

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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MLB PLAYOFFS

Cubs knock out Nationals

Chicago advances to NLCS to face Los Angeles

By HOWARD FENDRICH
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Chicago Cubs win whenever they need to, with whatever it takes, even a seven-out save by Wade Davis to preserve a shrinking lead and a “Did that really happen?” four-run inning against Washington’s Max Scherzer in a thriller of a Game 5.

That wild, bat-around fifth inning Thursday night for Chicago included Addison Russell’s go-ahead, two-run double, a bases-loaded hit by pitch, and a disputed dropped third strike followed by a throwing error, helping the defending World Series champion Cubs come back — and then hold on — to edge the Nationals 9-8.

And for the third year in a row, Chicago reached the NL Championship Series.

“Give the boys credit,” Cubs manager Joe Maddon said. “That’s one of the most incredible victories I’ve ever been part of. I know a lot of people are probably saying the same thing, but under the circumstances, in the other team’s ballpark, after a tough loss at home, to come back and do that, give our guys all the credit in the world.”

Russell drove in four runs and Davis, Chicago’s seventh pitcher, turned in his longest appearance since 2012. The Cubs trailed 4-1, then led 8-4 and 9-6, in a game that lasted more than 4½ hours and ended after midnight on Friday.

“It was bizarro world, there’s no question about it,” Maddon said. “But it happens. It happens this time of the year.”

Catcher Willson Contreras picked off Jose Lobaton at first base to quash a Washington threat in the eighth and Davis fanned a swinging Bryce Harper for the final out.

“It was a series of bad events,” Nationals manager Dusty Baker said.

Chicago, which surpassed its total

See NLDS/2B



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pendleton kicker Hunter Kiele watches from the sidelines during the Bucks' 21-6 loss to Mountain View last week in Pendleton.

GRIDIRON GIRLS

Irrigon's Burns, Pendleton's Kiele add football to their athletic resumes

By ALEXIS MANSANAREZ
East Oregonian

As the Irrigon Knights ran away with a Sept. 29 game against rival Riverside Pirates, coach Steve Sheller put in the junior varsity quarterback in the second half.

The switch didn't slow the offense one bit. In fact, Sheller's wife, watching from the sidelines, said she didn't even notice when the change happened as the team put together several more touchdown drives on the way to a 50-0 win.

Aside from the ponytail, it's hard to tell the difference between the play of Jada Burns and varsity starter Zach Hendricks.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Irrigon Knights quarterback Jada Burns, center, reads a play out of a playbook for a scout offense during practice recently in Irrigon.

Meanwhile in Pendleton, Hunter Kiele has been dedicating her afternoons to kicking on the football field instead of the soccer turf. The effort paid off this week as coach Erik Davis has named her the full-time PAT kicker for

Friday's game against Hood River Valley.

Burns and Kiele are the only girls in Oregon since two girls at North Bend and Scappoose in 2014 to play on their high school varsity football teams — lining

up alongside and across the line of scrimmage from boys.

While it may be different to see a girl on the football field, varsity level athletics is not new terrain for these two. Burns has been a three-sport athlete throughout high school, and Kiele has played both basketball and soccer. What attracted them to football was a need for change and a competitive edge that made the transition into the world of sweaty teenage boys more tolerable.

“I’m a part of the team so me playing with a bunch of guys is not different to me,” Burns said. “I’m just part of a team playing a sport so being out there I didn’t think of it as, ‘oh they are guys and I’m the only girl.’ I just thought of us as one team.”

Burns grew up in a family where sports was the norm. Her older brother played basketball, her mother coached, and Burns was in the middle of it all attending practices and soaking

See FOOTBALL/3B



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Pendleton's Maureen Davies (10) gets ready to hit the ball Thursday's game against The Dalles at Warberg Court.

PENDLETON

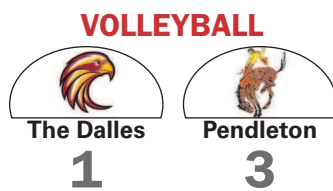
Buckaroos dig deep to beat Riverhawks

Buckaroos drop first set, but rally to get back on winning track

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

After a lightning-fast first half of the season, the Pendleton volleyball team's second half has been a struggle.

