

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015

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1B

Sports shorts

NFL finds Patriots probably cheated

(AP) — Tom Brady: Unbelievable. The 243-report on “Deflategate” came out Wednesday and stopped barely short of calling the Patriots star quarterback a cheater. It did, however, call some of his claims “implausible” and left little doubt that he had a role in having footballs deflated before New England’s AFC title game against Indianapolis in January and probably in previous games.



In his report, attorney Ted Wells said the quarterback “was at least generally aware” of all the plans to prepare the balls to his liking, below the league-mandated minimum of 12.5 pounds per square inch. Wells said it was “more probable than not” that two Patriots employees — officials’ locker room attendant Jim McNally and equipment assistant John Jastremski — executed the plan.

Harper has a day

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bryce Harper homered three times in a game for the first time and had five RBIs in his finest day with the Nationals, leading Washington over the Miami Marlins 7-5 Wednesday for its third straight series win.

Harper hit a 393-foot solo shot in the second inning, a 442-foot, two-run drive in the third and a 445-foot bases-empty homer in the fifth, the last two reaching the second deck. Each came on the second pitch of the at-bat off Tom Koehler (2-3), and they raised Harper’s season total to eight.

With an opportunity to tie major league record of four homers in a game, Harper hit a run-scoring groundout to second base against Sam Dyson in the seventh.

“You see how fast (Chip Kelly) got rid of all the good players. Especially all the good black players. He got rid of them the fastest. But there’s a reason he got rid of all the black players the good ones like that.”

— LeSean McCoy

Buffalo Bills running back questioning the motivations of his former coach Chip Kelly of the Philadelphia Eagles in an interview with ESPN The Magazine. McCoy was traded to Buffalo during a busy offseason that saw the Eagles make several personnel changes. McCoy did not elaborate on what he thought Kelly’s reasons were.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1972 — The Los Angeles Lakers win their first NBA championship with a 114-100 victory over the New York Knicks in Game 5.

2005 — Giacomo, a 50-1 shot, defies the odds and wins the Kentucky Derby in a gigantic upset, running down a game Afleet Alex in the final strides and generating a huge payoff. Closing Argument, a 70-1 shot, finishes second with Afleet Alex third.

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

IRRIGON

Knights make historic signatures

Romero and Landeros become first Irrigon players to ink for hoops

By ERIK SKOPIL
East Oregonian

The names Adrian Romero and Anthony Landeros will always be linked together. The Irrigon basketball standouts brought unmatched on-court prosperity to the school, winning two state titles, three state Player of

the Year honors, all while posting a nearly unblemished 81-4 record in three seasons as starters.

On Tuesday they put ink to paper to finally separate from each other, but in doing so added the latest and perhaps final thread in the pair’s incomparable legacy. Before friends and family, Romero signed to play basketball at Lewis and Clark, Landeros with Blue Mountain Community College. The signatures make the duo the first Knights to sign to play collegiate basketball.

“It’s awesome that good players can come

See KNIGHTS/2B

“I remember being in eighth grade people saying that you couldn’t do it. I just took it as a challenge.”

— Adrian Romero,

Irrigon High School senior on signing with a college basketball program. He and classmate Anthony Landeros will be the first Irrigon basketball players to compete collegiately.

PENDLETON

Yaks put down Timberwolves

Blue Mountain second baseman Dillon Porter loses his grip while transferring the ball on Wednesday in the Timberwolves’ 9-2 loss to Yakima in the second game of a NWAC baseball doubleheader in Pendleton.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

BMCC heads into final doubleheader

East Oregonian

Yakima Valley swept Blue Mountain in both school’s penultimate league series. The Yaks broke open the opener with a two-run fourth to win 3-1 and then scored five in the final three innings to cruise past the host school 9-2 in the night cap.

The losses drop the Timberwolves (13-29) to 5-21 in NWAC East Region play with Saturday’s Big Bend all that remains on the season.

Blue Mountain struck first in the opener, when Nolan Weber sped home from third when Darrian Simons missed catcher’s Ty Early’s glove in the first inning. Simons recovered for seven shutout innings and Tylan Corder came in to close out. Lavon Ferguson hit a two-run single in the fourth to create the Yak (23-17, 12-14) lead.

Blue Mountain trailed 4-2 after four innings in the second game, when starter Jonathan Boyer and relievers Brock Breshears and Jason Almaguer unraveled to allow five runs in the closing innings in the defeat.

The Timberwolves finished with just nine hits in the two games. Weber, Omar Godina and Dillon Porter each turned in two-hits days.

Costly fielding errors made matters difficult for BMCC. The second game saw them commit five errors, leading to three unearned YVCC runs. They made one in game one.

