

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2016

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1B

US Track & Field Trials

Montano can't catch break

Jordan Scott warms up for the men's pole vault event at the U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials, Monday, July 4, 2016, in Eugene Ore.

AP Photo/Matt Slocum



Runner suffers a different kind of setback, falls in 800

By EDDIE PELLIS
Associated Press

EUGENE — The first thing Alysia Montano thought was, "Get up. Get up."

By the time she finally did, everyone else was gone.

The 800-meter runner who has been victimized more than once by a cruel, unseemly side of her sport got the worst break of

all at U.S. Track and Field Trials.

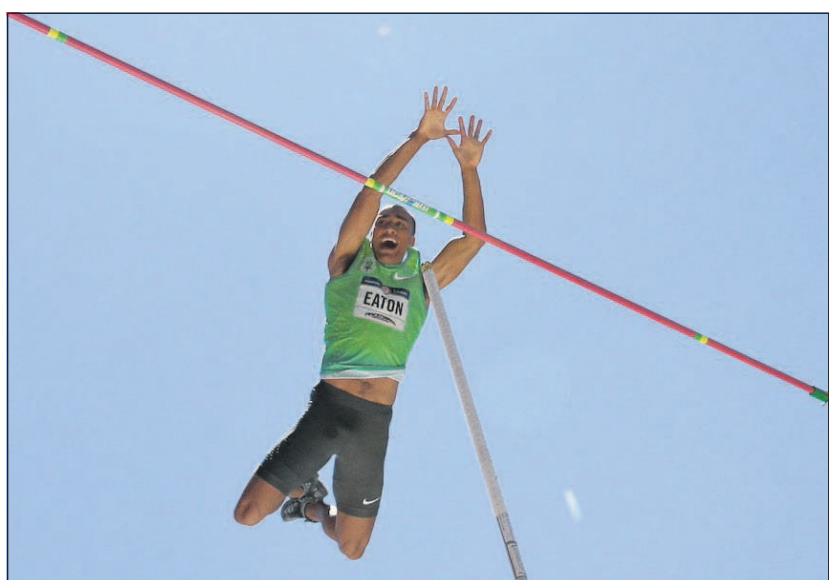
Cheated out of medal after medal by Russians who were later found to have been doping — including at the London Olympics four years ago —

Montano saw her chance at an Olympic victory come up painfully short when she tripped over a competitor's feet while lining up her last charge in Monday

See TRIALS/2B

From Sunday

No record, just another impressive win for Eaton



Ashton Eaton celebrates during the decathlon pole vault event at the U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials, Sunday, July 3, 2016, in Eugene Ore.

Decathlete will defend title in Rio

By PAT GRAHAM
Associated Press

EUGENE — This wasn't a world record for Ashton Eaton. Just a runaway win and another trip to the Olympics.

Not bad for a decathlete dealing with a slight injury.

On a tender right hamstring, the defending Olympic champion scored 8,750 points to beat Jeremy Taiwo by 325 at the U.S. Track and Field Trials on Sunday night. That's well off Eaton's world record of 9,045, set at the world championships last summer in Beijing.

But consider this: No one in the decathlete field for the Rio Olympics has a personal-best that matches Eaton's mark from the trials.

He's simply in a different stratosphere these days. The only person who can compete against him is, well, a computerized model of himself.

No, really. "It's almost like I make a digital version of myself, try to compete against that," said Eaton, who's also been dealing with a left quadriceps that's hampered him in recent weeks. "I had this little mini

See EATON/2B

HERMISTON

All-stars hold on for title

Hermiston 9/10 baseball beats Baker to earn state berth

East Oregonian

BURNS — The Hermiston all-stars bounced back from their first defeat of the week and never trailed in the championship game of the 9/10-year-old Little League District 3 tournament on Friday in Burns.

Hermiston was undefeated entering the double elimination championship round where it met Baker, which emerged from the consolation bracket after losing to Hermiston in the semifinals.

Baker scored twice in the seventh inning to beat Hermiston 8-7 and force a second game, but JR Starr's sacrifice groundout in the first inning of Game 2 gave Hermiston a 3-0 lead on its way to a 11-7 win.

See LITTLE LEAGUE/2B

PENDLETON

Hodgen 3rd at Wood Bat Classic

Helena beats Pendleton ballclub with walk-off single

East Oregonian

SPOKANE, Wash. — The Hodgen Distributing baseball team earned its highest-ever placing at the Spokane Wood Bat Classic by taking third on Monday.

