

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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Hermiston pitcher Caden Schwirse readies to fire a pitch during the first inning of Tuesday's game against The Dalles in Hermiston.

Staff photo by Eric Singer



HERMISTON

Riverhawks stun Bulldogs



The Dalles erases three-run deficit in seventh inning

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

The Hermiston baseball team took the field in the top of seventh inning holding a 5-2 lead on Tuesday, just three outs away from a victory that would clinch a postseason berth.

However, The Dalles

Riverhawks — who are still fighting for a postseason spot as well — did not let the Bulldogs have the easy victory. Instead, the Riverhawks put together a huge rally against Hermiston pitcher Brylee Duffloth with three hits, a walk and also a Bulldog error to score four runs and stun the home team with a 6-5 victory.

Baseball	
 The Dalles 6	 Hermiston 5

“It’s a little disappointing,” Hermiston coach Lance Hawins said. “You can’t keep teams like that mentally in it to the end, we gave them a little bit in the seventh and they jumped on us for ultimately the winning runs.”

It was a quick turn of events for both teams, as Hermiston (10-14, 4-7 CRC) was on an emotional high

having just taken the lead in the inning prior. Tied at 2-2, three straight Riverhawk (10-14, 4-7) walks loaded the bases with one out for Hermiston in the sixth, when the Bulldogs executed a perfect suicide squeeze bunt with Kody Moss that was pushed toward the first base line.

Andrew James sprinted across home plate from third for the go-ahead run just as the Riverhawk pitcher fielded the bunt and overthrew his teammate on first

See BULLDOGS/2B

PENDLETON

Round-Up adds to Hall of Fame

Bullfighters, volunteers and a steer wrestler highlight class

East Oregonian

The newest inductees to the Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon Hall of Fame were announced Tuesday night.

They include Loyd Ketchum and Joe Baumgartner in the contract personnel category; Danny Torricellas as a Round-Up contestant; Ruth Fletcher in the early years category and Matt Duchek as a Happy Canyon volunteer.

Loyd Ketchum and Joe Baumgartner

Both bullfighters at Round-Up and PBR, Ketchum and Baumgartner shared the arena many times during their years in Pendleton.

Born in Montana in 1961, Ketchum began his PRCA career in 1987. With his slogan of “bullfighting with class and finesse,” he worked his first Pendleton Round-Up in 1991 and continued — except one year while injured — through 2011. The agile athlete with great speed and quick maneuvers also worked the PBR in Pendleton from 1998-2008. Also, he was chosen to work the Wrangler National Finals from 1992-96 and won the Wrangler Bullfight World Championship in Las Vegas in 1991.

Retiring after 27 years as a bullfighter, Ketchum now owns and operates a hunting outfitting operation near Miles City, Montana. He continues to support the rodeo world by traveling to events, signing autographs and making appearances at schools and on TV and radio.

Baumgartner, who grew up in California, began his rodeo career fighting bulls at age 16. Known throughout the rodeo community, Baumgartner went

See ROUND-UP HALL/2B

PENDLETON

Lankford repeats, Mustangs sweep



Nixyaawii/Pilot Rock senior Riley Lankford tees off on the thirteenth hole Tuesday during the Special District 3 championships at the Pendleton County Club.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pilot Rock senior wins second district title; Heppner tops team scores

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

The annual host of the Special District 3 championships, as well as a couple of other tournaments each season, Pendleton Country Club is a course that should be quite familiar for any high school golfer in the region.

But the 89-year-old par-72 proved it could still conjure some

surprises during two rounds of state-qualifying action on Monday and Tuesday, and defending boys district champion Riley Lankford of Nixyaawii/Pilot Rock said ultra-firm greens made it a unique 36 holes.

“I’ve never seen them this fast,” he said of the greens after scoring 78 on Tuesday to repeat with a two-day total of 154. “It definitely changed the way we played the

game.”

The Rockets senior wasn’t the only golfer taken aback by the speed of the greens, but he had it dialed in perfectly by the time he put his second shot about 25 feet from the cup on the final hole.

