

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017

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HERMISTON

BMCC dominates at home

Blue Mountain rodeo extends leads in Northwest Region

East Oregonian

The Blue Mountain rodeo teams extended their leads in the Northwest Region with a dominant three rounds in Hermiston over the weekend.

The Timberwolves were on top of their game on Saturday to win the two-round BMCC Rodeo at Umatilla County Fairgrounds, and the men's team scored 695 points while the women came in with 580.

Then in Sunday's one-round NW Region Rodeo #6 the men pulled in a whopping 1,109 points to win again while the women were second with 460 to Treasure Valley.

After the weekend's action the Timberwolves are ahead in the season standings by more than 2,400 points on the women's side and by more than 1,600 on the men's.

BMCC's John Espeland leads the men's all-around standings, and he was the all-around cowboy for Saturday's action with 300 points in saddle bronc and bareback.

He won both events with 78 points on one and 123 on two, respectively.

The T-Wolves' Quincy Pendergrass won the women's all-around for

that rodeo with 345 points in barrel racing and breakaway roping. She won the barrels in 35.12 seconds on two, and was third in breakaway with 7.8 on two.

Also winning and event Saturday was Preston Pederson in tie-down roping with 19.5 on two — he was third in steer wrestling with 25.9 on two.

Jessica Lewis was third in barrel racing with 35.43 on two, and Candida Eldridge was second in goat tying (16.8 on two) and team roping (30.6 on two) as a header for Boise State's Wyatt Williams.

