

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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Sports shorts

Dallas scores early, beats Timbers

PORTLAND (AP) — Michael Barrios, Fabian Castillo and Tesho Akindele all scored in the first 26 minutes to give FC Dallas a 3-1 victory over the Portland Timbers on Wednesday night.



In the 4th minute, Jack Jewsbury's turnover allowed Akindele to charge into the Portland penalty area and lay off a pass to Barrios, who calmly slid a shot past Portland goalkeeper Adam Kwarasey for his third goal of the season.

Another turnover by Jewsbury in the 26th minute allowed Castillo to race to the top of the area, where he chipped a shot over an onrushing Kwarasey for his second goal.

Three minutes later, a miscued shot attempt by Castillo went right to Akindele, whose shot deflected off defender Jermain Taylor and between Kwarasey's legs for his third goal.

Backes scores OT winner for Blues

ST. LOUIS (AP) — David Backes scored at 9:04 of overtime on a shot that deflected off a Chicago Blackhawks defenseman, and the St. Louis Blues took the series opener 1-0 over

the defending Stanley Cup champions on Wednesday night.



Backes' shot got past Corey Crawford after bouncing off Trevor Van Riemsdyk's skate. Defensemen Jay Bouwmeester and Alex Pietrangolo assisted on the winner.

Brian Elliott earned his first career playoff shutout. Elliott, who led the NHL with a .930 save percentage, made 35 saves to thwart a lineup led by scoring champion Patrick Kane and Jonathan Toews. He made just his second playoff start in three seasons off an impressive finish, going 11-1 in his final 14 starts.

"This is a life-or-death situation. I'm not talking about football anymore. I'm talking about a young man who is in trouble."

— Drew Rosenhaus

Professional sports agent on his reason for rescinding his contract with troubled NFL quarterback Johnny Manziel. Rosenhaus, who would be the second agent to drop Manziel since February, said he's given Manziel a five-day window to clean up his act or the termination will become permanent.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1994 — Seattle becomes the first team in NBA history to have 10 double-figure scorers in one game, as the SuperSonics beat the Los Angeles Clippers 150-101. All 12 Sonics score in the game and Steve Scheffler's layup with 8.4 seconds left makes him the 10th Sonic to score in double figures.

2002 — Tiger Woods becomes the third player to win back-to-back Masters titles. He closes with a 1-under 71 to claim a three-stroke victory over Retief Goosen.

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

Blazers head into playoffs on win



Portland Trail Blazers forward Noah Vonleh (21) dunks in front of Denver Nuggets guard Gary Harris (14) during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Portland, Ore., Wednesday, April 13, 2016. The Blazers won 107-99.

Portland will face LA Clippers in first round

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Damian Lillard had 21 points before sitting in the final quarter and the Portland Trail Blazers, with their playoff fate sealed earlier Wednesday night, defeated the Denver Nuggets 107-99.



CJ McCollum added 17 points for the Blazers, who led by as many as 18 points in the final quarter despite putting all of their starters on the bench.

The Trail Blazers were assured of the fifth seed in the Western Conference by virtue of Dallas' 96-91 loss to the San Antonio Spurs. The Blazers will face the Los Angeles Clippers in the first round of the playoffs.

The fans roared at the Moda Center when the result was announced. Guard C.J. McCollum addressed the crowd before tipoff: "When they doubted us, you didn't. So thank you."

He punctuated the sentiment: "Let's get ready for the playoffs!"

Emmanuel Mudiay finished with 25 points to lead five Nuggets in double figures. Denver finished the season 33-49 and in 10th place in the West, improving by three games over last year's win total.

Coach Michael Malone, asked to assess his feeling about the Nuggets' finish, said: "Not happy. Not satisfied. But encouraged."

HELIX

Parker steps aside after 15 years

Grizzlies earned four state trophies in her tenure

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian



Parker

After 15 years at the helm of the Helix Grizzlies varsity volleyball team, Tammie Parker has decided to call it a career.

