Motorsports

Harvick takes pole when rain wipes out qualifying

By DAN GELSTON
AP Sports Writer

DOVER, Del. (AP) — When the rain hit Dover, Kevin Harvick was prepared.

Harvick's team made the call in the middle of the week to send the No. 4 Chevrolet out for practice in its qualifying setup because rain was forecast for Friday.

With a Sprint Cup starting lineup set by practice speeds in the event of a qualifying rainout, Harvick had a needed edge. He posted the fastest lap of 165.145 mph in the only practice at Dover International Speedway and starts first for the first time this season.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. joins Harvick on the front row for Sunday's race. Joe Gibbs Racing placed Kyle Busch third and Carl Edwards fourth. Ricky Stenhouse Jr. rounded out the top five. Stenhouse earned his third top-five start of the season.

Harvick, who had not won a pole through the first 11 races of the season, won the fall race at Dover.

"The guys have done a great job prepping the cars and hit on some things that we like," Harvick said. "It has worked well over the past few years."

The 2014 Cup champion, Harvick has one win this season and a spot in the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship secured.

But several other drivers who are regulars in the win column have a big zero next to their name — notably Kurt Busch, Earnhardt, Matt Kenseth, Joey Logano, and Martin Truex Jr.

Here are some drivers looking to conquer the Monster Mile for the first win of 2016:

LOOSE LOGANO: Logano won the Daytona 500, five other races and had 22 top-five finishes in 2015. He's winless with only three top-fives and crashed out of the last two races of this season.

His race last weekend at Kansas Speedway ended once Denny Hamlin's charge for the lead resulted in a three-wide push that ended in a multi-car wreck that took out Logano.

"There is a win on the line, and it is a big deal, it is hard to do at the Sprint Cup level and any time you have a shot it is expected out of us, not just from the fans but from the teams to go out and make the most of it and make it happen," Logano said. "When I look at Denny's move, I would do the same thing if I was him, so I don't really have any room to speak."

Logano said he felt he could have won the previous week at Talladega until yet another wreck knocked him from contention. He hasn't finished worse than 18th when completing a race.

The Team Penske driver is winless with three top-five finishes in 10 career Dover starts.

"If you look at the consistency in our team, it is still there," Logano said. "It's not like we have had races where we have been way off. And if we have started way off in a race, we have been able to recover and get a top 10 out of it."

BASEBALL: Mistakes on basepaths costly for Bulldogs

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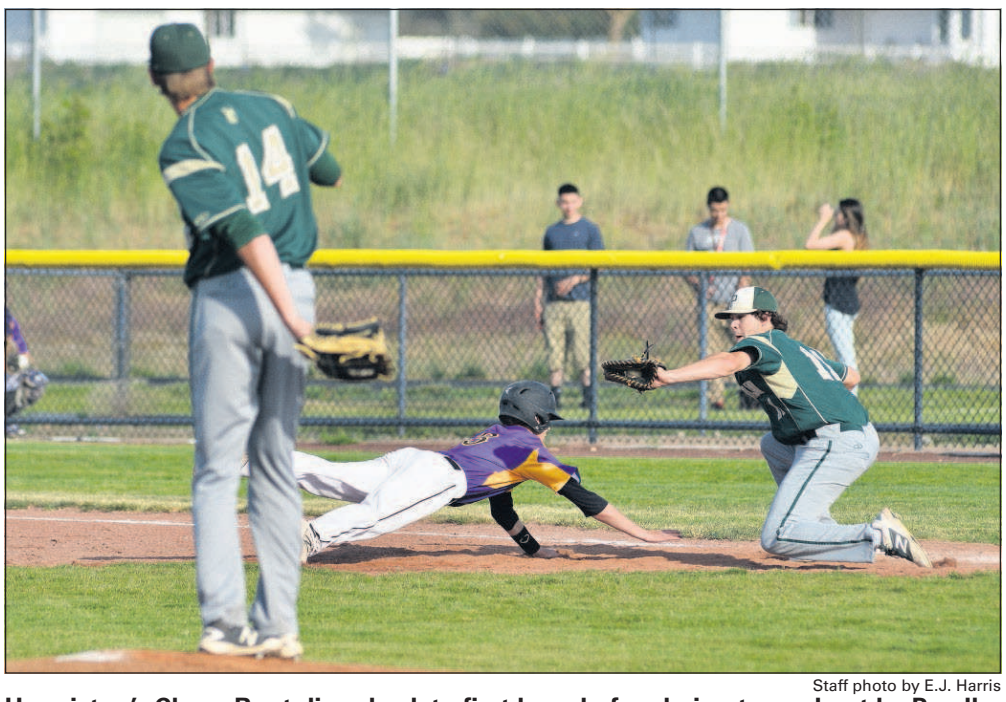
in the third inning against Hermiston pitcher Chase Root. Wyatt Morris led off the order with an infield single, followed by a sacrifice bunt and a walk from Kai Quinn to give the Bucks runners at first and second with just one out. That brought Devon Roe to the plate and on an 0-2 pitch Roe ripped a single into left field, to drive in Morris who slid under a tag from Bulldog catcher Slade Gritz for the 1-0 lead.

