

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2015

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## Sports shorts

### Big weekend boosts Ducks to No. 1

EUGENE — After a 4-1 week which featured a perfect game and an eight-homer game, the Oregon softball team climbed to No. 1 in both top-25 polls for the second straight year.

Last year's appearance at No. 1 was the first in program history.

Oregon's biggest games last week both came in a three-game series with No. 19 Washington.

Cheridan Hawkins tossed her first career perfect game and her fifth career no-hitter in Friday's 8-0 run-rule win, and after falling on Saturday, Oregon's bats responded in record style as the Ducks belted a program-record eight home runs and tied the NCAA record with five home runs in the third inning en route to a 15-6 win on Sunday.

### Ovechkin joins Gretzky, Lemieux with 50th goal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Alex Ovechkin scored his NHL-leading 50th goal, reaching that mark for the sixth time and tying a team record with the 472nd of his career, and added an assist

to help the Washington Capitals beat the Carolina Hurricanes 4-2 Tuesday night.

With his team pushing to make the playoffs, the three-time NHL MVP got No. 50 at 11:12 of the first period, giving Washington a 2-0 lead when he took a pass from Evgeny Kuznetsov and sent a shot from just inside the left circle past goalie Cam Ward.

Only five other players reached the half-century mark at least six times: Wayne Gretzky and Mike Bossy had nine such seasons, and Mario Lemieux, Marcel Dionne and Guy Lafleur had six.

"Because I'm the best player in this draft."

— **Jameis Winston**  
Florida St. quarterback when asked why he should be the No. 1 pick in this year's NFL draft. Winston had just finished wowing scouts with his arm strength and accuracy during nearly an hour of throwing drills at FSU's pro day for NFL scouts and media on Tuesday.

#### THIS DATE IN SPORTS

**1920** — The Ottawa Senators defeat the Seattle Metropolitans 6-1 to capture the NHL Stanley Cup, three games to two.

**1972** — The first players' strike in major league history lasts 12 days and cancels 86 games.

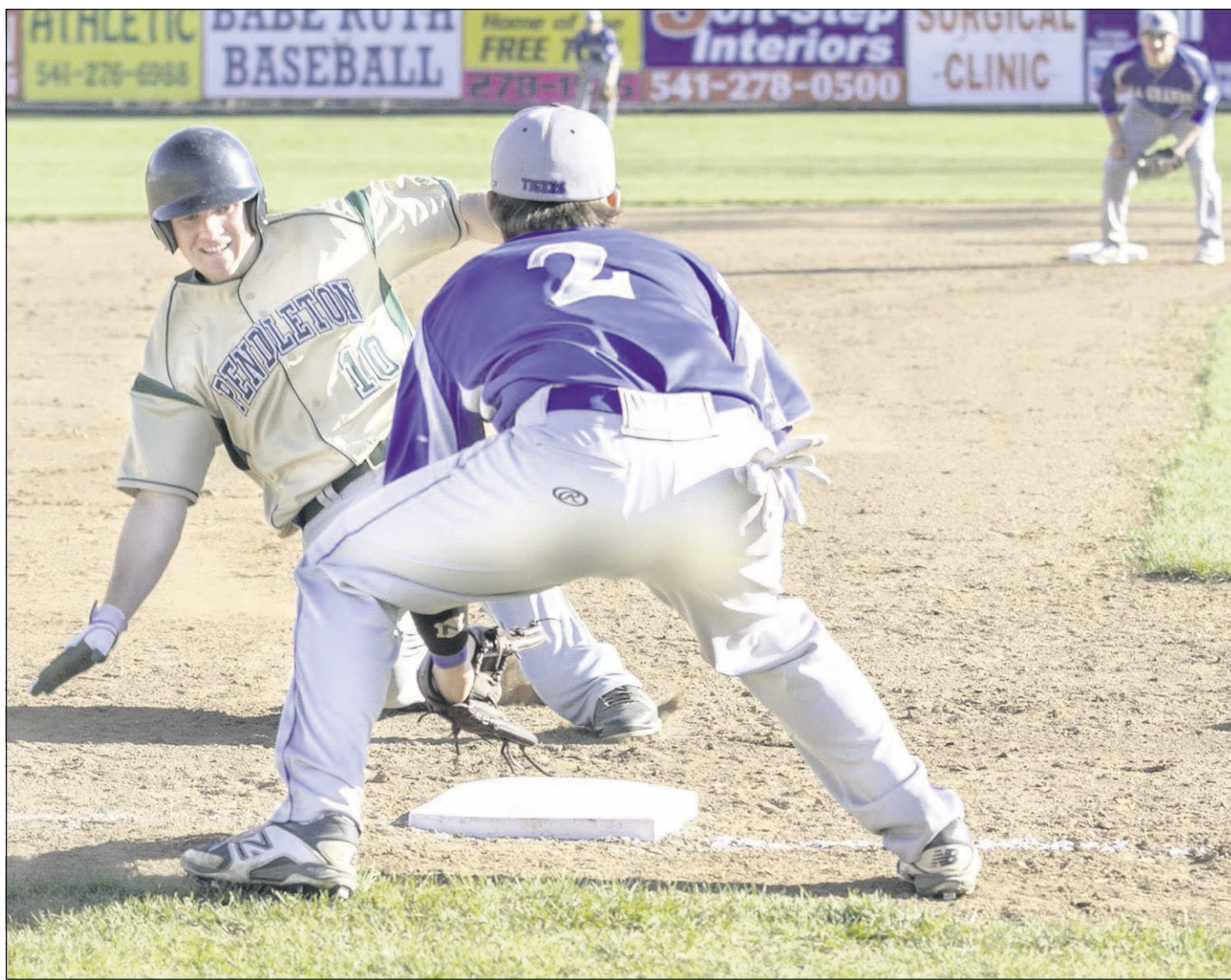
**1985** — Villanova shocks Georgetown with a 66-64 victory to win the NCAA basketball title. The Wildcats, led by Dwayne McClain's 17 points, shot 79 percent from the field, making 22 of 28 shots, and added 22 of 27 free throws.

