

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2015

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1B

## Sports shorts

### No. 1 UConn moves on with rout of Rutgers

STORRS, Conn. (AP) — Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis scored 23 points to lead No. 1 UConn to a 91-55 rout of Rutgers on Geno Auriemma's 61st birthday, putting the Huskies into the NCAA Tournament's regional semifinals for the 22nd consecutive season.



Moriah Jefferson added 19 points and Morgan Tuck had 16 points, seven rebounds and seven assists for the Huskies (34-1), who won their 33rd consecutive game and 79th in 80 tries.

The Huskies, who hope to win their 10th national championship and third in row, are now 99-17 all-time in the NCAA Tournament, face Texas next week in Albany.

Tyler Scaife had 16 points for eighth-seeded Rutgers (23-10), which was in its first NCAA Tournament since 2012 and has not made it past the second round since 2009.

UConn had a 20-point lead at the half and ran away from Rutgers after the Scarlet Knights lost guard Briyona Canty to a knee injury less than two minutes into the second half.

### Threat against Obama's niece prompts security hike at tourney

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (AP) — A threat against President Barack Obama's niece, a player on Princeton's women's basketball team, prompted increased security at the Tigers' NCAA Tournament game at Maryland on Monday night, according to a person familiar with the situation.

## FACES



Robinson

The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because no details were released about the threat.

Princeton lost to Maryland 85-70 on Monday in the second round of the tournament at the Terrapins' arena, the Tigers' only defeat of the season.

On Saturday, President Obama attended Princeton's 80-70 victory over Wisconsin-Green Bay in the first round, inevitably drawing attention to his niece, freshman forward Leslie Robinson. Her father, Craig Robinson, is the brother of first lady Michelle Obama.

A phone message threatening Leslie Robinson was left at Maryland and the threat was taken seriously, according to the person who spoke to the AP.

The threat was first reported by USA Today.

## THIS DATE IN SPORTS

**1936** — Detroit's Mud Bruneteau ends the longest game in NHL history with a goal after 116 minutes and 30 seconds (six overtimes) to edge the Montreal Maroons 1-0 in the semifinals of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

**1975** — Muhammad Ali knocks out Chuck Wepner in the 15th round to retain the world heavyweight title in Cleveland.

**1979** — Indiana State, led by Larry Bird, advances to the NCAA Championship game by squeezing past DePaul 76-74. Bird has 35 points, 16 rebounds and 9 assists.

Contact us at 541-966-0838 or sports@eastoregonian.com

## Three No. 1s survive to play in Sweet 16

By JIM O'CONNELL  
AP Basketball Writer

When the NCAA Tournament reaches the Sweet 16, that means there are only 15 games left to decide a national champion.

Kentucky needs to win four of those games to become the first undefeated

champion since Indiana in 1976. The Wildcats improved to 36-0 — the best start to a season for any team — with a workmanlike win over Cincinnati. Next up in the Midwest Regional semifinal is West Virginia, another team that will come right at Kentucky and try to force turnovers, the Mountaineers'

trademark this season.

