

## SPORTS

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## BRITISH OPEN

## Spieth takes a stumble in his title defense

By **DOUG FERGUSON**  
*Associated Press*

CARNOUSTIE, Scotland — Through 14 holes, Jordan Spieth was challenging for the lead in the British Open and making it look easy.

“Just a clean round of golf,” he said. And then it got messy in a hurry.

Spieth came undone on the tough closing stretch at Carnoustie, dropping four shots over the final four holes. One shot went into the bunker. Another went into the Barry Burn. Another was closer to the gallery than the green.

He had to sign for a 1-over 72, the fifth time in his last seven majors that he was over par after the opening round.

What bothered Spieth was not so much a shot, but a decision.

His slide began on the 492-yard 15th hole, when he chose 4-iron off the tee and the ball bounced to the left on the crusty links into wispy fescue. That wasn't a problem. Spieth was 202 yards from the front of the green and decided to hit 6-iron that would land short of the green and roll onto the putting surface.

The risk was hitting into a pot bunker, and he found the worst one.

“Even if goes 20 yards over the green, it's an easy up-and-down,” Spieth said. “And that's what I would consider a significant advantage for me is recognizing where the misses are. And I just had had a brain fart. I missed it into the ... only pot bunker where I could actually get in trouble. And it plugged deep into it.”

## Thomas wins in yellow on Alpe d'Huez and distances Froome

By **ANDREW DAMPF**  
*Associated Press*

ALPE D'HUEZ, France — Geraint Thomas sprinted away from Sky teammate Chris Froome to win the legendary climb up Alpe d'Huez while wearing the yellow jersey in the Tour de France on Thursday.

With questions over which rider Sky is backing for victory, it was a bold demonstration of strength by Thomas, who has been Froome's loyal lieutenant for years.

“In my eyes Froomey is still our leader,” Thomas said. “I'm just going to enjoy it now.”

Thomas took yellow with a victory a day earlier. Now he has become the first British rider to win atop Huez and the first of any nationality to win here in the yellow jersey.

Lance Armstrong won an individual time trial up Huez in 2004 while wearing yellow but that victory was later stripped for doping.

“Unbelievable. Not in my wildest dreams did I ever think I would win up here,” Thomas said. “It's one of those things that's going to stay with me for the rest of my life.”

## SCOREBOARD

## LOCAL SPORTS SCHEDULE

## TODAY

**Junior baseball:** State tournament (at Crescent Valley HS): Warrenton vs. Crescent Valley, 5 p.m.

## BASEBALL

**Vancouver 7, Hilander Dental 5**  
**Vancouver 021 102 1—7 12 2**  
**Hilander 000 310 1—5 6 1**  
 Mansur, McCarthy (6), Rogina (7), Minich (7) and Francis; Hensley, Jenkins (6) and Miller. W: Mansur. L: Jenkins. RBI: Van, Gulliford 2, Donohoe, Hill, Mansur, McCarthy, Moen; HD, D.Takalo 2, Miller 2, Jenkins. 2B: Van, Gulliford, Hill, Mansur; HD, Brown. HBP: HD, E. Takalo. DP: Vancouver.



Photos by Gary Henley/The Daily Astorian

Knappa's Kaleb Miller laid down two big bunts Wednesday, one that scored Trey Hageman with the tying run.

## Vancouver scores win over Hilander Dental

By **GARY HENLEY**  
*The Daily Astorian*

LONGVIEW, Wash. — The contingent from Clatsop County kept it close, but ultimately their team fell short in a AAA Legion baseball game Wednesday evening in Longview, Washington.

The Vancouver Mavericks built a 4-0 lead, lost it, then outscored Hilander Dental 3-1 over the final two innings for a 7-5 win, in a game played at R.A. Long High School.

Vancouver needed four pitchers to hold off Hilander, the sponsor for the Lower Columbia Baseball Club's AAA Legion team.

Hilander Dental rallied with three runs in the bottom of the fourth and one in the fifth to tie the game at 4-4 heading into the sixth inning.

The tying run for Hilander came by way of a sacrifice bunt from Knappa's Kaleb Miller, scoring Astoria's Trey Hageman from third base.

The Mavericks answered quickly, scoring two runs in the top of the sixth. Vancouver also turned a key double play in the bottom of the sixth to squelch a potential Hilander rally.

Both teams scored a run in the seventh inning.

