

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2015

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1B

## Sports shorts

### Wilson leads Angels past Seattle

SEATTLE (AP) — C.J. Wilson allowed two hits over eight innings and David Freese provided all the offense with a two-run homer in the Los Angeles Angels' 2-0 win over the Seattle Mariners on Tuesday night.



Wilson (1-0) was outstanding, wriggling out of a second-inning jam and retiring the final 17 batters he faced. The left-hander allowed three baserunners and needed only two strikeouts to shut down Seattle.

Nelson Cruz and Rickie Weeks each got his first hit with the Mariners, but that was the entirety of Seattle's offense against Wilson.

Freese found just enough power on a chilly night when fly balls were not carrying well. Albert Pujols doubled with one out in the fourth inning, the first hit off Seattle starter James Paxton (0-1), and Freese followed with a shot to right-center that barely cleared the fence.

### Blount to miss 1 game for substance abuse violation

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — New England Patriots running back LeGarrette Blount has been suspended for the first game next season for violating the NFL's substance abuse policy.

### FACES



The league announced the suspension without pay Tuesday without saying when the violation occurred. Blount was arrested last August for possession of marijuana while with Pittsburgh. Steelers running back Le'Veon Bell was arrested for marijuana possession and DUI in the same traffic stop.

Blount played 11 games for the Steelers last season before being cut then signed with the Patriots. In the final five games of the regular season, he rushed for 281 yards and three touchdowns. He rushed for 40 yards in the Super Bowl win over the Seattle Seahawks.

The NFL said Blount can take part in all offseason and preseason practices and games.

**"I'm irritated. Yes, I'm still proud of my accomplishment, but I'm not happy with the decision."**

— Sam Holtz

Suburban Chicago sixth grader after being informed he was too young to claim the \$20,000 gift card and trip to the Maui Invitational tournament he had won after tying for first in ESPN's NCAA Tournament bracket contest. An ESPN Digital Media spokesman said the network is working on putting together an alternate prize for Holtz.

### THIS DATE IN SPORTS

**1975** — Frank Robinson, the first black manager in the majors, debuts as player-manager for the Cleveland Indians. Robinson hits a home run in his first at-bat to help beat the New York Yankees 5-3.

**2001** — Tiger Woods wins the Masters for a sweep of the four majors in a span of 294 days. Woods takes the majors with a combined score of 65-under.

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

## Prep Basketball

# Bulldogs, Buckaroos make all-state teams

## Hermiston girls, Pendleton boys combine for three first-team selections

East Oregonian

Their final games long in the book, the Pendleton boys and Hermiston girls basketball teams picked up a couple more victories this week in the form of all-state selections.

Hermiston's girls followed the lead of junior guards Sara Ramirez and Jansen Edmiston all the way to the championship game and both were voted as first team players by the state's 5A coaches.

Pendleton senior Wes Persinger was named to the 5A boys first team after leading the Buckaroos to the state's final bracket for the first time since the 2009-10 season.

It was the first time each player had made an all-state team.

Ramirez and Edmiston's selections came after Co-Player of the Year awards in the Columbia River Conference. The girls were nearly identical when it came to statistics and both averaged more than 13 points and nearly five assists a game.

Also honored by the state's girls coaches was Hermiston senior forward Tavin Headings as one of two honorable mention selections. She averaged 11 points a game.