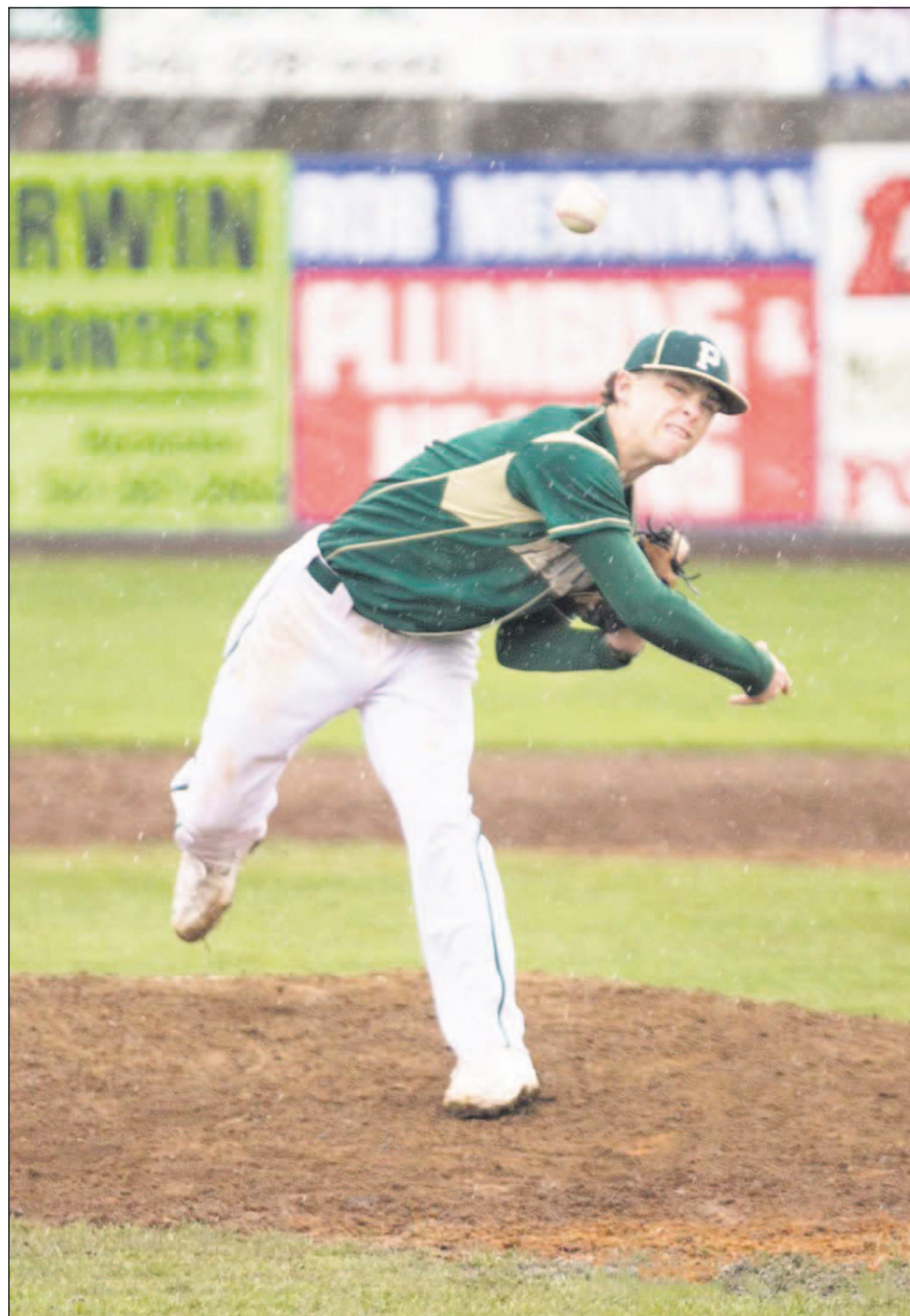
The East Region changed dramatically entering the Sweet 16 with top seeds Villanova and Virginia ousted. It's the first time since 2004 — and eighth time ever — that the top two teams from one region failed to advance to the second week.

See SWEET/2B



AP Photo/Ted S. Warren

Louisville's Montrezl Harrell celebrates as he hugs Louisville head coach Rick Pitino late in the second half of a game against Northern Iowa in the Round of 32 on Sunday in Seattle.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney  
The Bucks' Quinn Cockburn pitches in the rain during the first game of a doubleheader against Roseburg at Bob White Park.

## Rainy revenge

### Pendleton makes most of second chance

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The Buckaroos beat out the rain and picked up their first win of the season as well Monday in a doubleheader split against Roseburg.

Pendleton lost the first game 10-0 and won the second 13-6, powered by a Devin Roe grand slam.

In the opener the Bucks couldn't find a hole against Chris Stone, who allowed just one hit in six innings of work. Meanwhile, the Roseburg bats were alive early as everyone in the lineup got a hit and either scored or drove in a run.

But Pendleton made up for the slow start



For box scores, see Scoreboard on Page 3B

to spring break with an offensive explosion in game 2, scoring a season-high seven runs in the third inning.

First baseman Roe led the way with his bat, knocking in five runs on four extra-base hits, including his grand slam in the third. Kyler Lunny also did his job in the leadoff spot, stealing three bases and scoring three runs.

Jack Peterson earned the win in relief, going 3.1 innings and allowing just one run.

