

Golf

# Enough Olympic talk: It's time for the British Open

By DOUG FERGUSON  
Associated Press

TROON, Scotland — Jordan Spieth, going for the third leg of the career Grand Slam, spent more time talking about a golf course he will never see.

The majority of his press conference was taken up with questions about the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro and why he chose not to play. Spieth knew that was coming. It was only when he was leaving the room that the 22-year-old Texan smiled and said to no one in particular, "Do we have a tournament this week?"

Finally, yes. Colin Montgomerie, who lived across the street from Royal Troon when his father was the club secretary, hits the first tee shot when the British Open begins on Thursday. That should put to rest three days of consternation about another tournament — the Olympics — that doesn't have nearly the history or the tradition of golf's oldest championship.

The International Golf Federation, run by former R&A chief Peter Dawson, took over Open week on Monday to announce that Olympic qualifying had ended and that Spieth (along with Rory McIlroy, Jason Day, Dustin Johnson and 16 other men) was not playing.

The next day, Spieth stood by his decision ("health concerns") and said his goal would be to get to the Tokyo Games in 2020, assuming the men are still in the games. McIlroy followed him into the room and blasted golf officials who for the last seven years have preached the Olympics as an opportunity to grow the game.

"I didn't get into golf to grow the game," McIlroy said. "I got into golf to win championships, and win major championships."

Even on Wednesday, the day before the 145th Open began, another press conference was held with the IGF backdrop to announce Britain's golf team.

Claret jug, anyone?



Jordan Spieth points during Wednesday's practice round ahead of the British Open Championship at the Royal Troon Golf Club in Troon, Scotland.

AP Photo/Peter Morrison

Spieth let it slip through his fingers last year at St. Andrews going for his third straight major, and he wound up holding it later that evening — but only because he was with Zach Johnson, the champion golfer of the year, when it was over.

"I crave to have that trophy in my possession at some point," Spieth said. "And to reach a third leg of the Grand Slam this week

would be a fantastic achievement."

History is on his side, even if it's more of a coincidence. The last six British Open champions at Royal Troon dating to 1950 are Americans, and it didn't escape Spieth when he looked at photos of the winners in the clubhouse. The last two winners, Todd Hamilton and Justin Leonard, lived in Dallas.

Spieth arrived on the weekend and already saw the unpredictable nature of these Ayrshire links off the Irish Sea.

The wind was into his face on Saturday and Sunday on the easier opening holes, and the prevailing wind at his back returned the following three days. Royal Troon is clearly a tale of two nines. The front nine typically is downwind and doesn't have

a par 4 longer than 422 yards. The back nine turns into the wind and doesn't have a par 4 that is shorter than 430 yards.

The common denominator? Bunkers dot the landscape on both sides, along with thick, prickly gorse bushes more prevalent at the turn. Fairway bunkers effectively are a half-shot penalty, possibly a full shot or more if the ball rolls up against the vetted faces.

"We looked at the holes, and on paper it looked relatively simple," Masters champion Danny Willett said. "But you start knocking it in a couple of the bunkers, up near the faces, the bunker design is a little bit sneaky."

The closing holes into the wind can be a three-club difference.

"You can see when it's flattened out, you can have a go at the golf course," he said. "But if you get it breezy, like in any Open venue, this place really shows its teeth."

The record score at Royal Troon is 12-under 272 when Leonard won in 1997.

## PENDLETON: Jenness double scores two, gains lead for good

Continued from 1B

ended the threat, but Pendleton was far from done.

Portland got its leadoff batter on with an error in the bottom of the fourth, but didn't get a runner past second and Jordan Jones walked to lead off the fifth.

She took second on a passed ball, then scored on a single by Ella Chrisman (1 for 3). Chrisman also advanced on a passed ball, and pulled Pendleton within 4-3 when she scored on a ground-out by Kylie Parsons.

Maria Lilienthal (2 for 4) restarted the rally with a single, then Wilson walked to bring up Duchek, who singled to drive in Lilienthal and knot the score at four apiece.

Jenness then put Pendleton up for good with a two-RBI double to center field. Sauren Garton (1 for 3) singled to move Jenness to third, and a ground-out by Burke brought her home to cap the rally.

