

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

WEEKEND, APRIL 30-MAY 1, 2016

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## Sports shorts

### Lakers hire Luke Walton as coach

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Lakers have reached an agreement with Golden State assistant Luke Walton to become their head coach.



The Lakers made the announcement Friday night, five days after firing Byron Scott.

Walton will join the Lakers after the Warriors' playoff run. The 36-year-old former Lakers forward returns to become the 26th head coach in franchise history.

Walton became a top candidate for coaching jobs earlier this season when he led Golden State to a 39-4 record as the interim head coach, including a spectacular 24-0 start.

Scott led the Lakers to the worst two seasons in franchise history, going 17-65 this season.

### Marlins' Gordon suspended 80 games for PEDs

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Reigning NL batting champion Dee Gordon of the Miami Marlins says he knowingly took the performance-enhancing drug that led to his 80-game suspension.

The startling announcement of the suspension by Major League Baseball came shortly after the Marlins' victory at Los Angeles on Thursday night.

MLB said Gordon tested positive for exogenous testosterone and Clostebol.

The 28-year-old Gordon led the majors in hits and stolen bases last year. He batted .333, became an All-Star for the second time and won a Gold Glove at second base.

The big season helped him earn a \$50 million, five-year contract he signed in January.

"It just shows you where their head's at. It just shows you that they can care less that this kid's world just fell apart in a matter of three hours."

— Eric Winston

NFL Players Association president and Cincinnati Bengals offensive lineman voicing his displeasure with NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell's handling of the social media scandal surrounding former Ole Miss player and now Miami Dolphin Laremy Tunsil that led to a slide in Tunsil's draft spot. Goodell went on ESPN's Mike and Mike on Friday and said the situation is "all part of what makes the draft so exciting."

### THIS DATE IN SPORTS

2002 — Texas Rangers shortstop Alex Rodriguez becomes the second-youngest player to reach 250 homers during a 10-3 win over the Toronto Blue Jays.

2010 — Tiger Woods matches the worst nine-hole score of his PGA Tour career and winds up with a 7-over 79 to miss the cut at the Quail Hollow Championship.

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

## PENDLETON

# Bucks make statement against Bulldogs



Pendleton's Feather Dick scores the game-ending run as Hermiston's Jaime Hinkley waits for the throw in the Bucks' 11-1 win against the Bulldogs in the second game of a doubleheader Friday in Pendleton.

Pendleton sits alone in first with sweep of Hermiston

By ERIC SINGER  
East Oregonian

The Pendleton Buckaroos wanted to make a statement against the rival Hermiston Bulldogs on Friday, and once the games were played the Buckaroos definitely made their point.

Pendleton dominated Hermiston from the get-go, sweeping the both games by wide margins taking game one 14-1 and game two 11-1 on a cold, windy day at Steve Cary Field. With the wins, Pendleton (17-4, 6-2 CRC) now sits alone in first place in

**Softball**

 Hermiston 1-1	 Pendleton 14-11
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the Columbia River Conference. Pendleton center fielder Alexis Morrison said that the Buckaroos have been waiting to put together a performance like this, but it made it sweeter to come against Hermiston. "We're really happy, especially getting the wins the way we did I think really proved how we can come together and hit well," she said. "We've been waiting to have games like this in general."

For Hermiston (13-9, 4-4) it

See **SOFTBALL/2B**

## PENDLETON

# Hermiston holds on for sweep

Robles, Sexton throw complete games for Bulldogs

By MATT ENTRUP  
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Hermiston pitcher R.J. Robles had nothing left to prove after tossing seven innings of two-hit baseball against Pendleton on Friday, but the Bulldogs senior wasn't ready for his game to be over.

After watching his teammates regain the lead in the top of the eighth inning, Robles asked Hermiston coach Lance Hawkins to let him finish what he started. The second-year Bulldogs skipper obliged, and Robles put away the Buckaroos quickly to earn a 3-1 win in the second half of a Columbia River Conference doubleheader at Bob White Field.

Hermiston won the first game 5-3 with Tyler Sexton pitching a complete game as well.

"Those guys just grind," Hawkins said of his pitchers. "They get up and they're leaders ... Another quality start for both of them."

Robles threw a five-inning perfect game earlier this season, but hadn't gone the distance in a regulation outing until Friday.

"I told him, 'Just give me the ball. I want to go out there and I want to finish it off because I haven't thrown a complete game yet this year,'" Robles said.

"Kids look at him and he just keeps going and going," Hawkins said. "We didn't want to take him out there and let him throw the



Pendleton's Wyatt Morris catches the ball as Hermiston's R.J. Robles slides into third base in the Bulldogs' 5-3 win against the Bucks in the first game of a doubleheader Friday in Pendleton.

eighth and he goes, 'Give me the ball.' You want that stuff."

Robles finished with 12 strikeouts, three walks and zero earned runs on three Pendleton hits.

"Every year that I pitch against Pendleton I'm always pumped for it, always," Robles said. "Honestly, I felt really good. My arm felt really good. I mean, I just tried battling as much as I could. I was kind of off in the middle of the game so I just had

to adjust in between innings and just try to find my rhythm."

But despite Robles carrying a shutout into the sixth inning, Hermiston (12-8, 5-3 CRC) was unable to pull away and stranded runners in scoring position in the first, fourth and fifth innings.

The Bulldogs took the lead in the second inning when Lukas Tolan singled to drive in Sexton from third base.

Pendleton (11-10, 2-6 CRC) pitcher James Bradt picked up one of his seven strikeouts to end the inning with two on for the Bulldogs, though, and neither team scored again until the Bucks tied it in the sixth.

Kai Quinn, who finished with two of the three hits off Robles, started the Bucks off in the sixth with a one-out single on a hard

See **BASEBALL/2B**

Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard shoots in front of Los Angeles Clippers guard Austin Rivers, right, during the second half of Game 6 of an NBA basketball first-round playoff series Friday, April 29, 2016, in Portland, Ore.

AP Photo/Craig Mitchell/Idyer



## NBA Playoffs

# Trail Blazers advance

Portland set to face Golden State in Western semifinals

By ANNE M. PETERSON  
AP Sports Writer



PORTLAND — Damian Lillard scored 28 points and the Portland Trail Blazers advanced to the Western Conference semifinals by beating the resilient Los Angeles Clippers 106-103 on Friday night to claim the first-round playoff series 4-2.

Portland will open the second round against the reigning NBA champion Golden State Warriors on Sunday.

CJ McCollum added 20 points for the Blazers, who became the first team to overcome a 2-0 deficit since Memphis came back against the Clippers in the first round in 2013.

Jamal Crawford had 32 points

**Game 6**

 Los Angeles 103	 Portland 106
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•Portland wins series 3-2

and Austin Rivers added 21 points and eight assists despite having 11 stitches above his left eye from a collision in the first quarter. But the Clippers could not recover from injuries to Chris Paul and Blake Griffin in Game 4 of the series.

Los Angeles didn't surrender easily in the final game, never allowing Portland a double-digit lead.

"We didn't panic when they put up a fight," Lillard said.

The Blazers appeared to pull away when McCollum's 3-pointer made it 98-91 with 4:49 left, but the Clippers persisted. Already plagued by injuries,

See **TRAIL BLAZERS/2B**