That score would hold until the top of the seventh inning, when the Buckaroos scored a run on a wild pitch from Robles — who had came on in relief in the seventh — to bring in Austin Zaugg for the 2-0 lead and some extra cushion for Bradt.

"That was huge for my guys to come up there," Bradt said, "because I knew into the seventh inning I had thrown a lot of pitches and having that extra run really put me at ease."



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Hermiston's Chase Root dives back to first base before being tagged out by Pendleton's Devon Roe in the Bucks' 2-1 win against the Bulldogs on Friday in Hermiston.

That extra run proved to be huge for the Buckaroos because in the bottom of the inning, Hermiston finally strung something together offensively. After back-to-back strikeouts, Edmiston smacked an infield single — his third hit of the game — off the glove of a diving Daniel Naughton at third base, but an errant throw by Morris from shortstop allowed Edmiston to move to second base. And then in the very next at-bat, Bradt induced a fly ball to left field for the would-be third out, but a muffed catch from Shaw Jerome allowed Edmiston to score to cut the lead to 2-1.

But Bradt bounced back in the next at-bat to finish off the Bulldogs with a strikeout of Lukas Tolan to end the game. Hawkins was disappointed to see his offense take a step back on Friday after he thought a corner had been turned.

"We hit well at Hood River (on Tuesday) and I thought 'You know the hard work these kids are doing is paying off' but today our discipline wasn't there," Hawkins said. "They have to have better discipline at the plate because we swung at a lot of balls (in the dirt) today. I told the guys afterwards if we see a pitcher in the playoffs that throws balls in the dirt we're in trouble."

Pendleton and Hermiston will now shift their preparation to the postseason, with Hermiston set to host a play-in game next Friday and Pendleton will be on the road.

"We've been looking at this playoff game for two weeks now, and I'm ready for it," Hawkins said. "From here on out it really counts and I don't want it to end. I told the boys after the game that next Friday at that same time I want to be talking about who we're going to go play next, not about 'what ifs.' I've been doing this for 16 years and I've had a lot of those."

Pendleton, who made it to the state semifinals as a No. 14 seed last season, is happy for another opportunity to find success as an underdog.

"It feels great to have some real momentum going into the playoffs," Cockburn said. "We didn't play as well as we wanted to in the league season but now we can keep it going and try and stay hot."

				R	H	E
PHS	001000	1	—	2	6	3
HHS	000000	1	—	1	5	1

Bradt and Cockburn. Root, Robles (7), and Gritz. W — Bradt, L — Root.

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SOFTBALL: Richards carries no-hitter into fifth inning for Bucks

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thing judgment when I should go, when I should test it, when I should stay safe," she said. "There was two outs, I was just thinking I might as well chance it."

Her intuition was dead on, and Bulldogs coach Kate Greenough said she was seeing the same thing Morrison was in a susceptible Hermiston defense.

"We talked about fighting every inning, every ball, and staying through it," she said of her post-game talk with the team. "Because there were some innings where we slowed up a little bit and they took advantage of it."

Things weren't going Hermiston's way when they were at the plate, either, and Pendleton pitcher Lauren Richards had another stalwart afternoon in the circle. She carried a no-hitter into the fifth inning and allowed just three hits with nine strikeouts and one hit batter. Hermiston didn't score until the bottom of the seventh inning.

"I thought I did pretty well," Richards said. "I had my defense back there to back me up again, I can always trust them."

"She threw a great little curveball today, just popping the ball in hard and we just took too long to make adjustments," Greenough said. "We're going to see really good pitching from here on out so it's a really good thing to see what we need to work on for the next four days."