Burke got a swinging strikeout to strand runners on the corners during Portland's fifth, and Wilson scored Pendleton's final run in the sixth on an error on a ball hit to left field by Duchek.

Portland got runners on second and third with one out in the bottom of the sixth, but a fly out to Jones in left field and a ground-out to Wilson at second ended the game.

Pendleton will represent Oregon at the Little League Softball West Regional Tournament at Al Houghton Stadium in San Bernardino, California, on July 22-29.

It will open the 12-team bracket in pool play with state champions from Alaska, Montana and Utah. Other teams at West Regionals will be Hawaii, Idaho, Northern California, Southern California, Arizona, Nevada, Washington and Wyoming.

The winner will advance to the Little League Softball World Series in Portland on Aug. 10-17.

Despite coming up short in the state tournament, Southeast Portland will receive an automatic berth at the World Series as the host team.

	PEN	SEP	R	H	E
	000161	—	8	9	4
	013000	—	4	10	2

W — M. Burke, L — Ailee P.  
2B — D. Jenness (PEN); Elizabeth B., Claire W., Ailee P. (SEP). 3B — D. Duchek (PEN).

## ALL-STATE:

Continued from 1B

Roe is joined by four Pilot Rock teammates on the all-state first team roster as well as seven Rockets overall, giving the team the most representatives on the all-state teams of any school in Class 2A/1A.

Joining Roe on the all-state first team roster was junior pitcher Tehya Ostrom (12-0, 1.01 ERA, 84 K, 75.2 IP), sophomore catcher Rhyanne Oates (.404 avg., 17 RBI, 32 runs), senior infielder and state championship MVP Madison Dave (.520 avg., 15 doubles, 5 HR, 49 RBI), and junior utility player Sara Weinke (.456 avg., .554 OBP, 2 HR, 25 RBI, 27 runs).

Senior pitcher Rebekka Holman (9-2, 1.65 ERA, 57 K, 50.2 IP) and sophomore outfielder Kayla Deist (.378 avg., 19 runs) were each named as all-state honorable mentions for Pilot Rock. Irrigon senior outfielder Kelly McLaughlin was also named as an honorable mention.

Pilot Rock's Darin Fitzpatrick was also selected as Class 2A/1A Coach of the Year.

### Youth Baseball

## Bliss and Bower homer, Hodgen splits with Bend

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — A pair of solid starts yielded just a split for Hodgen Distributing on Tuesday when it took on Bend in an American Legion doubleheader.

The difference for the Pendleton club came on offense as Hodgen scored early and often in 13-5 win in Game 1, then went cold before a too-little-too-late rally in a 9-5 loss in Game 2.

Daniel Naughton took the hill to start the first game and allowed one run on just one hit over four innings. He also struck out six and walked one. Wyatt Morris went the rest of the way and allowed four runs, though none were earned, on three hits.

Hodgen's offense allowed both pitchers to work stress-free, though, and churned out 11 hits with home runs from Mathan Bliss and Nick Bower.

Bliss's was a solo shot to lead off the bottom of the third and put Hodgen up 5-1, and Bower's was a three-run job in the fourth to extend the lead to 9-1.

Bliss and Ryan Russell each went 2 for 3 at the plate, and

Naughton and Caleb Cary were 2 for 4.

Austin Zaugg started with the ball in Game 2 and tossed three hitless innings before running into trouble in the fourth. Bend scored four runs on three hits and three errors to go up 4-2, and Zaugg hit two batters and gave up two runs before recording an out in the fifth and turned the ball over to Hayden Villers with the bases loaded.

Villers plunked his first batter, then a passed ball allowed another run to score to make it 8-2.

Two looking strikeouts and a ground-out to third stranded one for Hodgen in the fifth, and Bend extended its lead with a run in the sixth.

A lead-off walk and another Hodgen error (it had six in the game), put runners on second and third with no outs. Villers struck out two of the next three batters, but Bend pushed a run in with a ground-out to second.

Hodgen had a chance to cut the lead in the sixth when an error and two walks gave it bases loaded with one out, but a strikeout followed by a ground-out to first ended that opportunity.

### Soccer

## Spurred by small field flap, NWSL players sound off

By ANNE M. PETERSON  
Associated Press

Anger over a narrow field used for a National Women's Soccer League match last weekend is drawing attention to larger issues as players fight for respect.