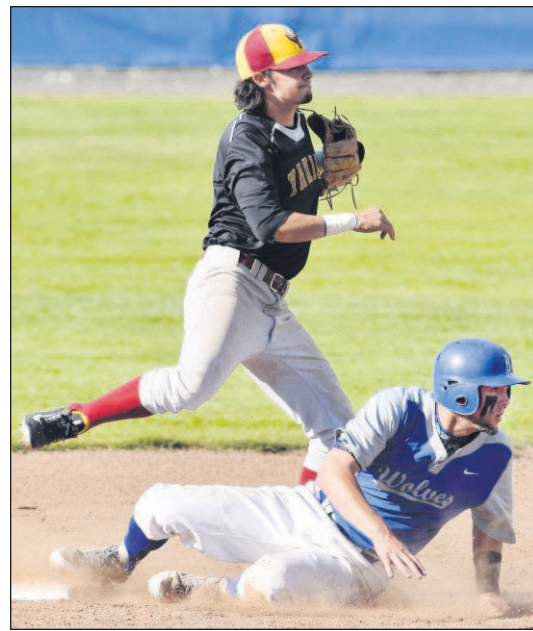
Blue Mountain and Big Bend play a two-game series Saturday at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. in Pendleton.

BASEBALL

Yakima Valley	Blue Mtn
3-9	1-2

BELOW: Blue Mountain’s Tyson Wicklander puts the tag on Yakima’s Ty Early on Wednesday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

BMCC’s Brennan Serrano looks back to first base after trying to break up the throw from Yakima’s Von Ferguson on Wednesday in Pendleton.



YAKIMA VALLEY 3, BLUE MOUNTAIN 1		Game one		R	H	E
YVCC	001200	000	—	3	7	1
BMCC	100000	000	—	1	3	1

D. Simons, T. Corder (9) and T. Early. E. Purcell, T. Wicklander (8) and A. Iris. W — D. Simons. L — E. Purcell. S — T. Corder.
2B — C. Anderson (YVCC); N. Weber (BMCC).

YAKIMA VALLEY 9, BLUE MOUNTAIN 2		Game two		R	H	E
YVCC	010030	221	—	9	14	2
BMCC	001010	000	—	2	6	5

K. Fitzpatrick, C. Richter (9) and T. Early. J. Boyer, B. Breshears (7), J. Almaguer (9) and A. Iris. W — K. Fitzpatrick. L — J. Boyer.
2B — A. Chaney (YVCC). 3B — K. Bailey (YVCC); O. Godina (BMCC).

Prep Tennis

Snell, Wadekamper making strides for Bulldogs

Hermiston tennis players gelling with districts looming

EO Media Group

HERMISTON — Jacob Snell and Tyler Wadekamper are two weeks into a transition from top Hermiston singles players to a doubles pairing.

So far, so good. The pair cruised past their Hood River opponents in the top doubles tilt Wednesday evening 6-2, 6-0. “I think it’s really good right now, we’re kind of knocking it out right now heading into districts,” Wadekamper said. “I think we’ve learned a lot going down to Boise, going down to Bend (tournaments). We’ve grown a lot as teammates and I think it’s going to be really good going into districts.”

Despite the duo’s success, Hood River Valley took the day, winning the Columbia River Conference duel 5-3 Wednesday.

The pair of seniors has crafted their own style of play almost



Sam Barbee photo

Hermiston senior Tyler Wadekamper slides to return a backhand during the second set of a 6-2, 6-0 No. 1 doubles match Wednesday evening against Hood River Valley.

independent of first-year coach Shann West, who admitted doubles tennis is his weakness. He’s been impressed with how Snell and

Wadekamper figured out how to play together.

“Those guys are smart tennis players and they understand the

game,” West said. “They play a lot and study it and they’re coming up with their own style based on what they know and what works for them, and that’s awesome.”

Race Latham and Cameron Meade struggled to put away the No. 2 doubles match. Up 1-0 in sets and 4-1 in the second set, Latham and Meade let their Eagles opponent back in the match. The second set would get to 6-5 before a double fault by HRV ended the match.

Hood River swept the Bulldogs in singles matches.

With the district tournament looming, West is optimistic about his team’s chances. The Bulldogs share a district with traditional tennis powers Summit and Bend.

“We’re as prepared as we’ll ever be,” West said of districts. “Hopefully the guys will show up and play like they can.”

Hermiston heads to Pendleton Friday for its final dual match of the year. Play begins at 4 p.m.

HOOD RIVER VALLEY 5, HERMISTON 3		SINGLES				
HRV	010000	000	—	5	10	3
HHS	000000	000	—	3	6	3

Scottie Ziegnev (HRV) def. Valentino Whitsell (HHS) 6-0, 6-0; Victor Garbo (HRV) def. Skyler Grigg 6-3, 6-0; Will Ferrick (HRV) def. Caleb Jorgenson (HHS) 6-4, 6-4; Aiden Sova (HRV) def. Thomas McCullough

See TENNIS/2B