See ALL-STATE/2B

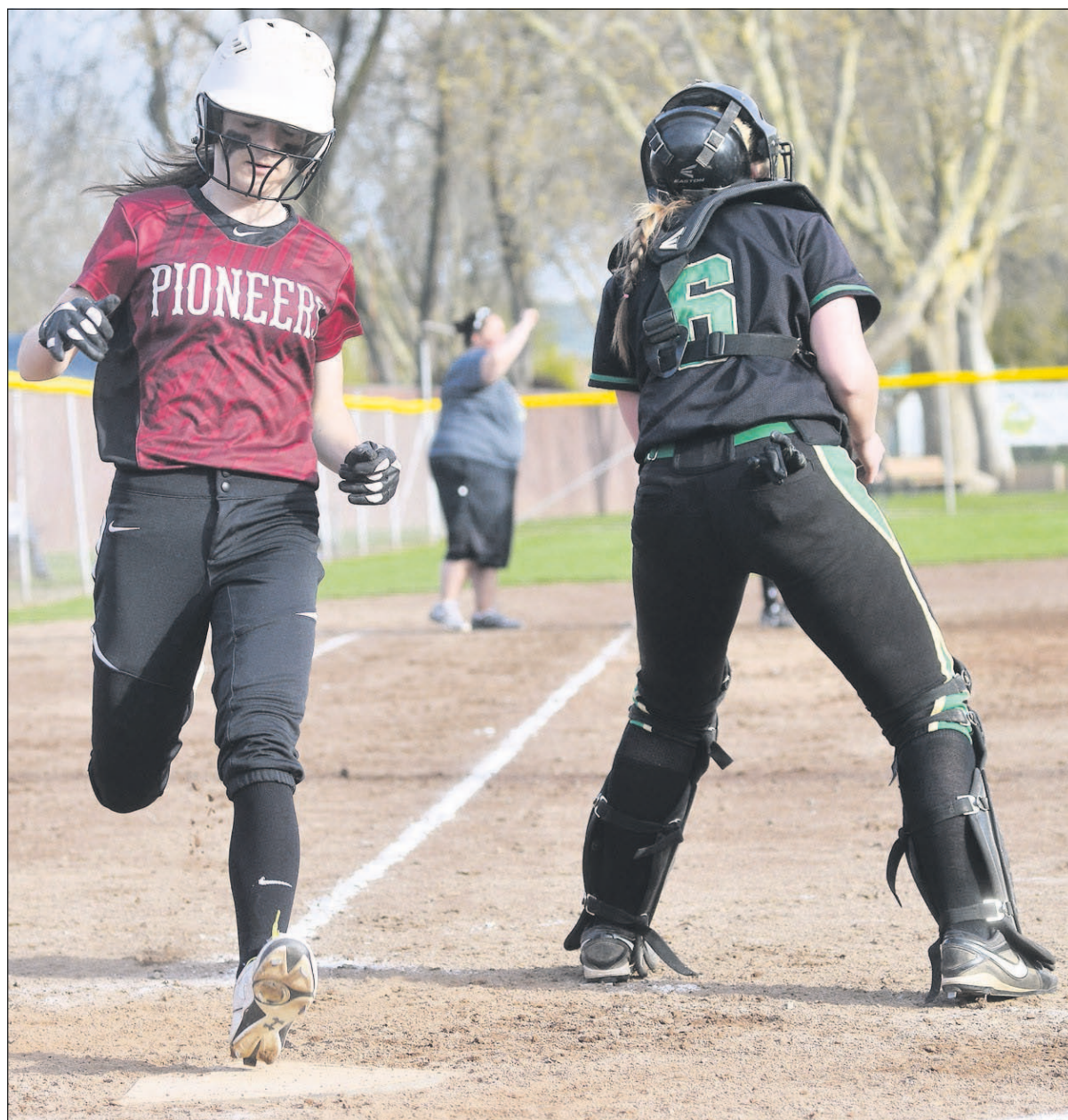


Pendleton's Wes Persinger shoots the ball over Hermiston's Keegan Crafton in the Bucks' 55-51 win against the Bulldogs this season in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

## MILTON-FREEWATER

# Mac-Hi mauls Pendleton



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Mac-Hi's Mika Fortune crosses home plate in front of Pendleton catcher Myka Weissenfluh in the Pioneers' 8-1 win against the Bucks on Tuesday in Milton-Freewater.

## Pioneers take clash of defending champs

By ERIK SKOPIL  
East Oregonian

The Pendleton and Mac-Hi softball teams share a common goal — repeat.

After each hoisted a state title trophy last June, the region's top programs aim to add to their trophy cases this spring.

On Tuesday the schools' received an early season progress report, meeting at Yantis Park for a non-league championship showcase.

Behind clutch hitting and the powerful left arm of senior ace Colette Robert, the Pioneers looked the part, sailing to an 8-1 victory over the Buckaroos.

