

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2016

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @EOSPORTS

1B

Sports shorts

Albers' 1st hit since 2007 lifts ChiSox

NEW YORK (AP) — Pitcher Matt Albers doubled leading off the 13th inning for his first hit since 2007 and scored the tiebreaking run as the Chicago White Sox rallied past the New York Mets 2-1 on Wednesday, helped by Todd Frazier's major league-leading 17th homer.

Albers (2-4) relieved White Sox closer David Robertson to start the 12th and led off the 13th in his first at-bat since 2009. With the outfield playing shallow, he lined a 1-2 pitch from Logan Verrett (3-3) to left-center, and the ball rolled to the fence on two hops.

A 33-year-old right-hander who has spent most of his career in the American League, Albers had been 2 for 34 (.059) at the plate in his major league career and had not even batted since 2009. He chugged to third on a wild pitch that went to the backstop and scored standing up for his first major league run on Jose Abreu's sacrifice fly.

Latest suspension brings end for Cleveland's Byrd

CLEVELAND (AP) — Marlon Byrd's second strike with performance-enhancing drugs cost him a full season — and his career.

The Indians veteran outfielder was suspended 162 games without pay by Major League Baseball on Wednesday after testing positive for Ipamorelin, a growth hormone releasing peptide. It's Byrd's second violation of Major League Baseball's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.

Byrd called manager Terry Francona on Wednesday morning. Later, he spoke to his teammates as a group in Cleveland's clubhouse.

"Marlon stood up in front of everybody and took responsibility and apologized," Francona said. "And, basically, he told the guys that his career is over and this is not how he wanted it to end."

"This decision only further embodies the very reason I am running for president of the United States."

— Donald Trump
Republican presidential candidate in response to the PGA's announcement that the World Golf Championship would be moving from the Trump-owned Doral in Florida to a golf course in Mexico City next year.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

2010 — Armando Galarraga of the Detroit Tigers loses his bid for a perfect game with two outs in the ninth inning on a call that first base umpire Jim Joyce later admits he blew. First baseman Miguel Cabrera cleanly fields Jason Donald's grounder to his right and makes an accurate throw to Galarraga covering the bag. The ball is there in time, and all of Comerica Park is ready to celebrate the 3-0 win over Cleveland, until Joyce emphatically signals safe.

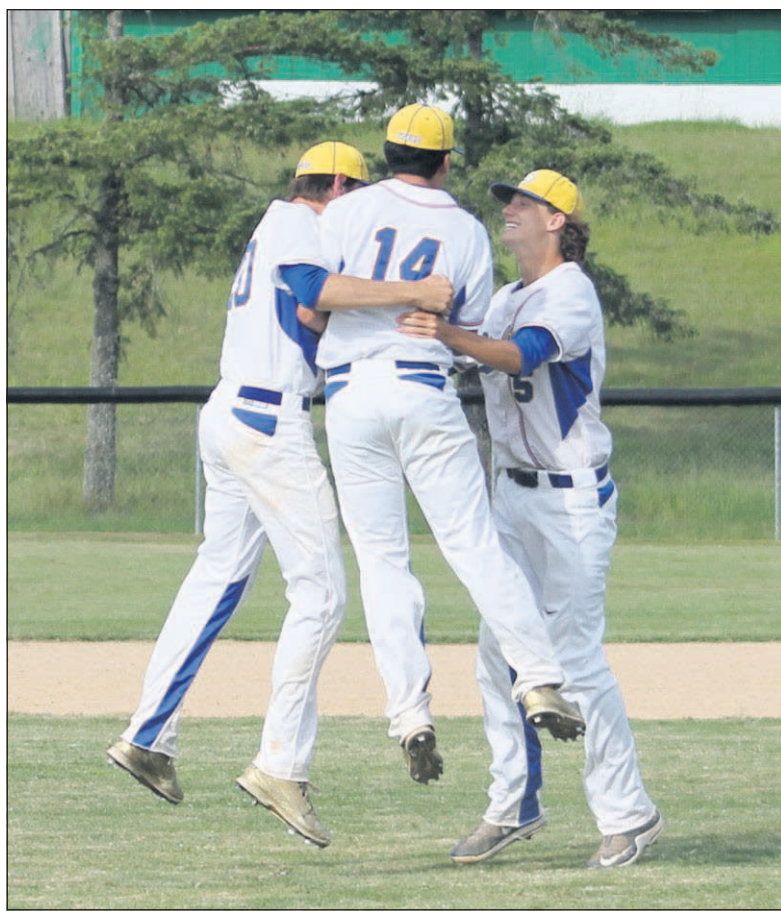
Contact us at 541-966-0838 or sports@eastoregonian.com

STANFIELD

Tigers' tree still bearing fruit

Stanfield baseball players Dylan Grogan, far left, Tony Flores (14) and Brody Woods (5) celebrate after Flores got a strike-out for the final out in the Tigers' 10-1 win over Rainier in the OSAA 3A State Semifinals on Tuesday in Rainier.

