

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

WEEKEND, MAY 30-31, 2015

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Sports shorts

So far, so very good for Federer at French Open

PARIS (AP) — One of Roger Federer's 5-year-old twin daughters had her nose buried in a comic book. The other was glued to a mobile phone. Shame, really, that they didn't look up, because the tennis their father wove on the French Open center court verged on art.

The canvas for Federer's strokes, the backhand as smooth as a cat's paw and the forehand with crackle and pop, was Damir Dzumhur. The 23-year-old, the first Bosnian man to play at a major tournament, idolizes the 17-time Grand Slam champion. He had to pinch himself as they warmed up for their match.

"Strange feeling," Dzumhur said later. "Like I'm dreaming."

But Federer hitting this well: nightmare. He gave Dzumhur just 1 hour, 29 minutes of his time. The 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 win put Federer into the last 16 for the 11th consecutive year.

Belichick, Brady claim business as usual

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — Coach Bill Belichick shed little light Friday in his first public remarks since the report use of deflated footballs.

He avoided direct answers to most of the 10 questions he was asked about Tom Brady, backup quarterback

Jimmy Garoppolo and how the team was handling the fallout from the investigation.

Brady, who is appealing his four-game suspension, did not speak with reporters after New England's organized team activity or at a charity event Friday night.

A person familiar with the situation said Brady's appeal will be heard June 23. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the date hasn't been officially announced.

"Well, the same way you slow me down. You can't."

— **LeBron James**
Cleveland Cavaliers forward on what it takes to slow down Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry. The Cavaliers and Warriors will meet in the NBA Finals. Game 1 is on Thursday, June 4.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1911 — Ray Harroun wins the first Indianapolis 500 in 6 hours, 42 minutes, 8 seconds with an average speed of 74.59 mph.

1912 — Joe Dawson wins the second Indianapolis 500 in 6:21:06. Ralph Mulford is told he has to complete the race for 10th place money. It takes him 8 hours and 53 minutes as he makes several stops for fried chicken. The finishing rule is changed the next year.

1951 — Lee Wallard wins the Indianapolis 500, becoming the first driver to break the 4-hour mark with a time of 3:57:38.05.

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

PENDLETON

Bucks stay hot, pull second state upset

Pendleton into semifinal round for first time since 2011

East Oregonian

CORVALLIS — Pendleton might as well extend its city limits 300 miles west.

For the second time in three days the fourteenth-seeded Buckaroos took down a Corvallis-area school, this time putting down sixth-seeded Crescent Valley 8-3 in a Class 5A quarterfinal game victory.

The win earns Pendleton (14-14), which owned a below .500 record entering postseason play, its first state semifinal

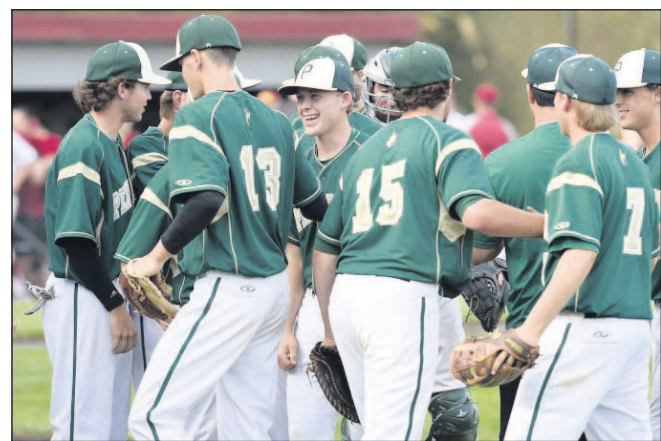
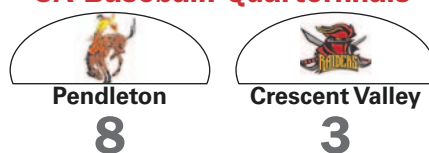
appearance since 2011.

"I think we flat-out under-achieved to start the season," Pendleton coach Greg Whitten said. "This is how I thought we'd play coming into the season. My kids are playing with a new-found confidence. They're just relaxed. They're peaking at the perfect time."

Brady Smith held down the Raider (20-9) lineup through six innings and the

See PHS BASEBALL/2B

5A Baseball: Quarterfinals



Andy Cripe photo, Courtesy of Corvallis Gazette-Times
The Pendleton Buckaroos celebrate after they defeated Crescent Valley 8-3 on Friday.

PENDLETON

Bucks have all the answers



Staff photo by E.J. Harris
The Pendleton softball team greets Tiah Grass at home plate after she hit a solo home run in the bottom of the sixth inning of the Bucks' 10-6 win against Liberty on Friday in Pendleton.

Pendleton holds off Liberty with late power surge

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

Class 5A: Quarterfinals



The Pendleton Buckaroos continued their run as star pupils of the Class 5A softball playoffs on Friday, and came up with all the right answers to defeat Liberty 10-6 at Steve Cary Field.

It's the second year in a row the Buckaroos have sent the Falcons into the offseason, but they didn't go quietly, and pulled within 7-6 of the defending state champs when Paige Smotherman laced a grand slam home run over the wall in left field in the top of the sixth inning.

"(Liberty coach) Nolan Meeuwesen comes here ready to play, he has his group ready to play hard every single year," said Pendleton coach Tim Cary. "He does a great

job preparing his players and they never quit. ... They have a great fight, and it's always a great game every time we play Liberty."

But like they had when Liberty took a 1-0 lead to start the game, the Bucks answered right away.