Parker made her decision shortly after the conclusion of the Grizzlies season in November, a decision she has pondered for a few years now.

"I'm a grandma, I have three grandkids now and twin grandkids on the way and I want to spend more time with them all," Parker said on Wednesday. "I started to feel I couldn't give 110 percent to the girls and to the sport and that's not fair to them."

Parker leaves behind a tremendous mark on the Griswold High School program, coaching the team to four league titles, a 15-8 postseason record as well as earning four trophies at the state tournament from 2006-2009. During those years the Grizzlies grabbed runner-up honors in '06, '08 and '09 and finished third in '07.

Over the past 10 years, Parker's teams have compiled a 156-123-5 overall record, most recently put together a 19-6 overall record and a 10-2 record and second-place finish in the Old Oregon League in 2015. Helix graduates several top players from last

year's team, but returns enough experience that Parker felt comfortable stepping aside for a new coach.

"I always said I wanted to leave the new coach with something to build on," she said. "The team will still be good next year and is set up for some success so I just felt the time was right."

And when she looks back on her career, she said she can only be proud of what her teams had accomplished.

"I'm just very proud of the commitments that all of my kids made," Parker said. "And add in the belief in me from the kids and their parents ... it's rare to have such cooperative parents and I was lucky to have great parents for 15 years."

One of the things that Parker mentioned she will miss about coaching is the personal relationships with her players. When she broke the news to the team following the season, the majority reaction was one of surprise and shock, but Parker said that just because she is stepping away as the coach does not mean she is stepping away from the

Grizzlies as a friend.

"All of my players are like my family. I'll still be there for them and they know they can contact me about anything," she said. "I'm still in contact with players from my first year in coaching, too."

But with all of the moments and memories that Parker has experienced during her career, the ones that will stick with her the most are the experiences and team bonding moments on the many, many road trips.

"Sure getting to the state tournament is nice, and getting past districts is nice, but the wins and losses take a back seat," she said. "I'll remember all of the trips with the kids like when we went to state ... all of the times just hanging out in the hallways of hotels and all of the fun times at team dinners."

Those traditions are what made us a family."

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PENDLETON

Yakima leaves T-Wolves stranded

Blue Mountain bats cold with runners on, lose two to Yaks

East Oregonian

The Blue Mountain baseball team struggled at the plate with runners in scoring position and dropped a NWAC East doubleheader against Yakima Valley 2-1 and 15-5 on Wednesday.

The Timberwolves (9-15, 3-7 East) batted .066 (1 for 15)

with runners on second or third base to fall seven games behind the league-leading Yaks (20-8, 10-0).

See T-WOLVES/2B

Baseball



Lee's pinch-hit homer in 10th lifts Mariners

Home run clinches first home win of season

By JIM HOEHN
Associated Press



SEATTLE — Dae-Ho Lee hit a two-run, pinch-homer with two outs in the 10th inning on Wednesday, lifting the Seattle Mariners over the Texas Rangers 4-2 for their first win of the year at Safeco Field.

After starting out 0-5 at home, the Mariners won on Lee's second home run of the season. Robinson Cano hit his fifth homer for Seattle.

The right-handed hitting Lee, who spent the last four years in Japan after 11 seasons in his native South Korea, came on to bat for Adam Lind against left-hander Jake Diekman (0-1). Lee launched an 0-2

pitch deep over the left-field wall for his second homer.

Nelson Cruz reached on a one-out error by second baseman Rougned Odor, but was forced out by Kyle Seager, setting up Lee.

Steve Cishek (1-1) pitched two innings.

Delino DeShields brought the Rangers even at 2 in the eighth with a solo homer, his first.

Cano put Texas in front 2-1 in the fifth with a solo shot, his first home run since April 5. He had been in a 2-for-21 slump before connecting.

See MARINERS/2B



Seattle Mariners' Dae-Ho Lee watches his walk-off two-run home run in the 10th inning of Wednesday's game against the Texas Rangers in Seattle.

AP Photo/Ted S. Warren