**1991** — Duke ends years of frustration with a 72-65 victory over Kansas for its first national title in five championship-game appearances and nine trips to the Final Four.

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

## PENDLETON

# Bucks receive power surge



The Bucks' Kai Quinn slides successfully into third Tuesday as Daniel Bribbs, of La Grande, waits for the ball at Bob White Field in Pendleton.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

#### BASEBALL

Pendleton  
8

La Grande  
6

## Morris homers twice as Pendleton beats La Grande

By ERIK SKOPIK  
East Oregonian

The Pendleton baseball season received a welcome nudge from nature on Tuesday at Bob White Field.

Strong gusting winds aided the struggling Buckaroo bats, lifting three hard hit fly balls clear over the left field wall in an 8-6 victory over La Grande.

"This has been a tradition here for 100 years or forever as long as this field has been here, if you get a ball up in the air, it's going to go out," Pendleton coach Greg Whitten said.

Pendleton (3-7) had hit just one home run in its first nine games, but sent three over the fence Tuesday. Sophomore Wyatt Morris hit his first two varsity home runs to build Pendleton a 4-3 lead. After the Tigers took the lead in the sixth, it was another bomb — this time a solo shot from junior Quinn Cockburn — that tied the score at 5-5.

La Grande pitcher Jake Workinger picked up two outs following the Cockburn blast before



Pendleton's Tyler Lunny rounds third after a home run by teammate Wyatt Morris who isn't far behind during Tuesday's game against La Grande at Bob White Field.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

loading the bases on three consecutive walks. That brought shortstop Caden Smith to the plate. Smith, who had flown out to center field

twice already, sent another towards Tiger center fielder Eli Wisdom. This time the ball soared over Wisdom's head and into the wall, clear-

ing the bases to give the Buckaroos their first back-to-back wins of the season.

"I'd hit two pretty hard ones up the middle at the center fielder," Smith said. "I just tried to put a little more on it. The wind helped a lot."

"I always say it's not how many hits you get in a game, it's when you get them," Whitten said of Smith, who was 0-for-3 before the go-ahead knock. "He'd smoked two balls to center field and got robbed, and then got payback with a bases-loaded double. That was great to see."

It has been a rough March for Whitten and the Buckaroos. After the basketball team's strong season delayed spring preparations, Pendleton opened with a disappointing 1-7 start. The team's worst loss came not on the field, however, but on a fluke play. Senior star Alex O'Rourke was smacked with a pitch last week in a tournament in Boise that may sideline the three-year starter for the season's remainder.

Whitten lauded the play of Cock-

See BUCKS/2B

## HERMISTON

# Lions ace stymies Bulldogs

Hermiston shut out by West Linn

By SAM BARBEE  
EO Media Group

On a windswept day at Armand Larive Middle School and with scouts in attendance, West Linn senior Karson Lindell didn't disappoint.

He two-hit the Hermiston Bulldogs in a 13-0 decision in five innings in a non-league baseball game Tuesday afternoon.

"When you look around and see the amount of scouts that are here, that's an indicator that the kid's pretty dang good," first-year Hermiston coach Lance Hawkins said of Lindell. "I just wish we battled a little bit more even though (we were) kinda outmatched. I'm not into lying to anybody or the kids. I said, 'We gotta compete really hard today.'"

"The guy pumped it pretty good, and our guys went up there and got their hacks. Were we outmatched? Yeah, I think



Sam Barbee photo

Hermiston head coach Lance Hawkins walks off the mound after an official visit to pitcher RJ Robles during the third inning of Hermiston's 13-0 loss to West Linn on Tuesday at Armand Larive Middle School.

we were at times. When you got a 15-year-old going against an 18-year-old in some cases, you could tell they've never seen anything like that. That's a good team. It should've been a little closer, I think. But they're a better team than we are right now. That's all there is to it."

The Bulldogs (5-3) certainly didn't help themselves. Bulldog pitchers walked nine batters, hit one, and committed four errors in the field, giving the Lions (5-2) four extra runs. They also had two runners picked off by Lindell

See BULLDOGS/2B

## Prep Roundup

# Summit downs Hermiston in extra inning

EO Media Group

BEND — Summit rallied from down five runs to defeat Hermiston 10-9 in an eight-inning thriller Tuesday.

Hermiston took an early 2-0 lead and upped it to 5-0 after four and a half innings of play, but Summit plated six in the fifth, two in the sixth, one in the seventh and one in the eighth to earn the walk-off victory.

Summit scored the ten runs without an extra base hit, but was helped by three Hermiston errors.

The loss is Hermiston's (3-4) second straight and fourth in five games. Summit (4-2) has now won three straight after losing two of its first three.

Julissa Almaguer went four-plus innings and struck out four in the no decision. Mikayla Kopacz went 3-for-5 with two doubles for the Bulldogs and Ellery Jones chipped in with two hits.

Hermiston's two in the first came when Jaime Hinkley walked and stole

See ROUNDUP/2B

#### BASEBALL

West Linn  
13

Hermiston  
0

#### SOFTBALL

Summit  
10

Hermiston  
9