

**BRIEFLY**

**Jones, Thome, Guerrero, Hoffman elected to Baseball HOF**

NEW YORK (AP) — Chipper Jones, Jim Thome, Vladimir Guerrero and Trevor Hoffman have been elected to the baseball Hall of Fame.

Designated hitter Edgar Martinez came close after a grass-roots campaign to boost him. Barry Bonds and Roger Clemens, both tainted by the steroids scandal, edged up but again fell far short.

Jones and Thome made it 54 players elected in their first year of eligibility by members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

Jones was an eight-time All-Star third baseman for the Atlanta Braves. Thome hit 612 home runs, putting him eighth on the career list, and played mostly for the Cleveland Indians.

Guerrero was elected in his second try. The nine-time All-Star slugger played half his career with the Montreal Expos.

Hoffman was chosen in his third year. The former San Diego Padres closer had 601 saves, second all-time to Mariano Rivera's 652.

The Hall announced the voting results Wednesday. The four new members will be inducted on July 29 in Cooperstown, New York.

**BMCC doubleheader in Spokane**

The Blue Mountain men's and women's basketball teams traveled to Spokane on Wednesday, where both of the team's skids continued.

The women were up first, and dropped its game to the host school 78-52. The Timberwolves couldn't score more than 15 points in each of the four quarters and move their record to 1-17 overall and 0-7 in the conference.

The men also had trouble keeping up with Spokane, losing its game 107-73. Spokane was up 58-32 at the half and ending reaching the century mark. The Timberwolves fall to 3-14 overall and 0-7 in NWAC.

The teams will host a doubleheader Wednesday, when Blue Mountain welcomes Treasure Valley. The women's game will begin at 6 p.m., and the men will follow at 8 p.m.

**Comcast hopes for a TV windfall from Super Bowl, Olympics**

NEW YORK (AP) — Comcast's NBC is airing both the Super Bowl and the Olympics in February, a double-whammy sports extravaganza that the company expects to yield \$1.4 billion in ad sales, helping it justify the hefty price it's paying for both events.

NBC is banking heavily on these sports events since traditional TV ratings have slumped in recent years. Live sports are marquee TV events that draw most of the largest TV audiences, but even those ratings have declined. More Americans are dumping their cable packages — Comcast lost 33,000 video customers in the fourth quarter and 151,000 for all of 2017 — and advertisers are following consumers to their phones.

**Pro Basketball**

**Hot shooting Blazers beat Timberwolves**

By ANNE M. PETERSON  
AP Sports Writer

PORTLAND — Damian Lillard had 31 points a day after getting his third All-Star nod and the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 123-114 on Wednesday night.

CJ McCollum added 28 points in Portland's seventh straight win at home, longest streak of the season. Lillard made six 3-pointers and the Blazers had 17 3s in the game, one shy of their season high.

Andrew Wiggins had 24 points for the Timberwolves, who had won seven of their last nine games but trailed by 19 points during the fourth quarter.

Lillard was named as an All-Star reserve Tuesday. He spoke to reporters before the game about making the team after being snubbed in past years.

"It's not my first All-Star game. But I did have to make this one happen. Everybody knows that the last two years I felt like I should have made it and I didn't. But I just had to keep on playing, stay with it and stay positive," he said.

Minnesota didn't have Jimmy Butler, who missed a third straight game with a sore right knee. Jamal Crawford returned after missing two games with a strained big toe on his left foot.

The Timberwolves were coming off a 126-118 victory over the Clippers in Los Angeles on Monday night. Wiggins scored a season-high 40 points in the win that



AP Photo/Craig Mitchelldier  
**TOP: Portland Trail Blazers forward Al-Farouq Aminu shoots over Minnesota Timberwolves forward Taj Gibson during an NBA basketball game in Portland on Wednesday. BELOW: Portland Trail Blazers guard CJ McCollum, center, shoots in front of Minnesota Timberwolves forward Andrew Wiggins, left, and center Karl-Anthony Towns**

snapped a four-game road skid.

The Trail Blazers lost 104-101 in Denver on Tuesday, snapping a three-game winning streak.

Minnesota led by eight points early, but Lillard's 3-pointer got the Blazers within 27-25 late in the opening quarter. Portland finally caught up with the Timberwolves at the end of the half, pulling into a 54-all tie after Al-Farouq Aminu's 3-pointer and a pair of free throws from Lillard.

Lillard and Aminu each hit 3-pointers to push Portland's lead to 63-60. Aminu's dunk extended it to 76-68 midway through the third quarter. Lillard's two 3s put the Blazers up 88-74.

The Timberwolves won the first two meetings of this season's series, both at home.

**TIP INS:** Timberwolves: With a 3-pointer and free throw in the second quarter, Crawford added to his career four-point play total with 52, an ongoing NBA record. ... Minnesota's Jimmy Butler and Karl-Anthony Towns were also named reserves.

Trail Blazers: Portland has won 11 of its last 12 games against the Timberwolves at the Moda Center. ... Jusuf Nurkic sustained a left elbow contusion but returned. ... Lillard was also the Western Conference player of the week.

