

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2017

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @EOSPORTS

1B

Men's College Basketball

Ducks end Michigan's run

Three-pointer at buzzer won't fall for Wolverines

By ERIC OLSON
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Tyler Dorsey's teammates call him "Mr. March."

Yeah, that fits. Dorsey scored 20 points and made the go-ahead layup with 1:08 left, and third-seeded Oregon held on to end No. 7 Michigan's dramatic postseason run with a 69-68 victory in a Midwest Regional semifinal on Thursday night.

"We lean on him right now," the Ducks' Dylan Ennis said. "He's playing

his best basketball, and it's coming at the right time."

Dorsey's recent surge has been timely, for sure. He's scored 20 or more points in six straight games, a stretch that has seen Pac-12 player of the year Dillon Brooks struggle with his shot.

Oregon didn't have the win secured until Derrick Walton Jr., who had carried the Wolverines the last three weeks, was off with his long jumper just before the buzzer.

For the Ducks (32-5), it's on to the Elite Eight for the second straight year. For the Wolverines (26-12), it was the end of a wild ride.

"The kids fought their hearts out



this whole season," Michigan coach John Beilein said, "but particularly this last six weeks to be more than a story. It was a great team. They were becoming a great team before the story. We weren't sharp as we would have liked to have been today, but you have to credit Oregon with that."

Jordan Bell had a double-double for the Ducks, with 16 points and 13 rebounds. Brooks added 12 points and Ennis had 10.

Walton led the Wolverines with 20 points, eight assists and five rebounds. Zak Irvin had 14 of his 19 points in the second half and DJ Wilson had 12 points.



Oregon forward Dillon Brooks, left, celebrates with Jordan Bell after a regional semifinal against Michigan in the NCAA men's college basketball tournament, Thursday, March 23, 2017, in Kansas City, Mo. Oregon won 69-68.

AP Photo/Charlie Riedel

PENDLETON

Bulldogs win big at Track Classic

Hermiston boys, girls each earn team wins

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

Twenty five high school track teams from across Eastern Oregon and southeast Washington descended on Pendleton High School for the 26th annual Buck Track Classic on Thursday afternoon, most of which were competing for the first time in the 2017 season.

It was the largest group of competitors in the event's history, according to Pendleton assistant coach Nicole Stewart, which made for a great — and long — day of competition for the local athletes. The athletes were also lucky that Mother Nature decided to be kind to them, after a rainy weather earlier in the week gave way to clear skies and sunny weather for the meet.

"I was a little scared earlier (in the week), but thankfully the sun opened up," Hermiston's Tyler Rohrman said of the weather. "I'm just glad we're running in the sun."

Out of the 25 teams, the Hermiston Bulldogs walked away as team champions in both the girls and boys events with the help of a strong performance in the sprint events and in the field events on Thursday.

On the girls side, Hermiston earned a whopping 164.42 points which was way ahead of second place Nyssa (80.42) and third place Pendleton (54.84). And for the boys, Hermiston won with 141 points while La Grande followed



Madison Wilson, of Hermiston, leads the pack in the 100-meter hurdles during Thursday's Buck Track Classic in Pendleton.

in second with 115 points, Weston-McEwen (59) finished third and Pendleton (52.5) in fourth.

Rohrman, who won the boys

100 meter hurdles by more than half a second with a time of 15.33, said that competing in a meet with

25 teams early in the season can pay

big dividends for the athletes.

"It helps you really get into track season," he said. "You go to a dual meet and it's just two teams, it goes



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Hayden Scott, of Weston-McEwen, and Hermiston's Isaac Sanchez come around the final turn of the 1,500-meter run on Thursday at the Buck Track Classic. Sanchez edged ahead of Scott for the win, clocking 4:17.50.

by really fast, but here it teaches you to manage your body, your time and to know when to warm up.

"And to deal with the atmosphere because this is totally different with a lot more people here watching and it's a lot of what we'll deal with later in the season."

In the running events, Hermiston came away with wins in the boys and girls 100 meters, girls 200 meters, girls 400 meters, boys 1500 meters, boys 110 meter hurdles, girls 100 meter hurdles, both girls relay races as well as the boys 4x100 relay.

And in the field, Hermiston

See TRACK/2B

UMATILLA

Greb, Snodgrass claim titles at Big River

Three-way playoff decides boys' champion

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

With its straightforward layout and short fairways, Big River Golf Course proved deceptively tough for participants at the Bulldog Invitational on a sunny Thursday by the banks of the Columbia.

Without too many hazards, the players' mental approach became amplified, and those that overlooked the par-70 course paid with high scores. No golfers broke par, and 75 was the lowest score to be turned in.

Four golfers hit that mark as Pendleton's Haley Greb won the girls' title, and The Dalles's Chase Snodgrass won a two-hole playoff against Hermiston's Jared Thacker and Pendleton's Nathan Som for the boys' title.

Snodgrass, a senior, hit par on both extra holes while Thacker and Som fell behind with bogeys as they replayed hole No. 1.

"I felt like I did what I could with the game that I had today," said Thacker, a senior. "I felt like I gave away some strokes, but that's golf."

He said after the way his first tee shot went, he was pretty happy to shoot 75 on a day several players came into the clubhouse complaining about hard greens.

"It could have been a bad day. I hit it out bounds and I was like, 'Aw shucks. Well, come turn it around.' And that's what I did," he said. "We were prepared but my putting was a little off today, but I also made some pretty sweet ones. I was able to win in (two) birdies which was pretty exciting for me."

Som's greatest challenge of the round was pace of play as a bottleneck had his group doing a lot of waiting around. He was in the second boys'

See GOLF/2B



Hermiston's Jared Thacker hits from the tee on the second playoff hole in the Bulldog Invitational at Big River Golf Course on Thursday in Umatilla. Thacker finished tied for second.

Staff photo by Matt Entrup

Prep Roundup

Pendleton, Irrigon softball stay undefeated

Richards strikes out 14 for Buckaroos to beat Southridge

East Oregonian

KENNEWICK, Wash. — Pendleton junior Lauren Richards turned in another stellar performance in the circle, and also scored the game-winning run when her catcher laid down a perfect squeeze bunt in the top of the seventh inning as the Buckaroos remained undefeated with a 3-1 win at Southridge on Thursday.

Richards allowed just one hit and struck out 14 batters, and with the game knotted at 1-1 going into the seventh she came up and hit a lead-off double. Rylee Gentner then was hit by a pitch to give them runners on first and second, and Aspen Garton moved both over with a sacrifice bunt. Solomon followed with her bunt RBI, and Gentner would add the final

See PREP/2B