Richards also went 2 for 4 at the plate and eight Buckaroos recorded at least one hit and one run. The ninth, Feather Dick, added an RBI. Madison Parker was 3 for 4, Ellie Richards had three RBI, and Kalan McGlothan had two hits, two runs and two RBI.

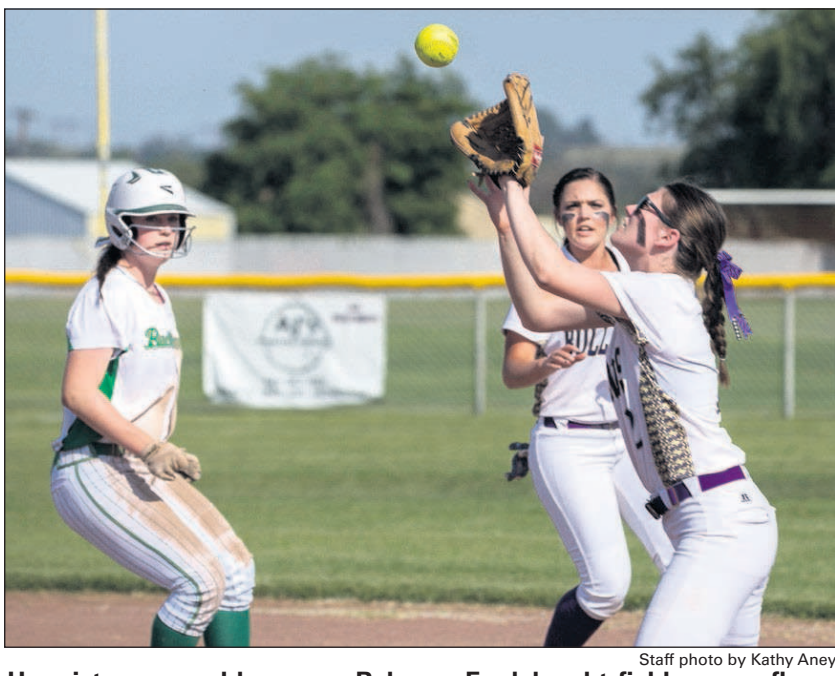
Pendleton pulled away with four runs in the seventh and four more in the ninth, and will play a non-league game against Mac-Hi on Thursday, May 19, to prepare for the state playoffs. By winning the CRC, the Bucks have a bye into the 16-team round. Their game against Mac-Hi, the No. 1 team in Class 4A, will start at 4:30 p.m.

"Win or lose we're going to see a great pitcher and great hitters from Mac-Hi and that will do nothing but help us," Cary said. "I think we're playing well at the right time and hopefully we can keep her going."

Hermiston, which finished third in the CRC, will turn its attention to the play-in round where it will play at either Sandy or La Salle Prep from the Northwest Oregon league on Friday, May 20.

				R	H	E
PHS	102041	4	—	12	14	1
HHS	000000	2	—	2	3	3

L. Richards and R. Gentner. T. Betz, B. Naylor (5) and J. Hinkley. W — Richards. L — Betz.
2B — E. Richards, L. Richards, K. Murphy, T. Fell (PHS).



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Hermiston second baseman Rebecca Englebrecht fields a pop fly as runner Alexis Morrison, of Pendleton, and Hermiston shortstop Mikayla Kopacz wait to see the result during Friday's Columbia River Conference game. Englebrecht caught the ball and Morrison made it back to second.

GOLF: Bucks ready for round two at Trysting Tree Golf Course

Continued from 1B

"I don't think any of us would feel that we had our best tournament (at district). So I think all of us can look to improve but we know where the competition is at right now and we know what we need to do to improve."

Hegarty and Nathan Som tied for eighth at districts, and Hegarty was Pendleton's top placer at state in 2015 in 13th.

Som, Brayden Pulver and Jared Geier also competed at state for the Bucks as they placed seventh last season. Sam Kung is making his first state appearance.

The Bucks got a chance to play the state course earlier this season, and Hegarty said it was an informative round.

"We came down there, I think we played alright. I think we can play better," he said. "I think all of us learned that they can put some tricky pins on that course so course management is going to be a big thing down there. Limiting our big numbers is going to be important.

"I think we learned that ball flies a little bit shorter down there. I think we learned from that, not going short on greens."

Most of the state's top players were in Pendleton's district tournament, but not the one everyone is chasing. Two-time defending champion Kevin Geniza of Crescent Valley put all challengers on notice when he shot a 71-68—139 to win the District 1 title, which just happened to be played at Trysting Tree.

