

Sports shorts

Blazers sign Dominican guard

PORTLAND — The Portland Trail Blazers have signed guard Luis Montero, it was announced Monday by President of Basketball Operations Neil Olshey.

Montero, 22, worked out for the Trail Blazers prior to the NBA Draft and is on the team's 2015 NBA Summer League roster.

Playing for Westchester Community College in 2013-14, Montero averaged 15.6 points (52.9% FG, 43.7% 3-PT, 67.2% FT), 5.9 rebounds and 3.0 assists.

A native of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, Montero (6-7, 185) played high school basketball at Wilbraham & Monson Academy in Massachusetts.



Djokovic, Williams bust a move

LONDON (AP) — After winning titles again on Wimbledon's grass, Novak Djokovic and Serena Williams showed they can cut a rug, too.

Reviving a bygone tradition, Djokovic and Williams busted a move at the Grand Slam tournament's annual champions' dinner, dancing together to "Night Fever," the Bee Gees' disco hit from the 1977 movie "Saturday Night Fever" that starred John Travolta.

"I was very pleased," Djokovic said at a news conference at the All England Club on Monday, a day after beating Roger Federer in the final to collect his third Wimbledon title and ninth at a major. "Serena is a great dancer."

Williams, who won her sixth Wimbledon trophy and 21st at a major on Saturday, tweeted a link to a photo of her and Djokovic at the dinner, and wrote Monday: "congrats @DjokerNole we brought back the dance!"

FACES



Djokovic



Williams

"It's like me walking into a football rules meeting and saying, 'I can make your game much, much safer. Just get rid of tackling.'"

— Dawn Comstock
Epidemiologist with the Colorado School of Public Health in response to the push to ban headers for soccer players 14 and younger to reduce the number of head injuries. Comstock was part of a team that studied a decade's worth of data on what causes head injuries in soccer, and believes rough play is more at fault.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS
1968 — Hank Aaron hits his 500th home run off Mike McCormick, and the Atlanta Braves beat the San Francisco Giants 4-2.
1985 — The Baltimore Stars defeat the Oakland Invaders 28-24 to win the United States Football League championship.

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

PILOT ROCK

Pilot Rock retains softball crown

Little League all-stars defend state title

East Oregonian

Pilot Rock is celebrating its second softball state title in less than two months after a pair of dominant wins over the weekend.

Tournament host Pilot Rock defeated Mt. Hood on Saturday

16-0 in five innings, then won the Little League senior softball state title 15-0 over OR/CAL (Bonanza) in five innings on Sunday.

The team features many of the same players that took the field for Pilot Rock's OSAA 2A/1A state title back in June, and it's the third year in a row Pilot Rock has won the Little League state title.

Manager Butch Wilson said all but three players return from last season's team that finished fourth at the Western Regionals, which will be held in Missoula, Montana

starting on July 24.

While the competition will be much higher in Montana, Wilson said this past weekend's performance should give the team plenty of positive vibes as they begin fund raising for the trip to regionals.

Pilot Rock's pitchers combined to throw two no-hitters. Tehya Ostrom contributed eight innings of perfection with 14 strikeouts and no walks, and Ellie Lankford finished off the championship with two strikeouts and no walks in two innings.

Rachel Willingham led Pilot

Rock's hitters, going 5 for 5 on the weekend. Kayla Deist (4 for 6) and Jacey Wilson (4 for 7) also batted for average, Rhyanne Oates (5 for 8) and Vicki Walker hit doubles, Ostrom (4 for 7) hit a triple, and Sarah Weinke (4 for 8) belted two doubles and one triple.

The team will need help funding its trip to Montana, and will hold its first fundraiser on Friday with a car wash in Pilot Rock starting at noon. A spaghetti feed also is in the works for Sunday evening, but final details were not available at press time.

PENDLETON

Swimmers stretch for standards

Pendleton wraps regular season with home meet

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

Pendleton Aquatic Center was even busier than usual over the weekend with the 49th annual Pendleton Open taking over the lanes in the big pool.

The home meet for Pendleton Swim Association (PSA), the Open also serves as the last chance for swimmers to qualify for the Inland Empire Championships.

First-year PSA head coach Tony Nelson said he could see the urgency in the pool, and five swimmers were able to hit their qualifying times in Pendleton to bring the team's qualifier total to 21. Sixteen had already qualified at earlier events.

"The one thing about swimming, you get out of your meets what you put in in practice," he said. "We practice two hours every morning and then a lot of them come back and swim with me at night, so we basically have two-a-days a lot. And as hard as they put in practice, they see it in meets."

Landry Huth, Bethany VanCleave and Kyndra Nelson were three to see their event list at champs grow over the weekend, and each girl has qualified in 10 events.