A 7-0 start had given way to a 3-5 stretch and back-to-back road losses to La Grande and Hood River Valley had the Buckaroos searching for that early-season groove. Not helping were a hit of injuries, most notably junior libero Kirah McGlothlin who is out for the remainder of the



season with a right knee injury.

On Thursday night against The Dalles, it seemed as if the slide might continue for another game as a flat, frantic start led to a first set loss to the Riverhawks. However, the Buckaroos were able to dig deep on its home court and rally for three straight set wins to hand the Riverhawks a 3-1 loss (19-25, 25-15, 25-19, 25-19).

“We saw them come out with a little bit of heart tonight,” Pendleton coach Amanda Lapp

said, “and we’ve been asking for over the last couple matches that we’ve seen. Getting that slow start tonight, we just needed to shake out the cobwebs and get back into our groove and it looks like we’re finally moving that direction again.”

Maureen Davies had a monster game for Pendleton (11-5 overall, 6-2 CRC) with 15 kills, four blocks and two aces. She smacked a thundering kill to clinch the second set victory and blew away the Riverhawks (6-11, 2-6) with another kill in the third set to break a 16-16 tie and put Pendleton in front for good.

Behind Davies, Rylee Gentner tallied eight kills with three digs, Elisabeth House had five kills and Elli Nirschl added three kills.

Pendleton still had slow starts in nearly every set, getting in a 4-1 hole in each of the final three sets. But the Bucks were able to turn to Davies or Gentner for a timely kill or a block, and get big-time digs from the likes of Aspen Garton, Kourtny Garnett and Lauren Richards to help gain momentum as the sets went along.

“They really pulled it out tonight and we’re starting to shift back into that team they started out playing like,” Lapp said. “One of the goals this year was to start strong and end strong and we’re trying to ramp back up and finish strong.”

UP NEXT

Pendleton hosts a tournament with Milwaukie and Hermiston on Saturday at 9 a.m.

Sports shorts

Wentz throws for 3 touchdowns as Eagles beat Panthers 28-23

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Carson Wentz threw for 222 yards and three touchdowns to help the Philadelphia Eagles beat the Carolina Panthers 28-23 on Thursday night to improve to an NFC-best 5-1.

The Eagles turned two interceptions deep in Carolina territory into 15 points, with touchdown passes to Zach Ertz, and LaGarrette Blount's 2-point conversion to take an 18-10 lead in the third quarter. Wentz added a 24-yard scoring pass to Nelson Agholor in the fourth quarter.

Wentz completed 16 of 29 passes.

Cam Newton threw three interceptions for Carolina (4-2).

Carolina had one last shot to win, but turned it over on downs at midfield.



“I think it is incumbent on us to demonstrate to the fans the commitment to doing the things that are necessary to win. My words, I can say that we are deeply committed to winning a World Series. We are deeply committed to making the playoffs next year and at some point in time my words become hollow. We’ve got to back those words up with action.”

— John Stanton

Seattle Mariners CEO on the frustrations of the club's now-16-year playoff drought.

IndyCar race coming back to Portland in September 2018

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Portland International Raceway is back on the IndyCar Series schedule in 2018.

The Sept. 2 race on the 1.967-mile permanent road course will be IndyCar's first trip to the Oregon track since races were held from 1984-2007 under CART and Champ Car sanction.

“Portland International Raceway has produced thrilling road racing throughout Indy car history — the 1997 finish still stands as the record for the closest finish on a road or street course — and the timing of our return couldn't be better given the bold new look our cars will have in 2018. We expect this will be a show fans won't want to miss,” Mark Miles, CEO of series owner Hulman & Company, said in a statement Thursday.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1903 — The Boston Pilgrims win the first World Series, 5 games to 3, with a 3-0 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates.

1947 — The NHL holds its first All-Star game with the All-Stars beating the Toronto Maple Leafs 4-3.

1963 — Mickey Wright wins her fourth LPGA championship in six years by two strokes.

2001 — DeShaun Foster of UCLA runs for a school-record 301 yards and four touchdowns as the Bruins beat Washington 35-13.

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