U.S. national team and NWSL stars Hope Solo, Carli Lloyd and Megan Rapinoe were among those using social media to declare the field unacceptable. More broadly, Solo, the U.S. national team and Seattle Reign goalkeeper who has been vocal about gender equity in her sport, took to her website to decry conditions for players in the NWSL, now in its fourth season and widely considered one of the world's strongest women's leagues.

Solo posted photos of fields

with crooked lines, sad locker rooms and cleats that she said had melted after practice on an unwatered artificial turf field on a sweltering summer day.

"The 'We know things aren't up to par, but we're going ahead with them anyway,' attitude, quite honestly, is a fairly accurate reflection of how the NWSL has functioned during the four years of its existence," Solo wrote. "It's far past time that the women in our league start being treated like professional athletes — otherwise, we might as well just admit that the NWSL is just a semi-pro league, and stop pretending like it's the best women's league in the world."

Saturday's match between the Western New York Flash and Reign was played at Frontier Field

in Rochester, New York, a minor-league baseball stadium. The Flash had to move the match because of a concert at their regular field.

The field measured 100 yards by 58 yards. But NWSL standards call for a width of 70 yards.

Images of the soccer field — angled in the outfield — quickly spread over social media, attracting the attention of U.S. national team players who had earlier in the day defeated South Africa in an exhibition to prepare for the Rio Olympics. National team players are allocated across the NWSL, but weren't with their club teams this weekend because of the match.

Lloyd, who plays for the Houston Dash, called the field "shocking and embarrassing" on

Twitter. Alex Morgan (Orlando Pride) and Rapinoe (Reign) also weighed in, calling it unacceptable.

Christine Sinclair, who plays for the Canadian national team and the NWSL's Portland Thorns, posted: "How is this ok? Not good enough for professional soccer. 6v6 field?"

NWSL Commissioner Jeff Plush said in a statement following the match that the league had signed off on the move, but admitted it was the wrong decision in retrospect.

"As a professional league, we need to ensure that the integrity of the game is always respected both on and off the field," Plush said. "We did not do that tonight and we apologize to the NWSL players, coaches and fans."

## SCOREBOARD

### Baseball

MLB				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	51	36	.586	—
Boston	49	38	.563	2
Toronto	51	40	.560	2
New York	44	44	.500	7½
Tampa Bay	34	54	.386	17½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	52	36	.591	—
Detroit	46	43	.517	6½
Kansas City	45	43	.511	7
Chicago	45	43	.511	7
Minnesota	32	56	.364	20
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	54	36	.600	—
Houston	48	41	.539	5½
Seattle	45	44	.506	8½
Oakland	38	51	.427	15½
Los Angeles	37	52	.416	16½
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	54	36	.600	—
New York	47	41	.534	6
Miami	47	41	.534	6
Philadelphia	42	48	.467	12½
Atlanta	31	58	.348	22½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	53	35	.602	—
St. Louis	46	42	.523	7
Pittsburgh	46	43	.517	7½
Milwaukee	38	49	.437	14½
Cincinnati	32	57	.360	21½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	57	33	.633	—
Los Angeles	51	40	.560	6½
Colorado	40	48	.455	16
San Diego	38	51	.427	18½
Arizona	38	52	.422	19
<b>Monday-Thursday</b> No games scheduled (All-Star break)				

### MILB

NORTHWEST LEAGUE				
North Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Tri-City (Padres)	15	11	.577	—
Vancouver (Blue Jays)	14	12	.538	1
Everett (Mariners)	14	12	.538	1
Spokane (Rangers)	12	15	.444	3
South Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Eugene (Cubs)	17	9	.654	—
Hillsboro (Dbacks)	12	14	.462	5
Salem-Keizer (Giants)	12	15	.444	5½
Boise (Rockies)	9	17	.346	8
<b>Wednesday's Game</b> Vancouver 9, Boise 3 Everett 7, Hillsboro 3 Tri-City 3, Eugene 2 Spokane 9, Salem-Keizer 7				
<b>Today's Game</b> Vancouver at Boise, 6:15 p.m. Salem-Keizer at Spokane, 6:30 p.m. Everett at Hillsboro, 7:05 p.m. Eugene at Tri-City, 7:15 p.m.				

