

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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1B

Sports shorts

US men's soccer misses 2nd straight Olympics

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — For the first time in a half century, the United States has failed to qualify for consecutive Olympic men's soccer tournaments.



Roger Martinez scored twice, Americans Luis Gil and Matt Miazga were ejected and Colombia's under-23 team defeated the U.S. 2-1 Tuesday night to earn the last berth in the Rio de Janeiro Games with a 3-2 aggregate win.

Martinez redirected Andres Roa's off-target shot past goalkeeper Ethan Horvath in the 30th minute. An own goal by Delver Machado tied the score in the 59th.

Martinez put the Colombians back ahead in the 64th minute, eluding Tim Parker at the 6-yard box and beating Horvath.

Sager in high spirits working through cancer

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Craig Sager has a blood clot behind his right ear that is affecting his hearing, and that's just another annoyance he is accepting

as he continues to work NBA games for Turner Sports with fervor despite his leukemia no longer being in remission.



Dealing with the clot, which Sager compared to swimmer's ear that won't subside, could cause him to bleed to death given his blood levels, he said.

Sager's spirits are undeterred by the latest challenge in his cancer fight, even if it meant a redeye flight after Tuesday's Wizards-Warriors game to get to a doctor's appointment in Houston on Wednesday morning before another game Thursday.

"Obviously not good but it's keeping me going. I have no choice," he said.

The 64-year-old said there's "no doubt" he'll continue to work through the playoffs.

"From a morale standpoint as a player, if you've been through the things I've been through the past couple of years you want to feel what that success feels like."

— **Carmelo Anthony**
New York Knicks forward telling the media on Tuesday that he plans to play for Team USA at the Summer Olympics just a few hours after Clippers guard Chris Paul announced he would not play.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1943 — Ken Sailors scores 16 points to lead Wyoming to a 56-43 victory over Georgetown in the NCAA championship.

1999 — New York Rangers center Wayne Gretzky surpasses Gordie Howe as the leading goal scorer in pro hockey history in a 3-1 victory over the Islanders. Gretzky's goal was the 1,072nd of his career.

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

PENDLETON

Pendleton shuts out La Grande

Cockburn goes the distance for Bucks

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

With another strong start from pitcher Quinn Cockburn, the Pendleton baseball team extended its winning streak to seven games in seven days after beating La Grande 10-0 in six innings.

Cockburn struck out 10 batters and got some help from an error-free defense to allow just three hits in a complete game, his longest outing of the season.

Cockburn pitched himself into jams by allowing five base runners in the first two innings, however, consecutive strikeouts ended the threat in the first and a bases-loaded double play by shortstop Wyatt Morris on a grounder up the middle erased the Tigers (1-4) in the second.

"That gave us a little momentum," said Cockburn, who improved to 2-1. "It's always nice as a pitcher to know that I can throw any pitch I want and my defense is going to be there behind me."

Baseball	
La Grande	0
Pendleton	10

Pendleton (8-2) then wrung six runs from its next at-bat when La Grande starter Ryan Adams ran into control issues.

The Bucks started the inning with a single by Kai Quinn and a fly out by James Bradt, but Adams' day deteriorated quickly from there and he walked the next three batters to push in the eventual game-winning run.

A sacrifice by Wyatt Morris scored another run and Cockburn singled in a third while errors aided three more.

Pendleton went up 6-0 off just two hits and six walks before Adams was pulled.

"We were in a lot of hitter's counts which allowed us to kind of sit back," Pendleton coach T.J. Haguewood said. "Still didn't hit the ball as well as we had hoped."

Cockburn didn't allow a hit the rest way but did load the bases in the fourth inning when he hit two batters and walked another. A shallow fly to right-center ended that threat.

"He's been throwing good," Haguewood said of his starter. "He's been kind of throwing against some of the tougher teams and

See **PENDLETON/2B**

PENDLETON

Buckaroos outlast Tigers



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Pendleton's Payton Hergert rips a base hit Tuesday in a softball game against La Grande at Steve Cary Field in Pendleton.

Pendleton storms back from early 10-0 deficit to grab victory

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

No matter how good teams are in sports, sometimes they need a wake-up call.

The Pendleton Buckaroos had one on Tuesday afternoon in the La Grande Tigers, who scored nine runs in the top of the first inning and led by as much as 10-0 on the Buckaroos in a game that figured to

be an easy win for Pendleton.

But even with the deficit, Pendleton fought back through the final five innings to storm back and take the victory 17-12 at Steve Cary Field.

"In all honesty, we needed this," Pendleton coach Tim Cary said. "It was a good wake-up call for us to let

Softball	
La Grande	12
Pendleton	17

us know that if we're not sharp, any team can and will beat us so we need to play at our best if we expect to continue to win games."

In those first two innings, La Grande tagged Buckaroos (8-1) pitcher Kiersten Murphy for eight hits and one walk to help push across their nine runs as she

struggled to stay consistent in the strike zone.

But heading into the third inning trailing 10-0, Cary knew it was pushing make-or-break time for his squad.

"We were still lacking emotion and energy in the dugout and we figured we needed a few hits to liven us back up," he said. "And that's exactly what it was, we got a

See **BUCKAROOS/2B**

HERMISTON

Bulldogs stay hot, blow out Summit

By SAM BARBEE
East Oregonian

Kate Greenough has been saying since her first game at the helm of the Hermiston softball program that her players are beginning to understand how good they can be. After Tuesday's game, maybe some others might notice, too.

The Bulldogs scored 10 more runs for the third straight game, and hammered the Summit Storm 11-1 on Tuesday at Rocky Heights Elementary School.

"We just capitalized in some key moments," Greenough said.

Hermiston (7-3) has been successful, in part, due to pesky top-of-the-order hitters and a fundamentally-sound defense. Jaime Hinkley was once again a terror for opponents, getting

on base, swiping bags and scoring runs. Ellery Jones held her own as a run producer in the middle of the lineup, driving in four runs. Rebecca Englebrecht got a sacrifice bunt down in the first inning, moving Hinkley over and setting up the Bulldogs' first run, and also had a double and two RBI. Mikayla Kopacz doubled, as well.

"It was a whole team effort," Greenough said of the offense. "The girls are definitely seeing the ball really well. They're controlling at-bats."

Defensively, Julissa Almaguer, a sophomore lefty, retired the Storm in order for the first four innings and didn't allow a run until the sixth. She tossed the

Softball	
Summit	1
Hermiston	11

six full innings, allowing just two hits and two walks while striking out four.

"They were sucking up the ground balls," Greenough said of her defense, also praising Almaguer for consistently keeping the ball on the ground. "It helped keep the momentum on our side."

Hermiston scored five times in the first inning and three in the second to put away the Storm.

"(Tuesday's win) gets me excited for Friday," Greenough said. "Hopefully we can take two from Reynolds."

The Bulldogs head to Troutdale to take on the 6A Reynolds Raiders in a doubleheader that starts Friday at 1 p.m.

Prep Roundup

Woods no-hits Kennedy, Stanfield stays on roll

East Oregonian

THE DALLES — Brody Woods pitched Stanfield's third no-hitter in a run-rule shortened game this season in a 12-0 win over Kennedy on Tuesday.

Woods struck out nine in five complete innings and walked none, but missed out on the perfect game due to a pair of hit batters and a fielding error he made. But he was also 2-for-4 at the plate with an RBI and scored three runs.

"They're just filling up the strike zone," Stanfield coach Bryan Johnson

See **PREPS/2B**