

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2016

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Sports shorts

Blazers fire TV, radio broadcasters

PORTLAND (AP) — Longtime Trail Blazers television broadcasters Mike Barrett and Mike Rice will not return to the team next season.



Team President and Chief Executive Officer Chris McGowan announced the changes on Wednesday. The Blazers also let go of radio analyst Antonio Harvey.

Barrett, a native Oregonian, had been with the Blazers for 17 seasons, 13 as the lead play-by-play announcer. Rice spent 11 years of his 26 years with the team as a color commentator. Fans referred to the duo as "Mike and Mike."

Harvey was the radio analyst for 11 seasons. His play-by-play partner, Brian Wheeler, will return for his 19th season.

No replacements were named. It is expected that Wheeler will work without an analyst.

Braves' Freeman hits for the cycle

ATLANTA (AP) — Freddie Freeman hit for the cycle, Chase d'Arnaud had a bases-loaded single in the 13th inning to cap a three-run rally and the

FACES



Freeman

Atlanta Braves beat the Cincinnati Reds 9-8 on Wednesday night.

The Reds took an 8-6 lead in the 13th on Jose Peraza's

bases-loaded walk with two outs and Joey Votto's run-scoring single off Alexi Ogando (2-1), the Braves' ninth pitcher.

Alfredo Simon (2-7) gave up five hits and a walk in the 13th. Adonis Garcia and Nick Markakis opened the inning with singles, Jace Peterson hit a run-scoring double and Tyler Flowers added a tying single. An intentional walk to Erick Aybar loaded the bases before d'Arnaud's fly ball fell in center field.

Freeman became the first Brave to hit for the cycle since Mark Kotsay against the Cubs on Aug. 14, 2008. He is also the first to do it in the majors this season.

"Two of the best words ever. Game 7."

— **LeBron James**
Cleveland Cavaliers forward to reporters on Wednesday. The Cavs must win Game 6 of the NBA Finals tonight to keep Golden State from clinching the title in Cleveland for the second straight season.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

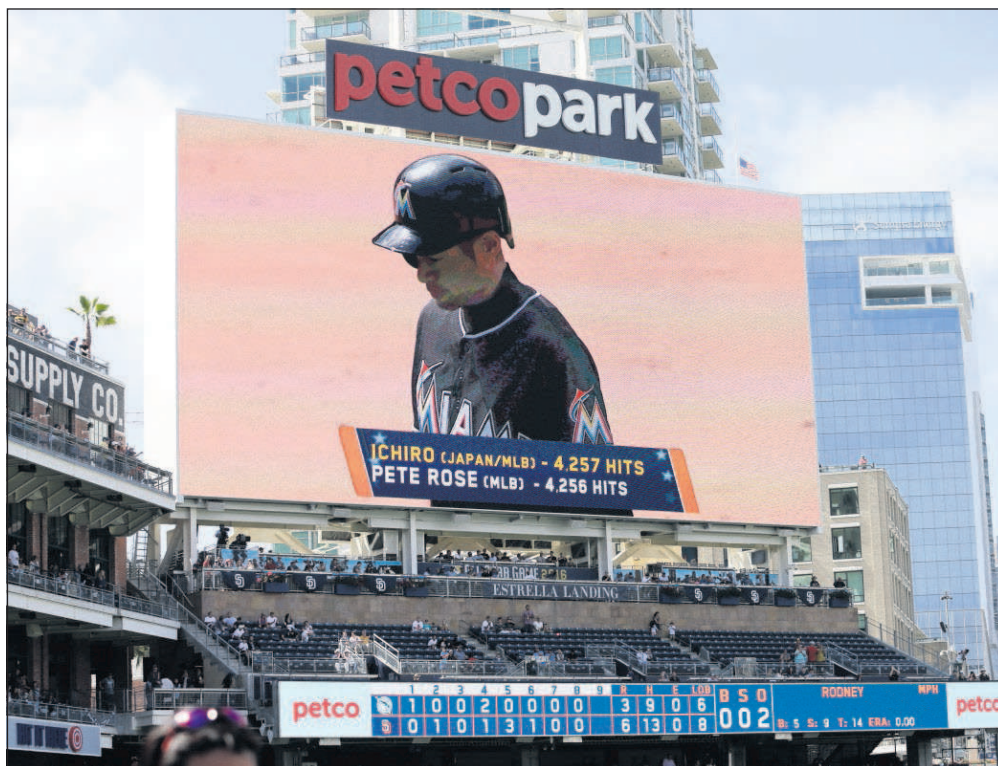
1946 — Lloyd Mangrum edges Byron Nelson and Vic Ghezzi to win the U.S. Open by one stroke in a 36-hole playoff.

