

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

WEEKEND, MAY 13-14, 2017

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @EOSPORTS


1B

PENDLETON

Bucks make Dawgs pay

Pendleton takes advantage of errors to beat Hermiston

By MATT ENTRUP
East Oregonian

Baseball	
 Hermiston	 Pendleton
3	13

a win Friday to keep their season going, but had three errors in the first and third innings that led to four runs by the Buckaroos.

The Bulldogs would eventually get three of those back, but Pendleton added nine more to win 13-3 in six innings and secure second place in the Columbia River Conference.

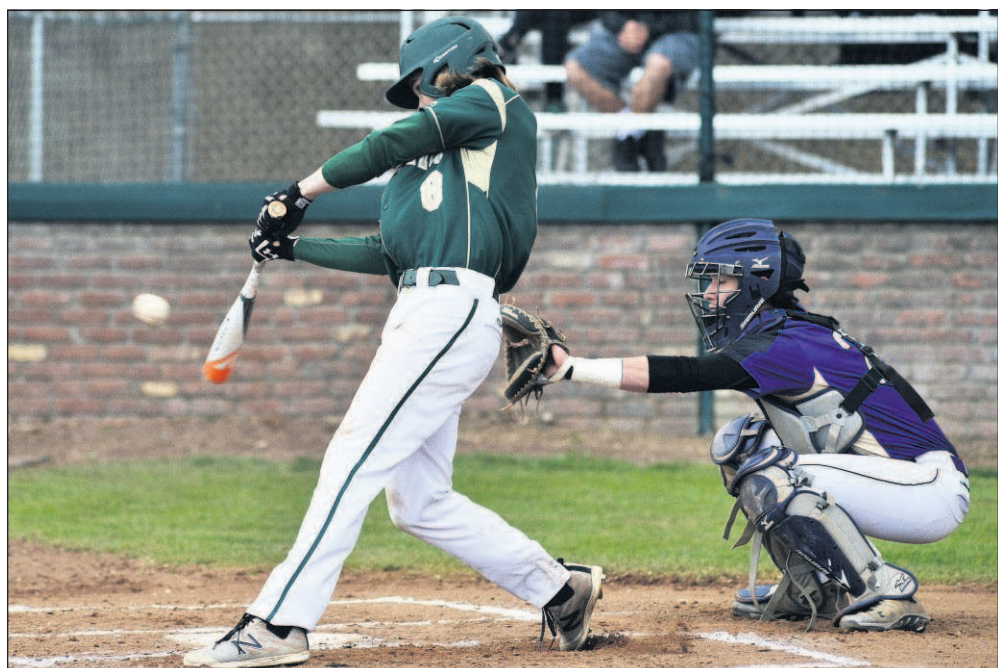
Wyatt Morris gave the

Bucks another solid start on the mound, and also hit a solo home run to lead off a six-run sixth that brought on the run rule.

"We did what was necessary to keep their backs against the wall and we just kept putting pressure on them," said Pendleton coach T.J. Haguewood. "It was good to see the guys get hits when we needed to and we made them pay."

Hermiston's troubles didn't start right away, but after two uneventful outs to begin the bottom of the first inning things started to go

See **BASEBALL/2B**



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pendleton's Daniel Naughton connects for a two-run RBI double in the Bucks' 13-3 win against the Hermiston Bulldogs on Friday in Pendleton.

STANFIELD

Adding to the arsenal

Klay Jenson makes Tigers even more dangerous

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

While the Stanfield/Echo baseball team put together its run to the Class 3A state championship in 2016, the team managed to do so without an important piece.

That missing piece was Klay Jenson, who was forced to watch his team's incredible season from the dugout as he recovered from a devastating knee injury suffered during football season. Described as the team's 'hype guy' by several teammates, Jenson still played an important role by trying to keep positive energy flowing in the dugout during games and practices. It wasn't the role he had envisioned for his junior season, after carving out time as a regular for the Tigers as a sophomore, but it was a role he accepted.

"It was hard, definitely, to just sit and watch," Jenson recalled. "But just going out there and still being able to support them was something that was a big key for me."

Now in his senior season, Jenson is no longer a casual bystander at Stanfield baseball games. The 5-foot-7, 155-pound athlete is fully healthy again and playing a much larger role for Stanfield, and is also a big reason why the Tigers are perhaps an even better team in 2017.

Jenson has started all 20 games for the Tigers this season, where he has either manned a spot in the outfield or toed the pitching rubber. At the plate, Jenson has hit for a .285 average with 24 RBI and a team-high two home runs. He's scored 22 runs and has a .432 on-base percentage from his No. 7 spot in the lineup.

"He gives us a lot more

"It's a great feeling just being able to help the team out when they need it and trying to be the guy and step up when needed."

— Klay Jenson,
Stanfield/Echo baseball senior



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Stanfield's Klay Jenson has demonstrated his talent this season on the mound, in the outfield and in the batter's box.

depth into our batting lineup," teammate Brody Woods said. "Last year I think we topped off a little, the bottom guys would hit but have some games where they're not super consistent. And this year we're just solid overall and it helps out a whole lot because they make contact and we're scoring throughout the whole lineup."