Contributed photo courtesy of Katie Johnson



Sibling connection motivates Stanfield in state title game

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

Stanfield pitcher Dylan Grogan knows just what to expect when he toes the rubber at Volcanoes Stadium in the OSAA 3A baseball state championship.

He's been there before.

Not as a player, though. Grogan was a bat boy when the 2011 Tigers beat No. 1 Portland Christian 3-1 in Keizer for the program's first title.

3A Baseball Championship



#3 Stanfield Tigers (28-2)



#1 Santiam Christian Eagles (25-3)

- Friday, 5 p.m.
- at Volcanoes Stadium
- Radio: KOHU 1360 AM

Grogan is one of four younger brothers looking to follow in his older sibling's footsteps when No. 3 Stanfield takes on No. 1 Santiam Christian on Friday at 5 p.m.

Grogan's brother Quin pitched the complete game in

See TIGERS/2B

PILOT ROCK

Rockets bring the noise

Pilot Rock will hope to out-cheer, and outplay Union in the state championship

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

The Pilot Rock softball team will be looking for every possible edge it can get when it finishes its season on the field at OSU Softball Complex in the 2A/1A state championship for the second year in a row.

They're leaving no stone unturned, and have done everything in their power to make sure they'll have an advantages in the batter's box, the pitching circle, one the bases, and yes, even in the dugout.

"The loudest dugout is the winning dugout," said senior pitcher/outfielder Rebekka Holman during the team's final practice in Pilot Rock before heading to Corvallis for Friday's 1 p.m. game.

The No. 1 Rockets (26-3) go the extra mile to try and prove Holman right each game out.

"Especially toward the playoffs we've got a lot louder," said junior pitcher Tehya Ostrom. "We came up with new cheers and we got rally gear, like we went to the Dollar Store and got crazy sunglasses and stuff, just so we could all have fun. We're dancing around in the dugout, and it helps because it keeps everybody in a positive attitude."

The team partly responsible for the Rockets' gusto is the team they'll play Friday — No. 2 Union (20-4).

"We used to think they were the most annoying team because they were so loud, but then we realized



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Pilot Rock's Sara Weinke exults after hitting a home run during last week's game against Gaston.

that does help," Ostrom said. "And so now we're all loud, and so it's kind of going to be a battle with that, because I'm sure they want to be louder and more intense."

The Rockets have decidedly gotten the better of the Bobcats this season, beating them four times by an ever-increasing margin.

After winning their first meeting

7-5, the Rockets scored 12 runs in the fifth inning of a 13-0 win, then won 15-0 on the strength of a 10-run at-bat, and most recently beat Union 18-0 in the district championship after plating 12 in the second inning.

Pilot Rock coach Darin Fitzpatrick said he's working on building

See ROCKETS/2B

2A/1A Softball Championship



#2 Union Bobcats (20-4)



#1 Pilot Rock Rockets (26-3)

- Friday, 1 p.m.
- at OSU Softball Complex
- Online: OSAA.org/radio-network

Pro Soccer

Timbers earn first shutout before Copa America break

Shorthanded Portland beats San Jose

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

PORTLAND — It was the unlikeliest of outcomes for the Portland Timbers.

Liam Ridgewell scored early and the Timbers earned their first shutout of the season with a 1-0 victory over the San Jose Earthquakes on Wednesday night despite playing short-handed the entire second half.

Dairon Asprilla was sent off with a red card at the end of the first half and the Timbers played with 10 men the rest of the way.

"That's not easy. If you know this game and have actually played it, it's very difficult to get a result down a man for 45 minutes," Portland coach Caleb Porter said. "These guys dug deep, and were organized. They showed their composure. They showed their savvy and their experience. They showed their fight and heart. Couldn't be more proud of them, it's a big result."

The loss snapped a three-game undefeated streak for the Earthquakes, who were without coach Dominic Kinnear because of a minor car accident Wednesday. Kinnear was not seriously injured, the team said. Portland's win also came despite



making just two shots. The Timbers (5-6-4) were the last MLS team without a shutout this season.

It was a clean sheet to Timbers goalkeeper Jake Gleeson, who was making his eighth start this year in place of Adam Larsen Kwarasey, who is out because of a torn ligament in his finger.

It was the last match for both teams until June 18 as Major League Soccer goes on a break for the Copa America Centenario. Sixteen nations, including the United States, are playing in the event across the country.

The tournament opens Friday with the U.S. national team facing Colombia at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara.

Several players were missing from both teams on Wednesday because of the tournament, including Portland's Darlington Nagbe and San Jose's Chris Wondolowski, both on the U.S. squad.

Ridgewell scored in the 11th minute, heading in a free kick from Diego Valeri. After gesturing to the fans, he rolled on the turf in celebration, something that has been dubbed the "RidgyRoll."

"It's been a long time coming," Ridgewell said afterward. "It felt great, and certainly to get the win, and that result, was fantastic."

Asprilla was sent off with a red card at the end of the first half after for elbowing San Jose's Jordan Stewart in the head. It was difficult to determine from the replay if there was intent.