With one out and one on in the bottom of the sixth, Alexis Morrison hit a two-run homer to dead center, then Tiah Grass followed with a solo shot to left field that gave the game its final score.

"I think it's definitely one of our

strengths, not getting down, trying to be upbeat as possible," Morrison said.

For both players, the big finish came after three frustrating plate appearances and were their only hits of the game.

"I feel like my approach was more relaxed (in the sixth). Softball is really just a really, really mental game and sometimes thinking too hard puts you in a bad spot," said Morrison, who had struck out three times before hitting her eighth moon shot of the season. "(I was) just thinking too hard, trying to muscle it too much. Thinking the harder I swing the harder I'll hit the ball."

Grass said the key to ending her string of pop-ups was all between

See PHS SOFTBALL/2B

MILTON-FREEWATER

Robert thrives in heat, Mac-Hi advances

Pioneer ace sends 11 down in two-hitter

By ERIK SKOPIK
East Oregonian

MILTON-FREEWATER — With the number on the thermometer inching towards triple digits, Colette Robert felt right at home.

"I throw way better in the heat," Mac-Hi's pitching ace said. "That's why I chose

4A Softball: Quarterfinals



a desert school (New Mexico) for college."

The searing heat kept the state's top left hurling arm plenty warm. This spelled

danger for tenth-seeded Douglas and its upset bid against the second-seeded Pioneers. Robert shut down the Trojan offense, facing just two over the minimum, to help the Pioneers overcome a subpar day at the dish in their 4-0 Class 4A quarterfinal win Friday.

See MAC-HI/3B

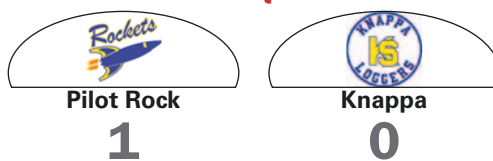
PILOT ROCK

Pilot Rock edges by Knappa

Senior Bailey Weinke wins it with walk-off walk

By SAM BARBEE
EO Media Group

3A Softball: Quarterfinals



In the fourth inning of the Pilot Rock softball team's quarterfinal game against Knappa, the Loggers were in position to take control of a scoreless game. Facing Tehya Ostrom, they strung together three hits off the hard-throwing Ostrom and had just one out.

But Ostrom reached inside and found a little extra, knocking down a hard-hit comebacker to get the out at home and coaxed a weak dribbler back to the circle for an easy out at first, holding the Loggers without a run. Shortly after, Bailey Weinke walked with the bases loaded to drive in Jacey Wilson to give Pilot Rock a tightly-contested 1-0 quarterfinal win in the 2A/1A state playoffs.

Pilot Rock (24-2) moves on to the semi-finals and will face either Central Linn on Tuesday. The game will be played at the home site of the higher ranked team.

Pilot Rock scattered just three hits, two of which came in the bottom of the seventh. Ostrom finished with a complete game shutout, allowed eight hits, struck out nine Loggers and walked

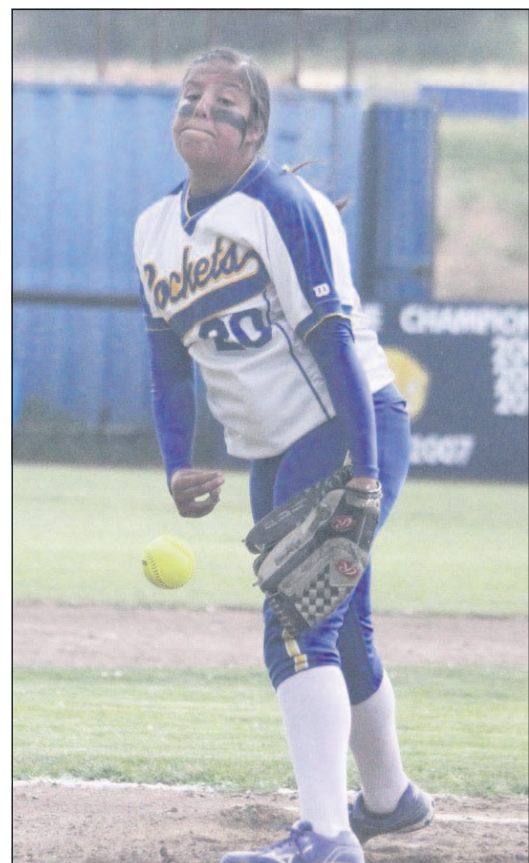
none. Knappa's Kacie Cameron was just as good, allowing the one run, though it was unearned, on just three hits, three walks and struck out ten Rockets.

"I knew we were going to have to find a way to manufacture runs," Rockets head coach Darin Fitzpatrick said. "They have a really good pitcher and, sadly, we haven't seen good pitching since the Athena game a couple weeks ago. So I knew it was going to be tough. Our timing was going to be off, and we needed to find a way to manufacture runs. It was a struggle to do that today."

Most of it had to do with Cameron. Pilot Rock had seen Cameron before, both this season and last, so they knew what they were up against. But that didn't help much. Rocket leadoff batter Bekkah Roe started with a single in the first, stole second and moved to third on an error, but was stranded when Cameron did some wiggling of her own.

For six innings, Cameron and Ostrom

See PILOT ROCK/3B



Sam Barbee photo
Pilot Rock sophomore Tehya Ostrom comes home with a delivery during the Rockets' 1-0 quarterfinal win over the Knappa Loggers Friday evening. Ostrom tossed a complete game shutout and struck out nine.