly eighth-graders/incoming freshmen for the Fishermen.

The Pirates also played a solid defensive game to pick up the win.

Rush started for Astoria Ford, and threw four scoreless innings, with seven strikeouts.

USA track and field moves Olympic trials from Eugene

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — USA track and field says the Olympic Trials for the 2020 Tokyo Games will be held in the Los Angeles area.

Track's governing body said Wednesday its board of directors voted 11-2 to bring the event to Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, California. The stadium is going through a \$62 million upgrade that's scheduled to be completed in 2019 and will expand seating to more than 21,000.

Mt. SAC beat out Sacramento, California, and Eugene, Oregon, which hosted the last three Olympic Trials at Hayward Field. The 2020 Olympic Trials are scheduled for June 19-28.

USATF has been diversifying its locations for championship meets to foster relationships with cities. Max Siegel, the CEO of USATF, says the "level of interest in the 2020 Olympic Trials is a reflection of that effort."

Cubs cut Montero after critical comments

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Chicago Cubs cut ties with Miguel Montero on Wednesday after the veteran catcher blamed pitcher Jake Arrieta for allowing seven stolen bases in Tuesday's loss to the Washington Nationals.

Montero, who turns 34 on July 9, was designated for assignment, and the World Series champions recalled catcher Victor Caratini from Triple-A Iowa. Montero is batting .286 with four homers and eight RBIs in 44 games.

President of baseball operations Theo Epstein, general manager Jed Hoyer and manager Joe Maddon spoke Tuesday after hearing of Montero's comments. The 6-1 loss dropped Chicago to 39-38 on the season.

"Right now through 77 games, we haven't gotten it going yet. We haven't come together as a team," Hoyer said. "We're fighting to come together and I think those comments were a detriment to what we're trying to accomplish right now at this point in the season."

SCOREBOARD

SPORTS SCHEDULE
TODAY

Junior Baseball — Warrenton at Seaside (2), 4 p.m.

SATURDAY

Baseball — Warrenton Alumni Day at Huddleston Field, Noon

Junior Baseball — Scappoose at Astoria Ford, 1 p.m.



The Daily Astorian/File Photo

Former Warrenton baseball players gather for their annual team picture following last year's Alumni Game.

Former Warriors take the field

The Daily Astorian

More than 40 former Warriors are expected Saturday for the fifth annual Warrenton Baseball Alumni Game.

The game and other activities begin at noon at Huddleston Field.

Only former Warrenton players are eligi-

ble to play in the game, with suggested donations of \$10-\$20 per player accepted after the game to help the Warrenton Summer Baseball program.

In addition to the alumni game, the afternoon will include raffles and a Home Run Derby for Warrior alumni (\$10 for seven balls), sponsored by Warrenton Fultano's/

Bubba's Sports Bar. The top two sluggers make the finals, and tie-breakers will be settled by the longest home run. Astoria Ford's Dane Gouge will be the local celebrity home run derby contestant.

The public, friends and families of the program are welcome to attend. All proceeds go to Warrenton Summer Baseball.

Phillies rally with 2 runs in 9th to stun M's

By TIM BOOTH

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Presented an opportunity to rebound after a tough weekend, the Seattle Mariners instead stumbled at home against the worst team in baseball.

Tommy Joseph hit his 13th homer of the season leading off the ninth inning off Seattle closer Edwin Diaz, Andrew Knapp followed with a two-out RBI single and the Philadelphia Phillies rallied for a 5-4 victory over the Mariners on Wednesday.

Facing the lowly Phillies was supposed to be an opportunity for Seattle to stabilize after dropping two of three against Houston. Instead, the Mariners have lost four straight headed out on a brief three-game road trip against the Angels before returning home for seven games before the All-Star break.

"Baseball is a great game but many days it can be cruel," Seattle manager Scott Servais said.

The collapse on Wednesday was on the shoulders of Diaz, Seattle's young closer who was brilliant last year as a rookie but has stumbled at times in 2017. Seattle held a 4-3 lead headed to the ninth and had not allowed a hit to the Phillies since the third inning. Joseph changed that quickly hitting a 98 mph fastball on a 3-2 pitch from Diaz (2-3) out to left field, tying the game at 4-4.

Diaz struck out the next two batters, but walked Cameron Perkins and a balk moved Perkins into scoring position. Knapp delivered, lining a 1-2 pitch into right field to give the Phillies the lead.

It was the second straight game Diaz was less than his best in the ninth inning. Diaz allowed four runs — none earned — in a non-save situation on Tuesday. Servais was critical



AP Photo/Ted S. Warren

Seattle Mariners starting pitcher Felix Hernandez, center, laughs in the dugout as he talks with pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre, right, after Hernandez finished the sixth inning of the team's baseball game against the Philadelphia Phillies Wednesday in Seattle.

UP NEXT: MARINERS

- Seattle Mariners (39-41)
- at Los Angeles Angels (42-40)
- Friday, 7:07 p.m. TV: FSW, RTNW

of Diaz's focus but wanted his closer back in on Wednesday.