SCOREBOARD

Local Slate

PREP BASEBALL

Today
Pilot Rock at Grant Union (DH), 11 a.m./1 p.m.
Irrigon at Sherman (DH), 11 a.m./1 p.m.
Culver at Heppner (DH), 11 a.m./1 p.m.

PREP SOFTBALL

Today
Pilot Rock at Irrigon (DH), 11 a.m./1 p.m.
Heppner at Culver (DH), 11 a.m./1 p.m.
Vale at Weston-McEwen (DH), 1/3 p.m.

PREP TRACK & FIELD

Today
Echo, Helix, Ione at Districts (at Moro), 1 p.m.

PREP TENNIS

Today
Pendleton (boys) at Districts (at Hermiston), 4 p.m.
Pendleton (girls) at Districts (at Bend), 4 p.m.
Weston-McEwen, Mac-Hi, Umatilla, Riverside, Helix, Ione, Condon/Wheeler, Stanfield at Regionals (at Ontario), 11 a.m.

PREP LACROSSE

Today
Hermiston at Hood River, 1 p.m.

PREP RUGBY

Today
East Oregon vs. Polk County (Cup Semi-finals at Delta Park, Portland), 1:30 p.m.
East Oregon vs. Centenniel (at Lents Park, Portland), 2 p.m.

COLLEGE TRACK AND FIELD

Today
Cascade Collegiate Conference (NAIA) Finals at Hermiston, 11 a.m.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Today
Blue Mountain at Big Bend (DH), 1/4 p.m.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Today
Blue Mountain at Wenatchee Valley (DH), Noon/2 p.m.

Basketball

NBA PLAYOFFS
CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Cleveland 4, Atlanta 0
Monday, May 2: Cleveland 104, Atlanta 93
Wednesday, May 4: Cleveland 123, Atlanta 98
Friday, May 6: Cleveland 121, Atlanta 108
Sunday, May 8: Cleveland 100, Atlanta 99
Toronto 3, Miami 2
Tuesday, May 3: Miami 102, Toronto 96, OT
Thursday, May 5: Toronto 96, Miami 92, OT
Saturday, May 7: Toronto 95, Miami 91
Monday: Miami 94, Toronto 87, OT
Thursday: Toronto 99, Miami 91
Today: Miami 103, Toronto 91
Sunday: Miami at Toronto, 12:30 p.m. (ABC)

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Oklahoma City 4, San Antonio 2
Saturday, April 30: San Antonio 124, Oklahoma City 92
Monday, May 2: Oklahoma City 98, San Antonio 97
Friday, May 6: San Antonio 100, Oklahoma City 96
Sunday, May 8: Oklahoma City 111, San Antonio 97
Tuesday: Oklahoma City 95, San Antonio 91
Thursday: Oklahoma City 113, San Antonio 99
Golden State 4, Portland 1
Sunday, May 1: Golden State 118, Portland 106
Tuesday, May 3: Golden State 110, Portland 99
Saturday, May 7: Portland 120, Golden State 108
Monday, May 9: Golden State 132, Portland 125, OT
Today: Golden State 125, Portland 121

Hockey

NHL PLAYOFFS
CONFERENCE FINALS
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Tampa Bay 1, Pittsburgh 0
Friday, May 13: Tampa Bay 3, Pittsburgh 1
Monday, May 16: Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh, 5 p.m.
Wednesday, May 18: Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay 5 p.m.
Friday, May 20: Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay 5 p.m.
x-Sunday, May 22: Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh, 5 p.m.
x-Tuesday, May 24: Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay 5 p.m.
x-Thursday, May 26: Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh, 5 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE
St. Louis vs. San Jose
Sunday, May 15: San Jose at St. Louis, 5 p.m.
Tuesday, May 17: San Jose at St. Louis, 5 p.m.
Thursday, May 19: St. Louis at San Jose, 6 p.m.
Saturday, May 21: St. Louis at San Jose, 4:15 p.m.
x-Monday, May 23: San Jose at St. Louis, 5 p.m.
x-Wednesday, May 25: St. Louis at San Jose, 6 p.m.
x-Friday, May 27: San Jose at St. Louis, 5 p.m.

