

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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1B



Los Angeles Dodgers' Enrique Hernandez (14) celebrates after hitting a grand slam during the third inning of Game 5 of the NLCS against the Chicago Cubs, Thursday in Chicago.

AP Photo/Matt Slocum

MLB PLAYOFFS

Dodgers head to World Series

Hernandez hits 3 HR as LA goes to first World Series since 1988

By JAY COHEN
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Enrique Hernandez put a Hollywood ending on an LA story three decades in the making.

Fueled by a home run trilogy from their emotional utilityman, Clayton Kershaw and the Los Angeles Dodgers are finally going to



the World Series.

Hernandez homered three times and drove in a record seven runs, Kershaw breezed through six crisp innings and Los Angeles ended the Chicago Cubs' title defense with an 11-1 rout in Game 5 of the NL Championship Series on Thursday night.

"It feels good to hear World

Series," Kershaw said. "It's been a long time coming for this team."

After years of playoff heartache, there was just no stopping these Dodgers after they led the majors with 104 wins during the regular season. With Kershaw firing away at the top of a deep pitching staff and co-NLCS MVPs Justin Turner and Chris Taylor leading a tough lineup, one of baseball's most storied franchises captured its first pennant since Hall of Famer Tommy Lasorda managed Kirk Gibson, Orel Hershiser and Co. to Los Angeles' last championship in 1988.

See DODGERS/2B

MLB PLAYOFFS

Houston in need of another gem from Verlander

Yankees just one win away from World Series trip

By STEPHEN HAWKINS
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Justin Verlander agreed to that last-second trade to the Houston Astros with hopes of another World Series, and has since won all eight games he has pitched.

Eight is not enough. The Astros have to win Verlander's ninth game — or their season will end short of that goal.

"Obviously, I know this is one of the main reasons I was brought here," Verlander said Thursday. "This is why I'm here."

Six days after the big right-hander threw a complete game against the Yankees to put Houston up 2-0 in the best-of-seven AL Championship Series, the teams will be back in Minute Maid Park for Game 6 on Friday night with the Astros facing elimination after New York swept three games in the Bronx.

"Well, there's immediate belief when you have a Justin Verlander go," manager A.J. Hinch said. "His presence will immediately make everybody sit up straight, stand up a little bit more, have a little bit more energy because of the presence that he brings."

The Astros certainly need the boost.

Aaron Judge and the Baby Bombers from New York, who had a pair of 2-1 losses in Houston and struck out 13 times against Verlander,

See ALCS/3B

Sports shorts

Trail Blazers sign former first round pick to two-way deal

PORTLAND (AP) — The Portland Trail Blazers have signed guard Wade Baldwin to a two-way contract.

Baldwin was the 17th overall pick in the 2016 draft by Memphis. The former Vanderbilt player averaged 3.2 points, 1.4 rebounds, 1.8 assists and 28.2 minutes in 33 games with the Grizzlies, including one start. He also played with the then-D-League's Iowa Energy.

He was waived by Memphis earlier this month.

This season teams are allowed to sign two players to two-way contracts in addition to the 15-man regular season roster. Players signed to two-way deals can accrue no more than 45 days of service with their respective NBA clubs.



Baldwin

"That's what she does. She's very comfortable on that left side and is a world-class server of the ball. She continues to want more from herself because that's just the type of player she is."

— Jill Ellis

Head coach of the U.S. women's national team said about Megan Rapinoe, who controlled the tempo of the friendly match against South Korea. Rapinoe's with ambitious, accurate passes from her position on the left wing led the team to a 3-1 victory.

Thunder beat Knicks as George, Anthony make team debuts

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Russell Westbrook had a triple-double and the Oklahoma City Thunder beat the New York Knicks 105-84 on Thursday night in their first regular-season game with All-Star additions Paul George and Carmelo Anthony.

Westbrook, the NBA MVP last season when he averaged a triple-double, had with 21 points, 16 assists and 10 rebounds.

Paul George, who was acquired in an offseason trade with the Indiana Pacers, led the Thunder (1-0) with 28 points. Anthony, who was traded from the Knicks to the Thunder right before training camp began, had 22 points against his former team.

Kristaps Porzingis had 31 points and 12 rebounds for the Knicks (0-1). Enes Kanter finished with 10 points and seven rebounds.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1984 Rueben Mayes of Washington State rushes for 216 yards and scores four touchdowns to overcome a 28-7 halftime deficit and lead the Cougars to a 49-42 victory over Stanford.

1990 The Cincinnati Reds complete one of the biggest upsets in baseball history, beating the Oakland Athletics 2-1 to win the World Series in four games.

1994 George McCandless, 83, becomes the oldest harness driver to win a pari-mutuel race when he guides Kehm's Scooter to victory in the fourth race at Freehold (N.J.) Raceway.

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



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Locals run wild at Kyle Burnside Wildhorse Invite

Heppner's Hunter Nichols finishes in third place at the Kyle Burnside Wildhorse Invite on Thursday in Mission. Full results from the race were not available by press time. Check the East Oregonian Weekend Edition for more coverage.

NFL

Raiders score on final play of game to beat Chiefs

By JOSH DUBOW
Associated Press

Thursday Night Football



OAKLAND, Calif. — Wins have been so hard to come by for the Oakland Raiders that it took three tries at the final play for them finally to pull this one out and possibly save their season.

Derek Carr threw a 2-yard touchdown pass to Michael Crabtree on the final play after the game was extended by two straight defensive holding calls and the Raiders snapped a four-game losing streak with a 31-30 victory over the Kansas City Chiefs on Thursday night.

"We didn't give up," Crabtree said. "We got a team full of fighters. We believe. ... No matter how hard the game was, we believed. We came out with the W and I'm excited. It's a good way to win, a great way to win."

With their season on the line following the recent slump, Carr led an 85-yard touchdown drive in the

final 2:25 to give the Raiders (3-4) the thrilling comeback in a game they trailed by nine points heading into the fourth quarter.

Carr finished 29 for 52 for 417 yards and three touchdowns, with Amari Cooper catching 11 passes for 210 yards and two of the scores. The Raiders had struggled to get the ball downfield while being held to 17 or fewer points in four straight games but Carr repeatedly beat the Chiefs with deep passes.

"No. 4 kept making plays," coach Jack Del Rio said. "This is a special, special win."

Alex Smith threw for 342 yards and three touchdowns but it wasn't enough for the Chiefs (5-2). They lost consecutive games for the first time since Oct. 11-18, 2015, and



Oakland WR Michael Crabtree catches a TD pass during Thursday's game against Kansas City in Oakland.

AP Photo/Ben Margot

had their 12-game winning streak in the AFC West snapped in a thrilling finish.

"I've never been part of a game that came down so dramatic," linebacker Derrick Johnson said. "But, still had a chance to win. Period. Just have to make a play. One play. One play."

The Raiders had an apparent go-ahead touchdown pass to Jared Cook with 18 seconds left over-

turned when replay ruled he was down at the 1. An offensive pass interference on Crabtree wiped out another touchdown on the next play.

But holding calls on Ron Parker and Eric Murray set the stage for the final play. Carr hit Crabtree in the front corner of the end zone to tie it at 30. Giorgio Tavecchio won it with the extra point, setting off a celebration on a wild night that

See NFL/2B