The BMCC men had the top

See RODEO/2B

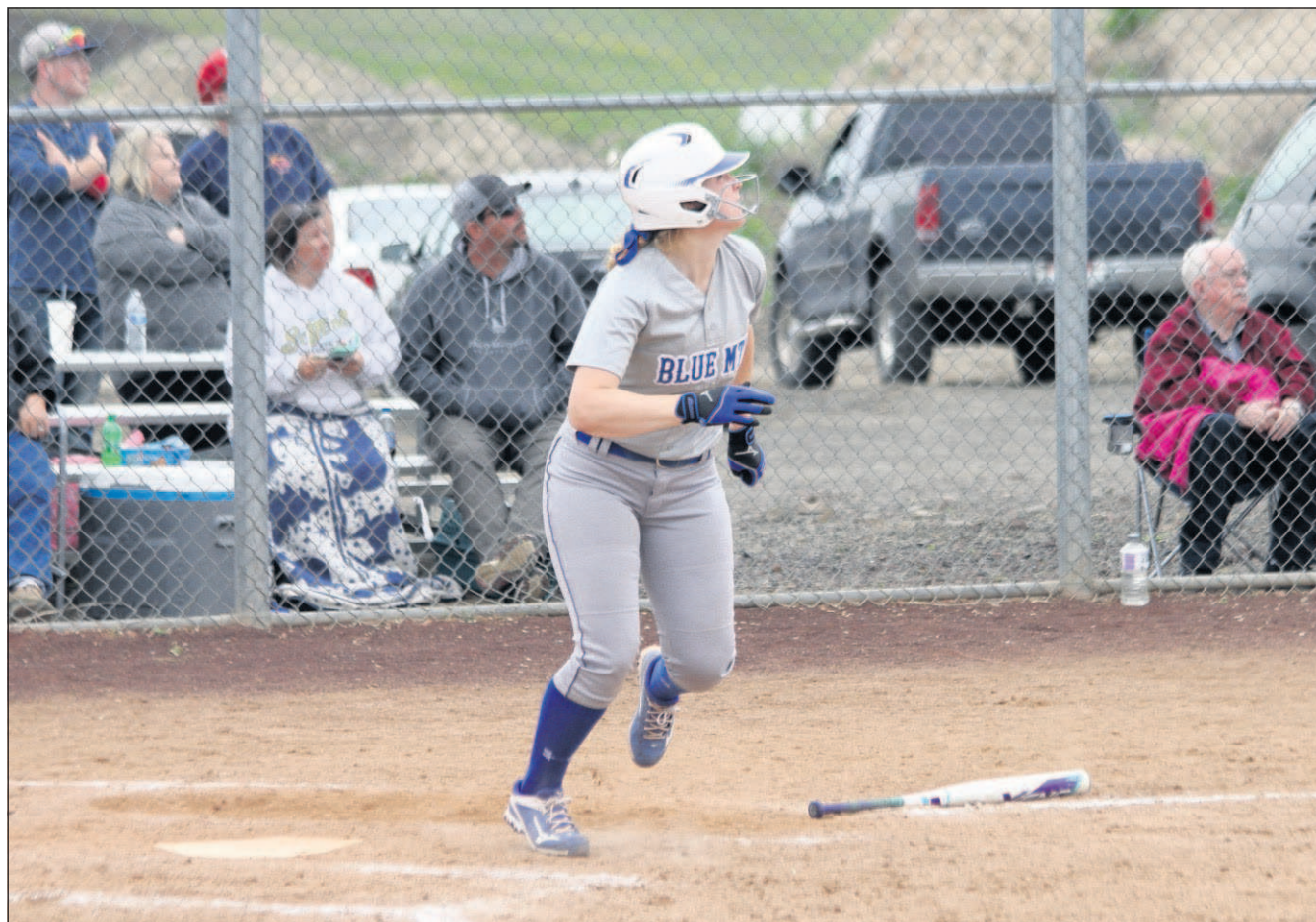


Calvin Shaffer, of BMCC, scores 72 to win the saddle bronc event Saturday at the Northwest Intercollegiate Rodeo Finals in Hermiston.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

PENDLETON

Timberwolves sweep Hawks



Blue Mountain's Miah Slater watches her game-ending home run sail over the left field fence during Game 2 of a doubleheader with Columbia Basin on Saturday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by Eric Singer

BMCC picks up two big wins with season winding down

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

Blue Mountain freshman Miah Slater has not had the kind of offensive performance she was hoping for in her first collegiate season.

The Timberwolves first baseman came into Saturday's doubleheader with Columbia Basin hitting just .155 (9 for 58) in 24 games, which even prompted her to sit for a few games because she simply couldn't buy a hit. But she hopes that things may be going in the right direction now after going a combined 3 for 5 in the two games Saturday as the Timberwolves picked up two huge wins with a sweep of Columbia Basin 13-3 and 14-6.

Included in Slater's three hits was a big three-run home run in the bottom of the fifth inning in Game 2 which enacted the eight-run rule to give the Timberwolves (13-24, 9-15 NWAC East) the walk-off win.

For Slater, she almost couldn't contain herself as she watched the ball sail over the fence and clank off the storage shed beyond the left field fence.

"Oh my gosh it felt so good," Slater said with a big sigh of relief. "Even if it wasn't a walk-off, I needed that. I've been struggling and it was perfect and I was glad I could do that for my team because it had

Softball	
 Columbia Basin 3-6	 Blue Mountain 13-14

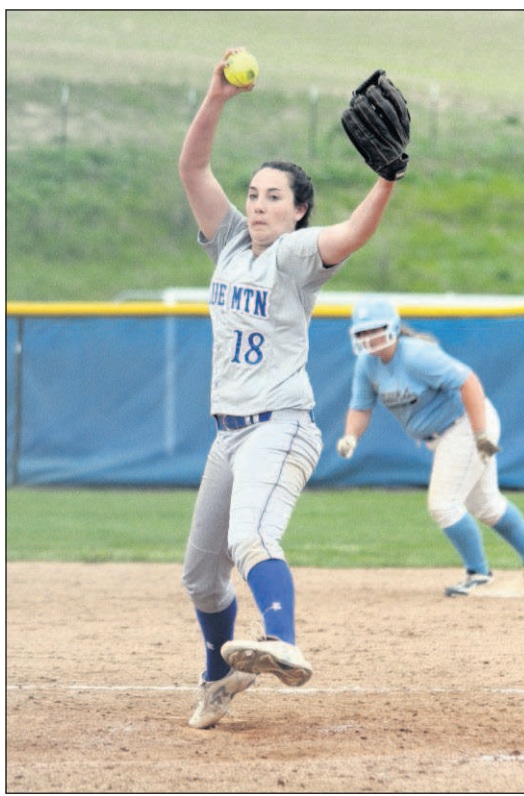
been awhile since I was able to do it. "No better way to end it for sure."

It was a tremendous exclamation point on a very successful day for the Timberwolves, who needed to turn things around Saturday following two ugly losses to Walla Walla on Friday. The Timberwolves are fighting for the 16th and final NWAC playoff spot, and started the day in 19th and needing all the wins it can get with just 10 games left to play.