It was a bittersweet finish, however, coming after an 8-7 loss to the Helena Reps on a walk-off single.

Helena scored five runs in the last two innings as Hodgen's bullpen was down running thin after six games in four days.

After Helena took the lead 6-4 with

See HODGEN/2B

MLB

McCullers, Springer lead Astros over Mariners

Seattle struggles with runners on third

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Lance McCullers struck out 10 in seven strong innings and George Springer homered for the second straight day to give the Houston Astros a 2-1 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Monday.

McCullers (4-2), who missed his previous turn with a blister on his right

index finger, allowed five hits and one run while matching his season high for strikeouts.

Luke Gregerson pitched a perfect eighth and Will Harris did the same in the ninth for his eighth save.

Springer doubled and scored in the first inning. There were two outs in the fifth when he launched his 19th home run to left-center field to make it 2-1.

Seattle starter Wade Miley (6-5) yielded seven hits and two runs in 6 2/3 innings



for his third straight loss.

Dee-Ho Lee had an RBI single for the Mariners, whose four-

game winning streak was snapped.

The Mariners came up empty twice after having a runner on third with no outs.

The first time came when Leonys Martin hit a leadoff triple before Seth Smith struck out. McCullers then struck out Robinson Cano, but the ball got away from catcher Jason Castro and Martin broke for home.

McCullers covered and took the short toss from Castro to tag out Martin at the plate.

Springer got things going for the Astros with a double in the first before a single by Marwin Gonzalez. Carlos Correa drew a walk to load the bases with one out before the Astros took a 1-0 lead on a sacrifice fly by Luis Valbuena.

Kyle Seager hit a ground-rule double with one out in the second and the Mariners tied it on the single by Lee. McCullers settled in after that, retiring the next 14 in a row. He struck out eight in that span, including the side in the third.



Seattle Mariners starting pitcher Wade Miley, right, looks away as Houston Astros' George Springer, left, rounds the bases after hitting a solo home run solo in the fifth inning of a baseball game, Monday, July 4, 2016, in Houston.

Sports shorts

Venus back in Wimbledon quarters

LONDON (AP) — Venus Williams has gotten this far before. Many times, in fact.

It's just been a while.

The five-time Wimbledon champion will be playing in the quarterfinals at the All England Club for the 12th time in her career, but the first time since 2010.

"Yeah, it's been a few years. Missed a year or two," said Williams, who has been slowed in recent years by Sjogren's syndrome, a condition that can cause joint pain and saps energy. "But I've been here before. I'm not, like, a deer in the headlights."

The eighth-seeded Williams will take on Yaroslava Shvedova of Kazakhstan on Tuesday, a player she has never faced.

Williams reached the quarterfinals by beating Carla Suarez Navarro of Spain 7-6 (3), 6-4, while Shvedova defeated 28th-seeded Lucie Safarova of the Czech Republic 6-2, 6-4.

FACES



Williams

"You get mad because it shouldn't be like this anywhere. It shouldn't be this dirty. But there's nothing we can do about it."

— Camilla Cedercreutz

Finnish sailor after a practice run in Guanabara Bay during which an oil slick turned white boats completely brown. It's a new pollution problem for the sailing venue for the Rio de Janeiro Olympics, which open Aug. 5.

Tour de France leaders relax

ANGERS, France (AP) — Wearing the yellow jersey, Peter Sagan considered stopping at a cafe.

Hardly pedaling, the overall leaders in the Tour de France spent most of Monday's third stage chatting to one another and riding at such a leisurely pace that they could have fit right in on a town bike path.

"It was a very relaxed day for us. We went slow. It was nice," said Sagan, who playfully bumped shoulders with some of the other riders just to keep things interesting. "I was thinking one moment we were going to take the coffee like old time."

The morning caffeine didn't kick in until the very end of the lengthy and mostly flat 223.5-kilometer (139-mile) leg from Granville to Angers.

That was when Mark Cavendish showed off his sprinting experience by edging German rival Andre Greipel in a photo finish.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1947 — Larry Doby becomes the first black to play in the American League. He strikes out as a pinch-hitter for the Cleveland Indians in a 6-5 loss to the Chicago White Sox.

1968 — The Philadelphia 76ers trade Wilt Chamberlain, basketball's greatest offensive player, to the Los Angeles Lakers after they are unable to sign him.

2003 — Serena Williams beats sister Venus 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 for her second straight Wimbledon title. It's her fifth championship in the past six Grand Slams, each capped by a victory over Venus.

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