1968 — Lee Trevino becomes the first golfer to play all four rounds of the U.S. Open under par as he beats Jack Nicklaus by four strokes.

1993 — Michael Jordan scores 55 points to lead the Chicago Bulls to a 111-105 victory and a 3-1 lead over the Phoenix Suns in the NBA Finals. Jordan is the fifth player to score 50 in the finals and the first since Jerry West in 1969.

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

Ichiro hits No. 4,257 MORE INSIDE



An image of Miami Marlins Ichiro Suzuki is displayed on a giant screen after hitting a double in the ninth inning of a baseball game against the San Diego Padres Wednesday, June 15, 2016, in San Diego. With the hit, Suzuki's combined career hits in Japan and the major leagues surpassed Pete Rose's major league record of 4,256 career hits.

AP Photo/Gregory Bull

College National Finals Rodeo

Parke rallies in steer wrestling

BMCC cowboy posts second fastest time in performance

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — It was a slow day for the Blue Mountain Community College rodeo team as just six competitors performed at the College National Finals Rodeo on Wednesday evening at the Casper (Wyo.) Events Center.



Parke

Jared Parke turned in an up-and-down day with a disappointing no score in tie-down roping before storming back with a 4.3 second time in steer wrestling which was good enough for second place in the

See CNFR/2B

PENDLETON

Straily finds stride in Cincinnati



AP Photo/John Minchillo

Cincinnati Reds starting pitcher Dan Straily throws in the first inning of baseball game against the Oakland Athletics, Saturday, June 11, 2016, in Cincinnati.

Former Buckaroo reaping the benefits of offseason work

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

The year 2016 has been the definition of a roller coaster for Pendleton native Dan Straily.

The 27-year-old started out the year in spring training with his third club, the Houston Astros, looking to get his career heading back in

the right direction. But after two months of solid showings at spring training, Straily was traded away to San Diego on Mar. 28 and then was subsequently designated for assignment and placed on waivers just four days later.

Then on June 1, Straily was on the move again as he was claimed on waivers by the Cincinnati Reds,

a team at the start of a rebuild that was looking for some experienced pitchers to contribute out of the bullpen. It was a different role for Straily, who had 45 major league starts under his belt before the season, but one he was willing to accept.

Just a few weeks into the season, however, the injury bug attacked the

Reds starting rotation and opened up a spot for Straily. He made his first start of the season on Apr. 18 against the Colorado Rockies and had a solid showing, pitching five innings with two hits and one run allowed with four strikeouts. And as the starts kept coming, the results got better and better.

See STRAILY/2B

NBA Finals

Love still seeking his rhythm

Lake Oswego product coming off 2-point game

By TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Numbers may not necessarily lie, though they can deceive.

On one hand, Cleveland's "Big Three" of LeBron James, Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love combined for 84 points in Game 5 of the NBA Finals — the triumvirate's highest such total this postseason.

Of course, Love scored two of them. Irving and James, they each had 41.

If Cleveland is to complete an NBA Finals comeback unlike any other — the Cavaliers pushed the series to Game 6 with a win at

See LOVE/2B



AP Photo/Tony Dejak

Cleveland Cavaliers head coach Tyronn Lue, left, talks with Kevin Love during practice for Game 6 of the NBA basketball Finals, Wednesday, June 15, 2016, in Cleveland. The Cavaliers will play the Golden State Warriors Thursday night in Cleveland.

MILTON-FREEWATER

Quest for World Series set to begin

District tournaments open Little League all-star season

East Oregonian

All around the globe, young baseball and softball players begin the path to the Little League World Series this month.

Locally, the District 3 Softball Tournament will kick off the all-star season on Saturday with games in four age brackets. The District 3 Baseball Tournament will begin the following week on Friday, June 24 in Burns.

Teams from Hermiston, Pendleton, Milton-Freewater, Pilot Rock, Columbia and Triangle will be representing Umatilla and Morrow County communities in the softball brackets.

See LITTLE LEAGUE/2B