### Basketball

WNBA				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	16	6	.727	—
Atlanta	11	10	.524	4½
Washington	9	12	.429	6½
Indiana	9	12	.429	6½
Chicago	8	12	.400	7
Connecticut	6	14	.300	9
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	17	1	.950	—
Minnesota	17	4	.810	2½
Dallas	9	12	.429	10½
Phoenix	9	13	.409	11
Seattle	7	13	.350	12
San Antonio	5	16	.238	14½
<b>Wednesday's Games</b> New York 86, Atlanta 62 Connecticut 86, Indiana 64 Los Angeles 77, Chicago 67 Phoenix 78, Washington 74				

### Friday's Games

Los Angeles at Connecticut, 4 p.m.  
Atlanta at Indiana 4 p.m.  
New York at Minnesota, 5 p.m.  
Dallas at Chicago, 5:30 p.m.  
Washington at Seattle, 7 p.m.

### Soccer

MLS						
EASTERN CONFERENCE						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
NYC FC	8	6	6	30	31	34
Philadelphia	8	6	5	29	32	26
Montreal	6	4	8	26	29	26
New York	7	9	3	24	28	25
Toronto FC	6	6	6	24	20	20
New England	5	7	7	22	26	33
D.C. United	5	7	6	21	17	20
Orlando City	4	4	9	21	28	29
Columbus	3	7	8	17	23	29
Chicago	4	8	5	17	16	21
WESTERN CONFERENCE						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
FC Dallas	11	6	4	37	31	29
Colorado	9	2	7	34	21	13
Real Salt Lake	8	6	5	29	29	30
Los Angeles	7	3	8	29	31	18
Sporting KC	8	9	4	28	24	24
Vancouver	8	8	4	28	31	33
Portland	6	6	8	26	29	30
San Jose	5	6	7	22	19	21
Seattle	6	10	2	20	19	21
Houston	4	8	6	18	23	25
NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.						
<b>Wednesday's Games</b> Toronto FC 1, Columbus 1, tie New York 2, Orlando City 0 Chicago 1, Sporting KC 0 Seattle 5, FC Dallas 0 Portland 1, Montreal 1 Vancouver 2, Real Salt Lake 0 <b>Friday's Game</b> Houston at Los Angeles, 8 p.m.						
Cycling						
Tour de France						
<b>Wednesday</b>						

### At Montpellier, France

**11th Stage**  
A 101-mile flat ride from Carcassonne to Montpellier, with a pair of early Category 4 climbs.  
1. Peter Sagan, Slovakia, Tinkoff, 3 hours, 26 minutes, 23 seconds.  
2. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, same time.  
3. Maciej Bodnar, Poland, Tinkoff, same time.  
4. Alexander Kristoff, Norway, Katusha, 6 seconds behind.  
5. Christopher Laporte, France, Cofidis, same time.  
**Overall Standings**  
(After 11 stages)  
1. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, 52:34:37.  
2. Adam Yates, Britain, Orica-BikeExchange, :28.  
3. Daniel Martin, Ireland, Etixx-QuickStep, :31.  
4. Nairo Quintana, Colombia, Movistar, :35.  
5. Bauke Mollema, Netherlands, Trek-Segafredo, :56.  
6. Romain Bardet, France, AG2R La Mondiale, same time.  
7. Sergio Henao, Colombia, Sky, same time.  
8. Alejandro Valverde, Spain, Movistar, 1:13.  
9. Tejay Van Garderen, United States, BMC.  
Racing, same time.  
10. Roman Kreuziger, Czech Republic, Tinkoff, 1:28.

### Motorsports

NASCAR	
Sprint Cup Schedule	
Sunday, July 17	— New Hampshire 301, Loudon, N.H. (TV: NBCSN)
Sunday, July 24	— "Your Hero's Name Here" 400, Speedway, Ind. (TV: NBCSN)
Sunday, July 31	— Pennsylvania 400, Long Pond, Pa. (TV: NBCSN)
Sprint Cup Points Leaders	
Through July 10	
1. Kevin Harvick	599
2. Brad Keselowski	595
3. Kurt Busch	583
4. Carl Edwards	566
5. Joey Logano	533
6. Kyle Busch	521
7. Martin Truex Jr.	514
8. Chase Elliott	492
9. Jimmie Johnson	484
10. Matt Kenseth	477