Columbia Basin (10-26, 6-18) scored the day's first run in Game 1 as the Hawks tagged BMCC pitcher Tiffany Snyder for one run and one hit for a 1-0 lead. But Snyder settled down after that and let the Timberwolves offense help her out, as she allowed just two runs and one hit over the final four innings.

BMCC tied the game in the bottom of the first with a double by Sydney Saxton Siaki and then the Timberwolves took a 2-1 lead in the second on an RBI groundout

See BMCC SOFTBALL/2B



Staff photo by Eric Singer

Blue Mountain pitcher Megan Ulrey throws a pitch during Game 2 of the Timberwolves doubleheader with Columbia Basin on Saturday in Pendleton.

Prep Roundup

Greb second at tourney

East Oregonian

CRESWELL — Pendleton's Haley Greb and Summit's Olivia Loberg continued their season-long battle atop the leaderboards on Monday at Emerald Valley Golf Club.

The last time out it was Greb on top, but this time on the course where the state finals will be held Loberg surged ahead for the win with a round of 74. Greb came in

See MONDAY PREPS/2B

From Saturday

Pioneers roll against Tigers

Mac-Hi softball stays unbeaten in league play

East Oregonian

MILTON-FREEWATER — The Mac-Hi Pioneers keep chugging along in the Greater Oregon League as they swept the Ontario Tigers for the second time this season on Saturday afternoon, winning 9-1 and 13-3 at Yantis Park.

The Pioneers (15-3, 8-0 GOL) won Game 1 behind a dominant day by Mallory Copeland. The senior pitched a complete game in the circle, giving up just four hits and one run in seven innings to go with eight strikeouts and added a 3 for 4 game at the plate with her seventh home run of the season and added two doubles as well. Copeland had one hit with three RBIs and her third double of the day in Game 2.

Coming into the game, Ontario's (14-7, 2-6) offense had averaged more than nine

See SATURDAY PREPS/2B

Sports shorts

Thompson, Beavers extend streaks

CORVALLIS, Ore. — Jake Thompson struck out a career-high 11 in eight innings and KJ Harrison drove in three runs, including a two-run home run, to pace top-ranked Oregon State past USC 10-1 on Sunday in front of a sold out 3,351 at Goss Stadium at Coleman Field.

Thompson scattered five hits and a run in eight innings, and his 11 strikeouts eclipsed his previous best of 10 set earlier this season against Arizona State. The redshirt junior won his ninth game — tying him for the nation's lead.

The Beavers' victory over USC pushed Oregon State to its ninth consecutive series win dating back to 2016. OSU has won all seven series this season, after wrapping up victories over USC and UCLA.

Oregon State and Oregon match up today at Goss Stadium at Coleman Field in the Civil War.



Thompson

"There's no nightlife in Utah. Obviously, as players, you want to be able to have a little bit of a nightlife, but the main focus is winning games."

— Matt Barnes

Golden State Warriors forward on part of the reason he'd have rather seen the Los Angeles Clippers advance to the Warriors in the second round of the NBA playoffs. Game 1 between the Warriors and Utah Jazz is tonight.

Ducks win 15th straight Civil War

EUGENE, Ore. — Megan Kleist pitched a one-hit shutout and Shannon Rhodes drove in five runs Sunday, as the No. 6 Oregon softball team completed a three-game sweep of Oregon State with a 7-0 victory before a sellout crowd of 2,517 in Jane Sanders Stadium.

The Ducks (41-6, 14-6 Pac-12) have won 15 straight games against rival Oregon State, sweeping five straight series. With the sweep, they kept themselves firmly in the hunt for a top-eight postseason seed, and the right to host the first two weeks of the NCAA Tournament.

Kleist set down the first seven Beavers (24-22, 6-12) before surrendering a one-one single in the third. That and a two-out walk in the sixth were the only blemishes on her ledger, as Oregon State failed even to advance a runner into scoring position on the afternoon.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1917 — Fred Toney of the Cincinnati Reds and James "Hippo" Vaughn of the Chicago Cubs pitch a double no-hitter for nine innings, but the Reds win 1-0 with two hits in the 10th.

1953 — Dark Star, a 25-to-1 shot, wins the Kentucky Derby, beating 7-10 favorite Native Dancer by a head. It's Native Dancer's first defeat after 11 straight wins and the only defeat in 22 career starts.

2001 — James Hylton, a 28-year-old construction worker from Keizer, Ore., bowls the fifth perfect 900 series in the 106-year history

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