**WHAT RUSS SAID:** Lillard also addressed Russell Westbrook's comment Tuesday night that players are "Talking about getting snubbed until they get in." Some thought the comments were directed at Lillard.

"Because he's played against me, he's played against our team, he knows what I've accomplished," Lillard said. "Not just this year, but over my career. So it was a little bit disappointing, but I know that I earned my spot this year."

**Australian Open**

**Federer advances to Australian Open semifinals, faces Chung**

By JOHN PYE  
Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Roger Federer accounted for a long-time rival to set up a semifinal against Next Gen champion Hyeon Chung at the Australian Open.

Defending champion Federer's 7-6, 6-3, 6-4 win over Tomas Berdych on Wednesday night extended his winning streak to 14 in Australian Open quarterfinals and to nine in that personal duel. The 19-time major winner leads that head-to-head contest 20-6, including all five meetings at Melbourne Park.

The 36-year-old Swiss star overcame a shaky start, dropping his opening service game and uncharacteristically challenging the chair umpire because of a technological fault.

"I had to get a bit lucky. A bit angry. A bit frustrated maybe at the umpire," Federer said. "Anyway, glad to get out of that first set. It was key to the match.

"That first set could have gone either way. He deserved it, actually. I stole that one a little bit."



AP Photo/Dita Alangkara  
**Switzerland's Roger Federer celebrates after defeating Tomas Berdych of the Czech Republic in their quarterfinal at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia on Wednesday.**

Chung became the first Korean to make a Grand Slam tennis semifinal when he beat No. 97-ranked Tennis Sandgren 6-4, 7-6 (5), 6-3 in the afternoon match on Rod Laver Arena.

The 21-year-old Chung hadn't let up when upsetting No. 4 Alexander Zverev or six-time Australian Open champion Novak Djokovic en route to the quarterfinals, but he let his guard down in the last game and needed six

match points and to fend off two break points to hold off Sandgren.

"In last game, I think at 40-love ... if I win one more point, I make history in Korea. I have to think about the ceremony, something," he said, explaining how he got slightly ahead of himself.

"After deuce, break point. I was like, no, nothing to do with ceremony. But just keep playing — keep focused."

Then he fully embraced

the moment, joking in an on-court TV interview, introducing the audience to his parents and his coach, and taking the microphone to speak in Korean to millions of new tennis fans back home.

"I think all the people is watching Australian Open now because we make history in Korea," he said.

The No. 58-ranked Chung is the lowest-ranked man to reach the Australian Open semifinals since Marat Safin in 2004. He's also the youngest to reach the last four at a major since Marin Cilic did it here in 2010.

With Chung already through, and Kyle Edmund playing No. 6 Cilic in the other half of the draw, it's the first time since 1999 that multiple unseeded players have reached the Australian Open semifinals.

Federer said he has been impressed with the way the two unseeded players have progressed, particularly Chung's run.

"To beat Novak on this court is particularly difficult. ... He's incredibly impressive in his movement, reminds me obviously a lot of Novak," Federer said. "He's clearly

got nothing to lose. I will tell myself the same and we'll see what happens."

Chung's big wins over Zverev and Djokovic have drawn extra attention to a player who last November won the inaugural Next Gen ATP Finals title.

He was too consistent for Sandgren, a 26-year-old American who had never won a match at a Grand Slam tournament or beaten a top 10 player until last week.

Sandgren's unexpected surge to the quarterfinals — he beat 2014 champion Stan Wawrinka and No. 5 Dominic Thiem en route to the quarterfinals — was overshadowed by heavy scrutiny of his Twitter account and his follows and retweets of far-right activists.

Two women who've been to this stage at a Grand Slam before will meet in the last four. One has two major titles, the other still seeks a breakthrough. Top-ranked Simona Halep recovered from an early break to win nine straight games in a 6-3, 6-2 win over No. 6 Karolina Pliskova and set up a semifinal match Thursday against 2016 champion Angelique Kerber, who routed U.S.

Open finalist Madison Keys 6-1, 6-2.

In the other semifinal, No. 2 Caroline Wozniacki will play 22-year-old Elise Mertens.

Kerber has been the only Grand Slam singles champion in the women's draw since her third-round win over Maria Sharapova. Two-time French Open finalist Halep has had a tougher road — having to save match points in a third-round win over Lauren Davis that finished 15-13 in the third — to reach the semifinals at Melbourne Park for the first time.

Kerber has had no serious distractions on a 14-match winning streak, and is hoping to emulate her breakout year in 2016.

She won the Australian and U.S. Open titles two years ago and reached the No. 1 ranking, but slipped into the 20s last year. She didn't win a title between the 2016 U.S. Open and the Sydney International earlier this month.

"I am just trying to find the feeling back that I had, like 2016, and just enjoying my time," Kerber said.

