

Sports shorts

Cubs pitcher goes to wrong ballpark

MESA, Ariz. (AP) — Edwin Jackson might have had a better day if he never found his way to work.

The Cubs right-hander was scratched from his scheduled start Tuesday when he went to the wrong ballpark, then gave up eight runs when he finally found the right mound in Chicago's 14-2 loss to the Oakland Athletics.



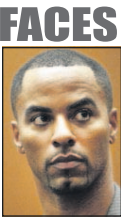
Jackson said he entered 'Oakland Athletics spring training complex' into his Google Maps app on his phone and it directed him to Phoenix Muni, which is across the street from the Phoenix Zoo. The A's now play at HoHoKam Stadium, the Cubs' former spring training home.

"It was my fault for not looking to see where it was," said Jackson, who arrived in time to see Cubs prospect Kris Bryant hit his ninth Cactus League homer in the third inning. "I've had positive outings throughout the spring, except this one."

Sharper admits guilt in felony

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Former NFL star Darren Sharper pleaded guilty Tuesday in Las Vegas to a reduced felony attempted sex assault charge, in the third part of a four-state plea deal that prosecutors say will put him in federal prison for about nine years.

Appearing by Internet hookup from a courtroom in Los Angeles, Sharper entered his plea before Clark County District Court Judge Douglas Herndon, who scheduled sentencing for June 25.



A plea agreement calls for Sharper to serve 38 months to eight years in prison for the Nevada conviction, but at the same time as sentences from California, Arizona and Louisiana.

On Monday, the 39-year-old Sharper pleaded guilty to sexual assault in Arizona — again using an Internet hookup — and no contest in Los Angeles to raping two women he drugged after meeting them in a West Hollywood bar.

"Up to today, they have not given us one compelling reason why it's in his best interest to remain as part of the Minnesota Vikings."

— Ben Dogra
Agent of Vikings RB Adrian Peterson, who is trying to get Minnesota to release or trade him as he prepares to return to the field after missing last season while he resolved a child abuse charge. Peterson is under contract with Minnesota for three more seasons, but none of his remaining contract is guaranteed.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS
1972 — Bill Walton scores 24 points to lead UCLA to an 81-76 victory over Florida State and the NCAA title. The Bruins finish with a 30-0 record and increase their winning streak to 45 straight.

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

PENDLETON

Buckaroos suffer first losses of season

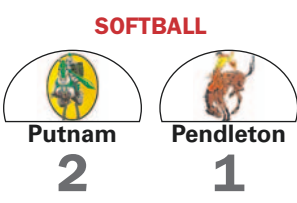
Putnam edges Pendleton in title-game rematch

East Oregonian

HAPPY VALLEY — The Pendleton softball team suffered its first losses of the season on Tuesday as

it finished up play at the North Clackamas Tournament under cloudy skies.

The Buckaroos opened the day by running into a pair of Class 6A squads from the Mt. Hood Conference, then finished up with a rematch of last season's 5A state championship against Putnam.



Pendleton lost all three, but came away from the pre-season tournament encouraged by the performances of its young pitchers as they continue to settle in at the varsity level.

"Even though we took three losses today, which isn't what we wanted, I think we can take a lot of

positives out of what we did," said Pendleton coach Tim Cary. "It's good for us to see teams like that early in the year."

First up was Clackamas, which set the tone for Pendleton's day by winning 9-7 on a walk-off home run in the eighth inning.

The Bucks (3-3) plated five runs in the top of the extra frame but couldn't protect the lead.

See BUCKAROOS/2B

IRRIGON

Romero, Thompson top state list

Irrigon senior repeats as 2A Player of the Year

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

Irrigon basketball's Mitch Thompson has one piece of advice for anybody looking to mirror his successful first season as a head coach.

"Coach good players."

The blueprint worked well for Thompson, who inherited the defending 2A state champions and then led them back to the title game where they defeated Toledo 65-53 at Pendleton Convention Center on March 7.

None of his players impressed state coaches more than senior forward Adrian Romero, who on Monday was named the 2A Player of the Year for the second season in a row.

"His overall basketball IQ and understanding of time and situation was great this year," Thompson said. "Rarely did Adrian force his offense or take bad shots, and he defended the other teams' best player day in and day out."

See ALL-STATE/2B



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Irrigon head coach Mitch Thompson leads a huddle during a timeout this season. Thompson was named the 2A Coach of the Year on Monday.



Irrigon's Adrian Romero shoots the ball over Ver-nonia's Will Botelho in the Knights' 97-40 win against the Loggers on Friday, Feb. 27, in Irrigon.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

NBA

Warriors top Blazers, clinch division

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Stephen Curry had 33 points and 10 assists and the Golden State Warriors pulled away from the shorthanded Trail Blazers in the second half for a 122-108 victory on Tuesday night, clinching the team's first division title in 39 years.

Andre Ig-uodala came off the bench to score 21 points for the Warriors, who won their seventh straight to push their record to and NBA-best 58-13.

Golden State hasn't claimed the Pacific Division crown since the 1975-76 season, the year after the team won the NBA championship.

With a comfortable lead on second-place Memphis in the Western Conference, Golden State has dropped just one of its last 12 games.

Damian Lillard had 29 points for the Blazers, who have lost five straight following a 1-4 road trip. Despite the slump, Portland has remained atop the Northwest Division, five games in front of Oklahoma City.

The Blazers were without All-Star LaMarcus Aldridge because of a left index finger sprain, as well as fellow starting forward Nicolas Ba-



Golden State Warriors' Klay Thompson (11) drives against Portland Trail Blazers' Damian Lillard (0) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Portland, Ore., Tuesday, March 24, 2015.

AP Photo/Greg Wahl-Stephens

thompson, who finished with 16 points, returned on Monday night for the Warrior's 107-76 victory over the Washington Wizards.

The Blazers jumped ahead 24-18 early on Lillard's off-balance jumper, and extended the lead to 47-39 on CJ McCollum's 3-pointer.

Lillard's 3 made it 53-41 but Stephen Curry answered with consecutive 3-pointers to keep the Blazers from pulling away. Leandro Barbosa's 3-pointer pulled the Warriors within 66-55, but Portland still held a 62-57 advantage at the half.

The Warriors went on a 10-0 run to pull in front 69-66. Lillard hit a 3 to tie it, but Golden State scored nine straight to go up 80-69.

Prep Softball

Rockets keep wins coming

Harrisburg gives locals close games at Riverside Tourney

East Oregonian

BOARDMAN — Pilot Rock pushed its season-opening streak to seven games with two more wins at the Riverside Tournament on Tuesday.

The Rockets edged Harrisburg 1-0 to start, then routed host Riverside 19-4 in five innings.

Pilot Rock (7-0) scored immediately in both games, and Tehya Ostrom made their early lead stick with an assists from the defense against Harrisburg.

Bailey Weinke started the Rockets off with a bunt single, then stole second before a single by Sara Weinke moved her to third. Staci Fitzpatrick then brought her home on a groundout for the game's only run.

Rockets coach Darin Fitzpatrick, no relation, said Ostrom was solid in the circle, but it was a pair of plays at the plate that saved victory in the end.

Haley Fitzpatrick, the coach's daughter, threw out a runner at home from left field, and then Desi Maddern relayed to cutoff Madison Dave who threw home for another run-saving out.

Dave added a home run in Pilot Rock's 20-hit outpouring against Riverside, and Rebekka Holman pitched for the win.

The Rockets will compete in another spring break tournament beginning on Friday in Union.

See SOFTBALL/2B