Sophomore catcher Mallory Copeland smoked three balls to the outfield — including one over the center field fence for her first varsity homer. Robert cruised through the Buckaroo lineup, striking out six and allowing just four Bucks to reach base. The Pioneer defense didn't commit an error, and aided their star hurler with several high-light reel catches.

"This is huge. Our RPI ranking will go up and it's just nice to beat Pendleton. They usually beat us, and we never beat them like this," said Copeland.

For Pendleton the alarm bells have begun to ring. The loss is the fifth in six games and drops them to 4-6 on the year. It's uncharted waters for the Buckaroos, which have



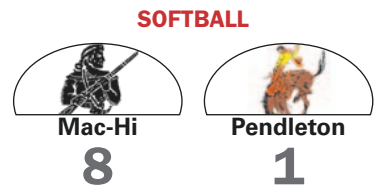
Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Mac-Hi pitcher Colette Robert throws from the pitching circle in the Pioneers' 8-1 win against Pendleton on Tuesday in Milton-Freewater.

long been an area powerhouse.

"We are without a doubt in unfamiliar territory right now," Pendleton coach Tim Cary said. "We had a little talk out there in right field. We can't let 4-6 get us down for the rest of the year. It's 10 games into a 26 game season."

Copeland drove in the first four Mac-Hi (8-1) runs and five total on the day. She found the gap in the first to plate Shannon Carter, and then lifted Pendleton starter Kier-



sten Murphy's third inning offering to deep center to give her team a 4-0 lead.

It was an unusual exhibition of power for Copeland, who was making a rare appearance as the cleanup hitter in place of her sister Stefanie Copeland.

"I was surprised, I'm not a power hitter," she said of her first career home run. "I'm usually the contact hits — go through the middle or something — hitter."

Pendleton responded with a Darian Lindsey triple in the top of the fourth. The senior third baseman reached home one batter later when Ellie Richards hit a hard ground ball to second base and Carter elected to get the out.

Mac-Hi added two more in the bottom of the fourth to kill any momentum gained, and added two more insurance runs in the sixth to complete the seven-run victory.

"It was just a great day for us," Mac-Hi coach Nicole Christian said. "They played really well. They came out strong, put the defense behind Colette and she did great on the mound."

See SOFTBALL/2B

## Prep Roundup

# Knights, 'Scots win on diamond

Local teams compete in non-league games

East Oregonian

IRRIGON — Austin Rice and Nate Verley shut Umatilla down from the mound and Alan Blackman and Fredy Vera paced the Irrigon Knights from the batter's box for a 12-2 five-inning win over the Vikings on Tuesday in non-league play.

Rice got the start and the win, leaving in the third

with an 8-0 lead. He allowed three hits, struck out three and walked none. Verley allowed both of Umatilla's runs in the third inning, but pitched a scoreless fourth before freshman Jonny Phillips needed just nine pitches to retired the side in the fifth.

Vera and Blackman were each 3 for 4 at the plate, and Blackman finished with four RBIs while Vera had two doubles and scored three times. Courtesy runner Adrian Roa scored four times.

Umatilla (0-8, 0-2) was held to three hits in its second run-rule loss of the season.

Umatilla will step back into league play on Friday in a doubleheader at Nyssa.

Irrigon opens league play on Saturday by hosting Weston-McEwen at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

IRRIGON 12, UMATILLA 2 (5 innings)		R	H	E		
UHS	002 00	—	2	2	3	4
IHS	351 03	—	12	12	3	4

Diego S. and Cory L. Austin Rice, Nate Verley (3), Jonny Phillips (5) and Alan Blackman. W — Rice. L — Diego S. 2B — Verley, Hayden White, Fredy Vera 2 (Irrigon)

## SHERMAN 11, HEPNER 1 (6 innings)

At Moro, the Huskies plated four runs in the bottom of the fourth inning to pull away from the Mustangs in a non-league baseball game on Tuesday.

Already ahead 2-0, Sherman (5-4) opened their fourth inning with a single, then a walk before back-to-back doubles by Treve Martin and Wyatt Stutzman scored three runners. A walk and a hit batsman loaded the bags and a sacrifice fly by Austin Kaseberg made it a 6-0 game.

Heppner (2-2) added its only run in the top of the fifth

See PREPS/2B