Lankford lined up his shot, then moved along the ball’s projected route for a few more practice swings before returning to his marker. His aim was true, and Lankford rolled

the ball within inches of the cup for an easy tap-in par that sealed the victory.

“I realized a couple weeks ago that you can feel the green better with your feet than you can with your eyes,” he said. “So I definitely could feel where it was going to break and that helped a lot.”

Heppner senior Logan Grieb

See GOLF/2B

PENDLETON

Buckaroos unable to clinch, lose at Hood River

Softball splits after winning continuation of delayed game

East Oregonian

HOOD RIVER — The Buckaroos came out strong to finish off the Eagles in the continuation of

a lightning-delayed game on Tuesday, but couldn’t make it two-for-two as Hood River Valley kept its Columbia River Conference title hopes alive.

Starting in the bottom of the fourth inning of a game that began on April 24, Pendleton pitcher Lauren Richards had the

Softball	
 Pendleton 7-2	 Hood River 2-3

Eagles’ number out of the gate. She struck out seven batters in four innings and didn’t allow a hit until the bottom of the seventh to guide Pendleton to a 7-2 win.

She finished the game with nine strikeouts and also batted 3 for 4 with a double to pace the offense.

Rylee Gentner was 2 for 4.

Richards had another shutout going into the seventh in Game 2, but the Eagles rattled off three runs in their final at-bat to win on a walk-off single 3-2.

Pendleton (21-4, 9-2 CRC) coach Tim Cary said he wants to see the Bucks treat their seventh-inning implosion as a chance to improve.

See BUCKAROOS/2B

Sports shorts

Tinkle, N’diaye given extra year

CORVALLIS, Ore. (AP) Oregon State center Cheikh N’diaye and forward Tres Tinkle have been granted medical hardships by the Pac-12 Conference.

N’diaye played the first nine games before a left shoulder injury sidelined him the rest of the season. He averaged 3.6 points and 2.2 rebounds.

Tinkle, the son of coach Wayne Tinkle, broke his right wrist in the sixth game of the season. He was averaging 20.2 points, 8.3 rebounds and 2.3 assists.

N’diaye will be a redshirt senior and Tinkle will be a redshirt sophomore next season.

“I’m happy that Cheikh and Tres got their years back,” Oregon State coach Wayne Tinkle said in a statement. “It’s why the rule exists and we’re sure that both student-athletes will take advantage of it from an academic standpoint as well as athletically.”



“Yeah, I’m going to be able to play. It was frustrating because I wanted to play. But I was happy seeing my teammates out there putting in a good effort and getting the win.”

— Kawhi Leonard

San Antonio Spurs forward after missing much of the fourth quarter and overtime with an ankle injury in Tuesday’s 110-107 overtime win over Houston to take a 3-2 lead in their second round series. Leonard insisted he will be able to play in Thursday’s Game 6.

Mariners rally past Phillies

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Taylor Motter had the go-ahead RBI double in the ninth inning, Ben Gamel had four hits and the Seattle Mariners overcame a four-run deficit to beat the Philadelphia Phillies 10-9 on Tuesday night.

Gamel went 4 for 5 with a three-run home run, two singles, a double and scored three runs. The right fielder threw out the potential go-ahead run at home in the eighth.

Robinson Cano, who left the game with a quadriceps injury, also homered for the Mariners.

Michael Saunders, Tommy Joseph and Aaron Alther also homered for the Phillies, who led 4-0 in the third, fell behind 5-4, then led 9-5 in the sixth.

The teams combined for 27 hits and four errors in a game that spanned 3 hours, 48 minutes.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1969 — The plans for the NFL-AFL merger are completed. The NFL will consist of two conferences of 13 teams, the AFC and NFC. The NFL will move three franchises, Baltimore, Cleveland and Pittsburgh, to the AFC.

2002 — Boston and Detroit plays the lowest-scoring game in the NBA playoffs since the shot clock was introduced in the 1954-55 season. The Celtics edge the Pistons 66-64; the 130-point total is far below the previous low of 142 registered three times.

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