Baseball

MLB
AMERICAN LEAGUE
East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	22	12	.647	—
Boston	22	14	.611	1
Toronto	19	18	.514	4½
Tampa Bay	15	18	.455	6½
New York	14	20	.412	8

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	24	12	.667	—
Cleveland	17	15	.531	5
Kansas City	17	18	.486	6½
Detroit	15	20	.429	8½
Minnesota	8	26	.235	15

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	21	13	.618	—
Texas	20	16	.556	2
Oakland	15	21	.417	7
Houston	15	22	.405	7½
Los Angeles	13	21	.382	8

Friday's Games
Baltimore 1, Detroit 0
Chicago White Sox 7, N.Y. Yankees 1
Cleveland 7, Minnesota 6
Houston 7, Boston 6
Oakland 6, Tampa Bay 3
Toronto 5, Texas 0
Kansas City 5, Atlanta 1
L.A. Angels at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

Saturday's Games
Chicago White Sox (Quintana 5-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Nova 1-1), 10:05 a.m.
Houston (McHugh 4-3) at Boston (Buchholz 2-3), 10:05 a.m.
Minnesota (Santana 0-2) at Cleveland (Kluber 2-4), 1:10 p.m.
Oakland (Graveman 1-4) at Tampa Bay (Andriese 1-0), 3:10 p.m.
Detroit (Sanchez 3-3) at Baltimore (Wright 1-3), 4:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Foltynewicz 0-1) at Kansas City (Gee 0-0), 4:15 p.m.
Toronto (Estrada 1-2) at Texas (Lewis 2-0), 5:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Chacin 1-2) at Seattle (Iwakuma 1-4), 6:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	22	13	.629	—
New York	21	14	.600	1
Philadelphia	21	15	.583	1½
Miami	18	16	.529	3½
Atlanta	8	26	.235	13½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	26	8	.765	—
Pittsburgh	18	16	.529	8
St. Louis	19	17	.528	8
Milwaukee	15	21	.417	12
Cincinnati	14	21	.400	12½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	19	17	.528	—
San Francisco	20	18	.526	—
Colorado	17	18	.486	1½
Arizona	17	21	.447	3
San Diego	16	21	.432	3½

Friday's Games
Chicago Cubs 9, Pittsburgh 4
Philadelphia 3, Cincinnati 2
Washington 5, Miami 3
Milwaukee 1, San Diego 0
Kansas City 5, Atlanta 1
Colorado 5, N.Y. Mets 2
San Francisco 3, Arizona 1
L.A. Dodgers 8, St. Louis 4

Saturday's Games
Miami (Nicolino 2-0) at Washington (Strasburg 5-0), 10:05 a.m.
Pittsburgh (Locke 1-2) at Chicago Cubs (Arrieta 6-0), 11:20 a.m.
Cincinnati (Adleman 1-0) at Philadelphia (Nola 2-2), 4:05 p.m.
Miami (Flores 0-0) at Washington (Roark 2-2), 4:05 p.m.
San Diego (Perdomo 1-0) at Milwaukee (Peralta 2-4), 4:10 p.m.
Atlanta (Foltynewicz 0-1) at Kansas City (Gee 0-0), 4:15 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Verrett 3-0) at Colorado (Butler 1-1), 5:10 p.m.
San Francisco (Peavy 1-4) at Arizona (Corbin 1-3), 5:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Martinez 4-2) at L.A. Dodgers (Kazmir 2-3), 6:10 p.m.

Soccer

MLS
EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	4	3	3	15	17	15
Philadelphia	4	3	2	14	13	10
Toronto FC	4	3	2	14	10	7
New York City FC	3	3	4	13	15	15
D.C. United	3	4	4	13	13	13
Orlando City	2	2	5	11	16	14
New York	3	7	1	10	13	20
New England	1	3	7	10	13	20
Columbus	2	4	3	9	11	14
Chicago	1	3	4	7	8	10

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	7	2	2	23	14	8
FC Dallas	6	4	2	20	17	19
Los Angeles	5	1	4	19	24	12
San Jose	5	3	3	18	15	14
Real Salt Lake	5	2	2	17	14	13
Vancouver	5	5	2	17	16	17
Sporting KC	4	6	2	14	11	13
Seattle	4	4	1	13	10	10
Portland	3	5	3	12	16	20
Houston	2	6	2	8	17	19

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Friday's Games
D.C. United 2, New York 0.

Today's's Games
Philadelphia at Montreal, 2 p.m.
Colorado at Columbus, 4:30 p.m.
Chicago at New England, 4:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Toronto FC, 4:30 p.m.
Real Salt Lake at Houston, 5:30 p.m.
Seattle at FC Dallas, 6 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Orlando City at Sporting KC, 12:30 p.m.