Servais got his wish, but Diaz couldn't deliver, blowing his third save of the season. Servais said he's likely to stick with Diaz as his closer going forward.

"I missed a couple of pitches and I paid the price," Diaz said. "It was nothing mechanical. Just missed location."

Philadelphia won a road series for the first time since late April. Ricardo Pinto (1-0) pitched three innings of relief to get the win and Hector Neris worked the ninth for his seventh save. Along with the rally in the ninth,

the Phillies got the second career home run from Ty Kelly and an RBI groundout from Odubel Herrera in the third inning off Felix Hernandez.

"Pinto was the key to that game. He gave us three strong innings, kept the game close and really pitched well for a young kid," Philadelphia manager Pete Mackanin said.

Seattle appeared fine after Robinson Cano's 14th home run of the season snapped a 3-all tie. Seattle also got solo homers from Kyle Seager and Danny Valencia, and an RBI single by Nelson Cruz all coming off Philadelphia starter Mark Leiter Jr.

But the Mariners were unable to add on to the lead. Knapp said his approach changed once the balk by Diaz got Perkins to second base.

"I knew he was going to challenge me. He has a really good fastball. I was just making sure I battled and put the ball in play," Knapp said.

Rockets get All-Star Paul from Clippers

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Chris Paul is heading to Houston to join James Harden, giving the Rockets two All-Stars in the backcourt to lead their chase for a championship.

In the NBA's second blockbuster trade in less than a week, the Rockets acquired Paul from the Los Angeles Clippers on Wednesday in exchange for Patrick Beverley, Lou Williams, Sam Dekker, Montrezl Harrell, Darrun Hilliard, DeAndre Liggins, Kyle Wiltjer, a protected first-round pick next year and cash considerations. The Rockets acquired Hilliard from Detroit and Liggins from Dallas for cash considerations before adding them to the deal.

"It's a weapons race in the NBA and you're either in the weapons race or on the sidelines," Houston general manager Daryl Morey said. "We felt like with James Harden in his prime and Chris Paul in his prime this gives us a real shot to chase the juggernaut teams that are out there. This puts us right there with them."

Both the Clippers and Houston will look far different next season than they did in again falling short in the playoffs. The roster overhauls came five days after Minnesota sent three players to Chicago for All-Star Jimmy Butler to kick things off with NBA free agency opening Saturday.

Mariners lose lefty Smyly to Tommy John surgery

By TIM BOOTH

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Drew Smyly was the centerpiece to one of Seattle's many offseason moves by general manager Jerry Dipoto. He was a priority acquisition as a proven lefty for the rotation the Mariners believed would thrive pitching at Safeco Field.

Smyly will end his first season in Seattle never having thrown a pitch during the regular season. The Mariners announced Wednesday that Smyly will need Tommy John surgery after being diagnosed with a torn ulnar collateral ligament.

"I feel bad for Drew. I know how excited he was when we acquired him, getting a chance to pitch in Seattle, how excited he was to be part of the team," Seattle manager Scott Servais said. "He did everything he could do to try and get back with us, the treat-

ments and procedures and whatnot to figure it out."

Smyly had been on the disabled list since opening day with a flexor strain in his left arm, diagnosed in spring training one outing after he pitched for the United States during the World Baseball Classic. Smyly had been rehabbing in the hopes of returning after the All-Star break but Servais said Smyly came out of his last 25-pitch simulated game last weekend not feeling great and additional exams revealed the need for surgery.

The operation is scheduled for July 6 and will be performed by Dr. James Andrews. Recovery time is typically 12 to 15 months.

"Everybody was excited about getting him back but that's obviously not going to happen," Servais said. "I don't want to say, 'woe is us,' or the 'sky is falling.' It is what it is and we've dealt with a lot of things this

year and we'll deal with this one."

Smyly's setback only adds to Seattle's long list of injuries with its starting rotation. Felix Hernandez just returned after nearly two months on the disabled list. Hisashi Iwakuma has no timetable for his potential return from shoulder inflammation. James Paxton missed three weeks with a forearm strain and Yovani Gallardo was demoted to the bullpen.

Seattle has used 13 different starting pitchers and Smyly was not one of them.

"I guess it creates some clarity on where we're going to get through the rest of the year, the guys we've got and how important they are," Servais said.

Smyly was acquired in January in a multi-team deal. Seattle acquired outfielder Mallex Smith from Atlanta then packaged him in a deal with Tampa Bay the same day to land Smyly.



AP Photo/Matt York

Seattle Mariners starting pitcher Drew Smyly throws against the Texas Rangers during the first inning of a spring training game in Peoria, Ariz. Smyly will undergo Tommy John surgery after being diagnosed with a torn ulnar collateral ligament. Seattle announced the diagnosis on Wednesday ending Smyly's hopes of returning during the 2017 season.