Matthew Larson and Isaac Urbina also added championship qualifications, but even those that swam in their final meet of the summer were showing improvement.

"They've been doing really good. Almost all of them have dropped time and I haven't seen that many



Staff photo by Matt Entrup

Swimmers leave the block at the start of the boys 15 and over 100-meter freestyle at the Pendleton Open swim meet on Saturday.

gains," said swimmer/coach Layton Kirsch, who qualified for champs in nine events in the 15 and over age group.

While his teammates were looking to reach their regional championship in Spokane, Washington, in two weeks, swimmer/coach Jon Jennings had his sights set on another qualifying time for the Western Zone Senior Championships in Clovis, California.

He'd already hit his time standards in 100-meter backstroke and 50 freestyle, and was looking to add the 100 freestyle.

See SWIMMERS/2B



Swimmers leave the blocks at the start of the boys 15 and over 100-meter backstroke at the Pendleton Open on Saturday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by Matt Entrup

MLB

Reds' Frazier wins home run derby

Cincinnati slugger edges Dodgers' Pederson

By JOE KAY
Associated Press

CINCINNATI — "The Toddfather" has a new title. Todd Frazier — Little League World Series star, Frank Sinatra aficionado — is baseball's new King of Swing.

The Jersey boy who never seems to get rattled waited until his very last swing — three times, no less — to win the All-Star Home Run Derby in his home ballpark on Monday night.

Pressure? Sure didn't show it.

The Reds third baseman became only the second player to win the long-ball competition on his home field Monday night, topping Dodgers rookie Joc Pederson 15-14 with another late surge and one last perfectly timed swing.

"No pressure here with these fans," he said, after accepting the crossed-bats trophy to one more standing ovation at Great American Ball Park.

Frazier joined the Cubs' Ryne Sandberg for home-field homer titles — the Hall of Fame second baseman did it at Wrigley Field in 1990. After finishing second last year in Minneapolis, this one was as sweet as that winning swing.

"That pushed me a lot,"



AP Photo/John Minchillo

National League's Todd Frazier, of the Cincinnati Reds, hits in the final round of the MLB All-Star baseball Home Run Derby, Monday, July 13, 2015, in Cincinnati.

Frazier said. "I wanted to get back here. I'd been working in the offseason a little bit. I'm just glad it was in Cincinnati and they could enjoy it with me."

Pederson was trying to become the first rookie since Wally Joyner in 1986 to win or share the title. He reached the final round by knocking off Albert Pujols, who provided a blast after making the All-Star team for the first time in five years.

"I'm happy for Todd, especially being able to do it in front of his fans," Pujols said. "It's his night. He deserves it. I just hope the fans were pleased and happy with the performance every

single guy did. The right guy won, too."

Frazier topped Prince Fielder and Josh Donaldson to reach the finals, where he faced his biggest test. Pederson went first and matched the highest total of the night with 14 homers. Frazier needed a late surge to pull even, tying him with 11 seconds left in his round.

He'd hit enough long homers to earn an extra 30 seconds, giving him a chance to take a few deep breaths, regroup and refocus.

On the first pitch from brother Charlie in extra time, Frazier puffed his cheeks and exhaled

See DERBY/2B

Rodeo

Currin gets locals started

East Oregonian

ROCK SPRINGS, Wyo. — Only one local has come out of the gates at the 67th annual National High School Finals Rodeo through two performances.

Heppner's Kolby Currin competed in Sunday's edition of steer wrestling and placed fourth in the performance with a time of 24.26 seconds.

He's 13th overall in Round 1, and California's Jacob Bairos leads with a 6.12 that won Monday's performance.

Other event leaders are: bareback rider Wyatt Johnson of Utah, 77; breakaway roper Bailey Livengood of North Carolina, 2.45; goat tyer Morgan Williams of Missouri, 7.15; tie-down roper Nolan Richie of South Dakota, 8.44; saddle bronc rider Colin Dibbern of Nebraska, 71; pole bender Celie Salmond of Montana, 20.093; team ropers Cooper Martin and Bo Yaussi of Kansas, 6.9; barrel racer Ali Armstrong of Oklahoma, 17.243; bull rider Tristan Mize of Texas, 85; cow cutters J.D. Reed of Texas (146) and Morgan Matte of Louisiana (148); and Katie Duncan of Ellensburg, Washington, in reined cow horse (297).

California leads the boys team standings, but Utah is off to a fast start in the combined team scores and is in first place with 2,040 points. Idaho is second with 1,460.

The rodeo will continue through Saturday, with the top 20 in each event through two rounds earning a spot in Saturday evening's final round.