## Prep softball

### Bucks open with win, face terror trio Tuesday

East Oregonian

HAPPY VALLEY — The Pendleton softball team opened the North Clackamas Tournament with a decisive win Monday, but a late afternoon rain-out means the Bucks will face a triple header of top-tier competition on Tuesday.

Pendleton beat the Milwaukie Mustangs 17-0 in five innings on the strength of Bailey Hillmick's arm and plenty of offensive support. The sophomore pitcher limited the Mustangs (1-2) to just one hit and struck out four with two walks and one hit batter.

Pendleton (3-0) scored multiple runs in each inning and pop came from up and down the lineup. Darian Lindsey went 4-for-4 and drive in three runs while scoring four her-

self, Ellie Richards drove in four runs, Tiah Grass hit the games only home run and Payton Hergert hit a double and a triple.

"It was a great day offensively," said coach Tim Cary, who also complimented Hillmick's ability to keep the Bucks at the plate with efficient pitching.

Things will get more difficult Tuesday as Pendleton will begin the day with back-to-back games against 6A teams Clackamas and Oregon City, then play a state title rematch against 5A Putnam in the afternoon.

Cary said Murphy will take the circle in the first game and Gracie Lyon will start against Oregon City, but he won't decide who gets the ball in the Putnam game until gametime, depending on how the first games go.

## Prep baseball

### Sun glare, not rain, ends game

By SAM BARBEE  
EO Media Group

A strange ending befell the back end of a doubleheader between the Hermiston baseball team and the Redmond Panthers on Monday afternoon. The game, with Redmond leading 14-5 in Hermiston's half of the sixth, was called due to glare coming off a shed behind home plate. Redmond had scored nine runs in the top half of the sixth before the field umpire called the game due to the glare.

School officials and coaches will decide whether the score is final or whether the teams will make up the last innings later. It was a strange ending to a day that left first-year Bulldogs head coach Lance Hawkins frustrated.

"My frustration comes down to ... this season we give up the big inning," he said after the second game was called. "It's how we do it. We're not mentally in the game. Physically, sometimes you have some mistakes. But the mental part of the game, we talk about it enough, the kids should know what they're doing."

Hawkins had an extra-long talk with the seniors after the games Monday, in which Hawkins challenged them to be more mentally focused and prepared for each game.

The play that Hawkins pointed to as evidence was a prime example of the Bulldogs' lack of focus.

With three runs already in and the bases loaded with one out, Redmond's Brock Penhollow bounced one back to Michael Gossler at the mound, who should have gone home to start a 1-2-3 double play. Instead, he froze and held the ball allowing a run to score and the runners to move up. It should have gotten Hermiston out of the inning, but it gave Redmond new life and opened the flood gates.

See DAWGS/2B

## Baseball



Hermiston

2



Redmond

1

## NFL suspending TV blackouts for 2015 season

By BARRY WILNER  
AP Pro Football Writer

PHOENIX (AP) — The NFL is saying bye-bye to blackouts. At least for 2015.

No NFL games will be blocked from local television next season, the league said Monday at the owners' meetings. The teams voted for a one-year suspension of the long-standing blackout policy for the preseason and regular season.

There were no blackouts last season, because the minimum number of tickets, by NFL sellout standards, was sold for every game, and the league had only two blackouts in 2013.

Still, the experiment is a huge step for the NFL, whose blackout policy dates back decades. In the 1970s, half of NFL games were blocked from local TV because the games did not sell enough tickets. Some teams — Tampa, Miami, Jacksonville, Oakland, St. Louis and San Diego — have struggled to avoid blackouts, and the league is taking a bit of a gamble for 2015.

The policy stipulates that a home game must be sold out 72 hours in advance of kickoff in order to be televised locally. Often, that deadline is extended to ensure sellouts if a club believes it can meet the criteria for lifting the blackout.

The league's definition of a full house is not selling every seat but a large percentage of them, depending on the venue. The policy does not apply to suites or club seats.

Monday's move was met with immediate approval by one of the sponsors of legislation to eliminate the blackout permanently.

"This decision to suspend the blackout policy for the upcoming NFL season is a victory for the millions of sports fans and consumers across the

See BLACKOUTS/2B