It was the final home game of the season for Hilander Dental, which will take part in a four-day tournament in Newport



LEFT: Seaside's Payton Westerholm, right, flips the ball to teammate Zach Brown for a force out in Wednesday's game. RIGHT: The infield for Hilander Dental, including Astoria's Trey Hageman, left, and Knappa's Dale Takalo, second from left, during a break in the action late in Wednesday's game.



beginning Thursday.

With over half their starters from Clatsop County, it's no surprise that the representatives from Astoria, Seaside and Knappa continue to put up the big numbers for Hilander Dental.

In Wednesday's game, Miller and Logger teammate Dale Takalo drove in two runs apiece, while Hageman scored two

of the five runs.

Hageman, Miller and Knappa's brother tandem of Dale and Eli Takalo combined for 11 “quality at-bats,” while each Takalo had a stolen base, and Miller picked off a runner at first base from his catcher position.

Zach Brown (from Wahkiakum) went 3-for-4 to lead Hilander Dental, which drops to 17-13-1, behind Vancouver's 20-14-2.

## THE ESPYS

## Sex abuse victims join hands, accept courage award

By **BETH HARRIS**  
*Associated Press*

LOS ANGELES — More than 140 survivors of sexual abuse by a former team doctor for USA Gymnastics and Michigan State University joined hands on stage to be honored with the Arthur Ashe Award for Courage at the ESPYS.

The women who spoke out against the abuse by Larry Nassar stood together Wednesday night in a powerful and solemn closing to the show highlighting the past year's top athletes and moments in sports.

Gymnast Aly Raisman, softball player Tiffany Thomas Lopez and gymnast Sarah Klein, who said she was Nassar's first victim 30 years ago, took turns speaking. Klein chided the U.S. Olympic Committee, USA Gymnastics and Michigan State for placing “money and medals above the safety of child athletes.”

Olympic snowboarding champion Chloe Kim won a leading three ESPYs, including best female athlete, while Alex Ovechkin claimed best male athlete.

Kim had tears in her eyes as she listened to the Arthur Ashe recipients.

“We must start caring about children's safety more than we care about adults' reputations,” Klein said. “If we can just give one person the courage to use their voice, this is worth it.”

Raisman added: “For too long we were ignored. It could have been avoided. All we needed was one adult to have the integrity to stand between us and Larry Nassar.”



Phil McCarten/Invision/AP

Former gymnast Sarah Klein, former Michigan State softball player Tiffany Thomas Lopez and gymnast Aly Raisman, from left in front, and others who suffered sexual abuse accept the Arthur Ashe Award for Courage at Wednesday's ESPY Awards at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

The audience gave the group a prolonged standing ovation and remained on its feet while the women spoke.

“What a powerful stage up here,” host Danica Patrick said before signing off.

Ovechkin joined Roger Federer and Olympic snowboarder Shaun White as double winners. Ovechkin was in Russia with his wife, Nastya, who is 8½ months pregnant.

Newly retired racecar driver Patrick became the first woman to host the show, held at the Microsoft Theater in downtown Los Angeles. Her

opening monologue mostly fell flat, with athletes sitting stone-faced or wincing at many of the jokes.

Kim took female athlete honors over Olympic skier Mikaela Shiffrin, WNBA player Sylvia Fowles and soccer player Julie Ertz.

“This year has been filled with so many incredible memories I will hold onto the rest of my life,” Kim said as she held the silver trophy. “I really want to thank my family. They've sacrificed so much for me.”

Kim also claimed trophies for best female Olympian and female action sports athlete. At the Pyeong-

hang Games in February, she became the youngest to win a snowboarding medal when the then-17-year-old claimed gold in halfpipe.

Ovechkin, who led the Washington Capitals to their first Stanley Cup championship, also won for best NHL player. He beat out Patriots quarterback Tom Brady and fellow first-time nominees Jose Altuve of the Houston Astros and James Harden of the Houston Rockets for male athlete.

Federer's five-set victory at the Australian Open in January for his 20th Grand Slam singles title earned honors for record-breaking performance, and he also received best male tennis player.

White won best Olympic moment with his final-run performance in South Korea featuring back-to-back 1440s to take gold, and best male Olympian.

The Astros were honored as best team for winning the franchise's first World Series.

LeBron James, soon to be starring across the street at Staples Center with the Los Angeles Lakers, won best NBA player for the third straight year on his 14th consecutive nomination in the category.

Brady claimed best NFL player, while Mike Trout of the Los Angeles Angels won MLB player.

On a big night for Olympians, the U.S. women's hockey team earned best game honors for its shootout victory over Canada in the gold-medal game in South Korea.

Donovan Mitchell of the Utah Jazz earned breakthrough athlete honors.