

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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Sports shorts

Blue Jays ban beer cans in upper deck

TORONTO (AP) — The Toronto Blue Jays have banned selling beer cans in the upper deck at the AL Championship Series after fans threw them on the field during a ruckus earlier in the playoffs.



Starting Monday night at Game 3 between Toronto and Kansas City, beer will be poured into plastic cups in the upper deck at Rogers Centre.

The Blue Jays made the change after some fans reacted to a ruling on a bizarre play in the seventh inning of Game 5 in the Division Series against Texas by pelting the field with cans.

Mario Coutinho, vice president of stadium operations and security, said that the new policy for beer sales was the only change made for the ALCS.

Tigers pitcher played with cancerous growth

DETROIT (AP) — Tigers left-hander Daniel Norris says he kept pitching last season after finding out he had a cancerous growth on his thyroid.

In a message on Twitter and Instagram on Monday, the 22-year-old Norris said he found out the growth was malignant but was told by

a doctor that he could wait until the end of the season to have it removed.

Norris says now: "It's time to get this thing out."

Norris was traded from Toronto to Detroit in late July in the deal that sent David Price to the Blue Jays. Al Avila, who was promoted to replace Dave Dombrowski as Detroit's general manager shortly after the trade deadline, says the Tigers knew about Norris' condition when they acquired him and expect him to recover in full.

"It's very frustrating, especially when you know we had them. We don't (stink). We know who we are. We're not finishing."

— **Earl Thomas**
Seattle Seahawks safety remarking on his teams inability to hold yet another fourth quarter lead on Sunday at home against the Carolina Panthers. The Seahawks, who have been known for their stout defense in recent years, fell to 2-4 with the loss and their second-straight blow fourth quarter lead.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1984 — Rueben Mayes of Washington State rushes for 216 yards and scores four touchdowns to overcome a 28-7 halftime deficit and lead the Cougars to a 49-42 victory over Stanford.

1990 — The Cincinnati Reds complete one of the biggest upsets in baseball history, beating the Oakland Athletics 2-1 to win the World Series in four games.

2004 — Just three outs from getting swept in the AL Championship Series three nights earlier, the Boston Red Sox finally beat the New York Yankees, winning Game 7 in a 10-3 shocker.

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

Saturday Prep Roundup

Cardinals finish strong on senior day

Ione finishes season tied for first in Big Sky

East Oregonian

IONE — On Saturday afternoon, the Ione Cardinals finished up their regular season by sweeping matches against Sherman and South Wasco on senior day.

Against Sherman, the Cardinals (17-6, 12-1) won with scores of 25-5, 25-18, and 25-14.

Later against South Wasco, the Cardinals won with scores of 25-16, 25-14, and 25-20.

Rachel Holland and Jessie Flynn led the way offensively on Saturday

as they both smacked 21 kills each. Holland also added eight blocks.

"We played really well," said Cardinals coach Brandi Orem. "We kept up the intensity for our last home games."

The Cardinals finish up its season next Saturday in the Big Sky Tournament hosted at The Dalles.

ARLINGTON HONKERS — At Ione, the Honkers split a pair of Saturday matches, defeating Sherman 3-0 and losing to South Wasco 3-1.

No set scores were reported.

The Honkers end the regular season 11-12 overall and 8-6 in the Big Sky League and will now

prepare for the district tournament next Saturday.

CONDON/WHEELER KNIGHTS — At Dufur, the Knights fell to Dufur on Saturday with a 3-1 score.

The Knights (10-12, 8-5) won the third set 25-15, but fell to Dufur with scores of 25-15, 26-24 and 25-22.

Condon/Wheeler also played South Wasco at Dufur on Saturday, and won 3-0. The Knights won with scores of 25-15, 25-21, and 26-24.

No other details were reported.

The Knights finish their regular season on Tuesday when they play Mitchell/Spray in Fossil at 5 p.m.

ECHO 3, PINE EAGLE 1 — At Pine Eagle, the Echo Cougars finished the regular season on a positive note with a 3-1 win over Pine Eagle.

Echo (15-7, 8-4) won with scores of 25-12, 25-18, and 25-18. Pine Eagle won the second set 25-23.

No other details were reported.

The Cougars next prepare for the Old Oregon League tournament next Saturday in La Grande.

