

Sports shorts

Americans use late surge to beat Panama

COMMERCE CITY, Colo. (AP) — Sluggish in the first half, the Americans needed some kind of catalyst.

So the team called on Jerome Kiesewetter and Jordan Morris, ending their nights off.

Kiesewetter sparked the offense with a goal and an assist in the second half, and the United States beat Panama 4-0 in CONCACAF Olympic qualifying on a rainy Tuesday.



Already through to the semifinal round, the Americans didn't have much to play for and rested several of their starters.

Next up for the U.S. is an important game Saturday in Sandy, Utah, where the semifinal winners automatically qualify for the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro next summer.

NHL season kicks off as Rangers beat Blackhawks

CHICAGO (AP) — Oscar Lindberg, Kevin Klein and Derek Stepan scored in the first period, and the New York Rangers ruined Chicago's Stanley Cup party with a 3-2 victory over the Blackhawks on Wednesday on the first night of the NHL season.

J.T. Miller had two assists and Henrik Lundqvist made 32 saves for New York.

Cheered on by a sellout crowd of 22,104, with many dressed in their usual red jerseys, the Blackhawks raised the banner for the franchise's sixth NHL title during a colorful pregame ceremony. Fluorescent balls bounced around the seats and LED wristbands for the fans provided a synchronized lightshow during player introductions and highlight presentations.

Corey Crawford made 24 stops in goal for Chicago.



"I don't play for job security. Whether football is here or not, I will be fine. I go out; I play to win."

—Colin Kaepernick
San Francisco 49ers quarterback responding to the growing restlessness amongst 49er fans about the lackluster performance the quarterback has put forth this season. Kaepernick has struggled immensely in recent weeks completing just 22 of his last 44 passes with zero touchdowns and five interceptions and two pick-sixes. His total QBR of 38.6 places him as the 27th best quarterback in the NFL.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1933 — Cliff Battles of the Boston Redskins becomes the first NFL player to gain more than 200 yards rushing with 215 yards in a 21-20 win over the New York Giants.

1956 — Don Larsen of the New York Yankees pitches the only perfect game in World Series history, a 2-0 triumph over Brooklyn.

1993 — The Anaheim Mighty Ducks, before 17,174 at the Arrowhead Pond, lose 7-2 to the Detroit Red Wings in their first NHL game.

Prep Football

Knights, Tigers prepare for defensive battle

Connections run deep in meeting of unbeaten teams

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

The Irrigon Knights and Stanfield Tigers know what is at stake when the two undefeated Columbia Basin Conference squads square up in Irrigon on Friday night.

Although it's just the second league game, both teams feel a win will go a long way toward securing their goal of a playoff berth — of which the CBC gets two this season.

First-year Stanfield head coach Davy Salas said they can't go into their 7 p.m. kickoff thinking about the big-picture ramifications, however.

"I told my kids this week," he started, "Irrigon is a team that's in our way

from getting where we need to go and you can't take (the game) for anything more than that. We can't let any (team) get by us because the league's tough. That week that you lose focus could be the week you lose your playoff season."

Salas is doing everything he can to keep his players focused on the X's and O's, a job that's a little tougher this week considering all the connections between

See PREP FOOTBALL/2B



Irrigon's Freddy Vera (21) tries to hurdle Enterprise's Clayne Miller (21) with teammate Daniel Vera (29) close by during Irrigon's 53-0 win over the Outlaws on Friday, Sep. 11, 2015 in Hermiston. Vera scored on the play.

Staff photo by Sam Barbee

MILTON-FREEWATER



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Mac-Hi's Esmeralda Pedroza splits Pendleton defenders Madison Drake (4) and Alexis Parker in the Pioneer's 1-1 toe with the Bucks on Wednesday in Milton-Freewater.

Pios battle Bucks to draw

Both teams struggle to find offensive rhythm

East Oregonian

Wednesday's game between the Mac-Hi Pioneers and the Pendleton Buckaroos was a tale of two halves.

In the first half, the Pioneers dominated every facet of the game except for the scoreboard as both teams went to halftime tied at 0-0.

"Our passing was great and we had some great runs," said Pioneers coach Martin

See GIRLS SOCCER/3B

Girls Soccer

Mac-Hi

1

Pendleton

1



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Mac-Hi's Kaitlyn Slusarenko collides with Pendleton's Samantha Parker in the Pioneer's 1-1 toe with the Bucks on Wednesday in Milton-Freewater.

PENDLETON

Pendleton still searching for consistency



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pendleton's Kai Quinn attempts to elude Ridgeview's Bryce Barker (63) and Chris Steffey in the Bucks' loss to the Ravens on Friday, Oct. 2, 2015 in Pendleton.

Injuries and lagging play hampering Bucks progression

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

In almost all of Pendleton Buckaroos coach Erik Davis' post-practice or post-game interviews, one term has appeared every time: consistency.

Davis and the Bucks (2-3) have tried and tried to find consistency among the team, but now five weeks into the season, the Bucks are still searching.

"We're kind of without an identity right now," said Davis. "Going into the season I thought we had a pretty good idea to what it would be but with changes in personnel and

See PENDLETON/3B

HERMISTON

Winless teams meet at Kennison

Hermiston without starting QB against struggling Sandy

By SAM BARBEE
East Oregonian

As the weeks tick away, the Hermiston Bulldogs are running out of time to win a football game. Five weeks — more than half the regular season — have come and gone without the Bulldogs (0-5) emerging victorious, just one season after going 12-1 and winning its first state championship.

But as Hermiston's murderer's row schedule has completed and league play starts next week, the Bulldogs might have their best shot at a win when the

See HERMISTON/3B

Sandy Pioneers (0-5)

Hermiston Bulldogs (0-5)

- Friday, 7 p.m.
- at Kennison Field
- Radio: KOHU 1360 AM

MLB

Chicago silences Pittsburgh

Cubs win NL wild card game

By WILL GRAVES
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Maybe it's time to stop treating the Chicago Cubs like they're too young to be here.

The stage they seemingly weren't ready for now seems hardly big enough to contain them. Not with Jake Arrieta dealing. Not with a group of 20-some-things in the field that play with swagger and confidence. Not with a manager adept at keeping the minds of his rapidly maturing team decidedly clutter-free.

Watch out baseball, the Cubs — yes, the Cubs — are ahead of schedule. And the timetable only seems to be picking up speed for Joe Maddon's bunch.

Arrieta allowed four hits in nine dominant innings and Chicago rolled to a 4-0 win over the Pittsburgh Pirates

See MLB/3B

NL Wild Card

Chicago

4

Pittsburgh

0