But where Jenson has made his biggest contributions of late is as a pitcher. Aside from his

one-inning, two-run and four-walk outing against Tri-Cities Prep (WA) in the season opener, Jenson has been lights out. Spanning seven appearances and 23 innings, the left-hander has allowed a mere one earned run and six hits to go with 31 strikeouts.

"It's a great feeling just being able to help the team out when they need it and trying to be the guy and step up when needed," Jenson said. "I'm just there in

the outfield and I got their back, and then if pitching I'm going to try and throw strikes and know my defense has my back."

Thyler Monkus, Stanfield's primary catcher, said that Jenson's success on the mound comes down to a simple approach to each hitter.

"He's been really focused on first pitch strikes and once he gets that down, he's pretty

See **JENSON/2B**

PENDLETON

Buckaroos clobber Bulldogs

Pendleton belts six home runs to clinch CRC title

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

The stage was set for the Pendleton softball team on Friday afternoon.

A win over Hermiston would keep the Columbia River Conference crown in Pendleton for yet another year, while a loss would mean a shared title with Hood River Valley. But being that the game was against the Buckaroos' rivals, they didn't want to just win the game, they wanted to make a statement in doing so.

And boy, did the Buckaroos do just that.

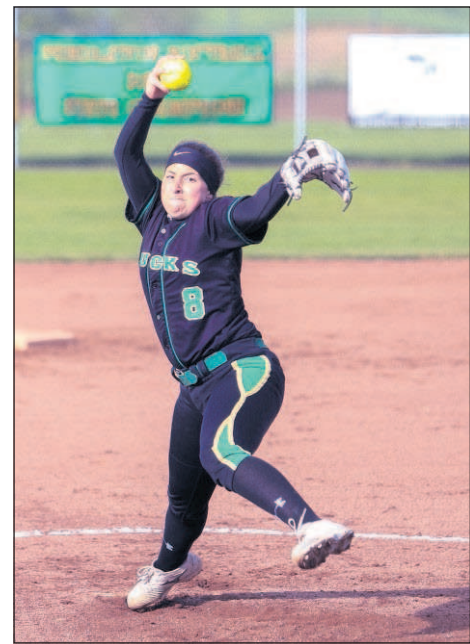
Pendleton belted six home runs and collected 16 hits as they clobbered the Bulldogs 18-0 in the regular season finale at Steve Cary Field. Senior Payton Hergert was all smiles after the game, and she had good reason to be. Hergert went 2 for 4 with a home run as she and fellow seniors Maddy Parker and Tatum Fell

See **SOFTBALL/2B**

Softball

 Hermiston	0
---	---

 Pendleton	18
---	----



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Pendleton's Lauren Richards pitches during the first inning of Friday's game against Hermiston at Steve Cary Field.

Sports shorts

Brady picked for Madden 18 cover

(AP) — To the joy of 9-year-old Jack Brady, the five-time Super Bowl champion Tom Brady will be the cover athlete for Madden 18, following his Patriots teammate and buddy Rob Gronkowski.

Gronkowski's absence for half of the 2016 season could have given his quarterback pause about accepting the cover role. After all, there's talk of a Madden Curse.

While pointing out that he works extra hard to keep fit — how many NFL players are in as good or better shape at age 39 as they were a decade ago? — Brady acknowledges that he's heard about the curse.

"I am not sure it's supposedly that there is a curse, I think there is a curse," he said. "I've been able to overcome a lot of things in my life, and now we've really got to step up our game."



Brady

"The opportunity is narrowing. We'd just like him to have success somewhere. We're not going to be there."

— Phil Jackson

New York Knicks team president reiterating his belief that 32-year-old star Carmelo Anthony should waive his no-trade clause and accept a deal to a team in position to contend for an NBA title.

WNBA finding new ways to try and grow off the court

NEW YORK (AP) — Coming off one of the most successful seasons in WNBA history on and off the court, the league has found ways to try to bring in new fans.

Whether streaming games on Twitter, partnering with FanDuel to offer daily fantasy sports or just having more games on television, the WNBA is growing.

"I think the WNBA is doing a great job using multiple platforms to broaden their audience," ESPN broadcaster Rebecca Lobo said. "I see firsthand how my own kids consume sports, and streaming is the primary option for them."

This year's changes come after the WNBA had its highest attendance in five seasons, record marks for WNBA digital, social media and retail and double-digit growth in television viewership on ESPN.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1958 — Stan Musial gets his 3,000th hit with a pinch-double off Chicago's Moe Drabowsky at Wrigley Field.

2005 — Tiger Woods misses the cut at the Byron Nelson Championship to end his record of 142 consecutive cuts made over seven years.

2007 — Rafael Nadal becomes the first player to win the Rome Masters three consecutive times by beating Fernando Gonzalez of Chile 6-2, 6-2. The victory extends his winning streak on clay to 77 matches, breaking John McEnroe's record for most consecutive wins on one surface.

Contact us at 541-966-0838 or sports@eastoregonian.com