POWDER VALLEY 3, NIXYA-AAWII 0 — At Powder Valley, the Nixyaawii Golden Eagles concluded its regular season slate with a 3-0 loss to Powder Valley.

See PREPS/2B

PENDLETON

Buckaroos outlast Bulldogs



Pendleton's Haley Greb spikes the ball into the block of Hermiston's Kynzee Padilla in the Bucks' win against the Bulldogs on Monday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pendleton rides emotion to home finale win over Hermiston

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

It is no secret that the 2015 season has been a tough one for the Pendleton Buckaroos.

After starting the season 2-1, the Buckaroos won only three of their next 15 games with an eight-game losing streak included.

But on Monday night on their home court and on senior night, the Buckaroos outlasted their rival Hermiston Bulldogs for an emotional 3-1 victory.

"This season was tough, you can't deny it, but to have a win like this tops it all," said Bucks senior Mori Yoshioka.

The Buckaroos (6-12, 2-7 CRC) were riding plenty of emotion into the start of the match, jumping out to a quick 11-4 lead to force a Hermiston timeout. But as they have all season, the Bulldogs (5-11, 1-8) battled back to close the deficit to 22-19.

However, the Buckaroos were able to finish off the Bulldogs behind a few big kills from freshman Elli Nirschl and pull out a 25-21 victory.

The tone of the game changed in the second set as the teams battled back-and-forth as their respective student sections cheered behind them. The teams were deadlocked for most of the set, represented by 10 tie scores and eight different lead changes.

However, late in the set, Hermiston began to find the momentum and eventually held a 24-20 lead and was serving for match point. But a couple of big kills from Pendleton's Maureen Davies and Nirschl saw the Bucks tie the game at 24-24.

The Bulldogs served for game point three more times in the second set, but each time Pendleton answered with kills from Davies, Nirschl, and Haley Greb that in the end led the Bucks to a 30-28 set win.

For Buckaroos coach Amanda Lapp, watching her team battle back in the set and throughout the match was exactly what she had been waiting to see out of the group for a while.

"It's something we've been fighting for

See BUCKS/2B

Volleyball



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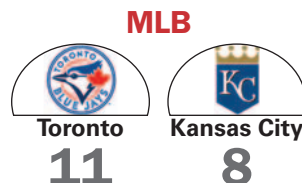


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MLB

Back home, Blue Jays break out to beat Royals

By HOWIE RUMBERG
AP Baseball Writer



TORONTO — Back in the homer dome with their rowdy fans, Troy Tulowitzki, Josh Donaldson and the Toronto Blue Jays quickly got into the swing of the AL Championship Series.

Tulowitzki and Donaldson both connected in a six-run third inning Monday night, and the Blue Jays roughed up Johnny Cueto for an 11-8 victory over the Royals that cut Kansas City's series lead to 2-1.

"I feel like we've played better at home and I felt like the entire night we had great at-bats," Donaldson said. "Not just good at-bats, great

at-bats."

Ryan Goins also homered and had a two-run single, one game after his misplayed pop fly set off Kansas City's winning rally Sunday.

The resilient Royals tried to come back this time, too. Kendrys Morales capped a four-run surge with a two-run homer in the ninth before Roberto Osuna closed it out.

"We're just going to keep fighting," Kansas City outfielder Alex Gordon said. "We've got a lot of

competitors on this team and that's what you see."

Even with a big lead, Tulowitzki lost his cool. He was given a rare playoff ejection for arguing balls and strikes before the top of the eighth.

Tulowitzki, who struck out looking in the seventh, was restrained by teammates as he argued with plate umpire John Hirschbeck when the Blue Jays took the field. Toronto manager John Gibbons and bench coach DeMarlo Hale also came out to break it up.

Despite being outthit 15-11 by the pesky Royals, Toronto pounced on Kansas City pitching in the first ALCS game at Toronto since 1993. The Blue Jays scored their most runs ever at home in the postseason



Toronto Blue Jays' Ryan Goins hits a home run off Kansas City Royals' pitcher Kris Medlen during the fifth inning in Game 3 of the ALCS on Monday.

— after mustering just three in two games at Kansas City.

"You could not tell in the clubhouse if we're down 0-2

or up 2-0," winning pitcher Marcus Stroman said. "What we have is extremely special. The confidence that

See ALCS/3B