**SCOREBOARD**

**Local slate**

<b>PREP BOYS BASKETBALL</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	Umatilla at Irrigon, 7:30 p.m.
<b>Friday</b>	Stanfield at Pilot Rock, 6 p.m. Culver at Weston-McEwen, 6 p.m. The Dalles at Pendleton, 7 p.m. Hermiston at Hood River Valley, 7 p.m. Pine Eagle at Helix, 7 p.m. Wallowa at Echo, 7 p.m. Nyssa at Burns, 7:30 p.m. Riverside at Umatilla, 7:30 p.m. Condon/Wheeler at South Wasco County, 7:30 p.m. Ione at Arlington, 7:30 p.m. Nixyaawii at Cover, 7:30 p.m.
<b>Saturday</b>	Dufur at Ione, 4 p.m. McLoughlin at Baker, 4:30 p.m. Echo at Joseph, 5 p.m. Culver at Pilot Rock, 5:30 p.m. Heppner at Stanfield, 5:30 p.m. Arlington at Horizon Christian-Hood River, 5:30 p.m. Mitchell/Spray at Condon/Wheeler, 5:30 p.m. Cove at Helix, 5:30 p.m. Nixyaawii at Powder Valley, 5:30 p.m.
<b>PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	Umatilla at Irrigon, 6 p.m.
<b>Friday</b>	Wallowa at Helix, 3 p.m. Pine Eagle at Echo, 5:30 p.m. Nyssa at Burns, 6 p.m. Riverside at Umatilla, 6 p.m. Ione at Arlington, 6 p.m. Nixyaawii at Cove, 6 p.m. Hood River Valley at Hermiston, 7 p.m. Pendleton at The Dalles, 7 p.m. Stanfield at Pilot Rock, 7:30 p.m. Culver at Weston-McEwen, 7:30 p.m.
<b>Saturday</b>	Dufur at Ione, 2:30 p.m. McLoughlin at Baker, 3 p.m. Culver at Pilot Rock, 4 p.m.
<b>PREP WRESTLING</b>	
<b>Friday</b>	Mac-Hi, Ontario, La Grande at Mac-Hi, TBD
<b>Saturday</b>	Echo at New Plymouth Invite (ID), TBD Heppner at Pine Eagle Invitational, TBD Hermiston, Irrigon, Riverside at Hermiston, TBD
<b>PREP SWIMMING</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	Hermiston, Pendleton at La Grande, TBD
<b>COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	BMCC at North Idaho College, 4 p.m.
<b>COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	BMCC at North Idaho College, 2 p.m.
<b>COLLEGE WRESTLING</b>	
<b>Friday</b>	EOU vs. North Idaho, 7 p.m. UCF Women's Team vs. Grays Harbor C.C., 1 p.m.
<b>Football</b>	
<b>NFL CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	New England 24, Jacksonville 20 Philadelphia 38, Minnesota 7
<b>PRO BOWL</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	AFC vs. NFC, 1 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)
<b>SUPER BOWL</b>	
<b>Sunday, Feb. 4</b>	

New England vs. Philadelphia, 3:30 p.m. (NBC)				
<b>Basketball</b>				
<b>NBA EASTERN CONFERENCE</b>				
<b>Atlantic Division</b>				
	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
Boston	35	14	.714	—
Toronto	32	14	.696	1½
Philadelphia	23	21	.523	9½
New York	21	27	.438	13½
Brooklyn	18	30	.375	16½
<b>Southeast Division</b>				
	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
Miami	27	20	.574	—
Washington	26	21	.553	1
Charlotte	19	27	.413	7½
Atlanta	14	33	.298	13
Orlando	14	33	.298	13
<b>Central Division</b>				
	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
Cleveland	27	19	.587	—
Indiana	26	22	.542	2
Milwaukee	24	22	.522	3
Detroit	22	24	.478	5
Chicago	18	30	.375	10
<b>WESTERN CONFERENCE</b>				
<b>Southwest Division</b>				
	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
Houston	34	12	.739	—
San Antonio	32	18	.640	4
New Orleans	26	21	.553	8½
Memphis	17	30	.362	17½
Dallas	16	32	.333	19
<b>Northwest Division</b>				
	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
Minnesota	31	19	.620	—
Oklahoma City	27	20	.574	2½
Portland	26	22	.542	4
Denver	24	23	.511	5½
Utah	20	28	.417	10
<b>Pacific Division</b>				
	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
Golden State	38	10	.792	—
L.A. Clippers	23	24	.489	14½
L.A. Lakers	18	29	.383	19½
Phoenix	17	31	.354	21

Sacramento	14	33	.298	23½
<b>Wednesday's Games</b>				
Indiana 116, Phoenix 101 New Orleans 101, Charlotte 96 Philadelphia 115, Chicago 101 Utah 98, Detroit 95, OT Toronto 108, Atlanta 93 Houston 104, Dallas 97 San Antonio 108, Memphis 85 Portland 123, Minnesota 114 Boston 113, L.A. Clippers 102				
<b>Thursday's Games</b>				
Sacramento at Miami, 4:30 p.m. Washington at Oklahoma City, 5 p.m. New York at Denver, 6 p.m. Minnesota at Golden State, 7:30 p.m.				
<b>NCAA Men's Basketball</b>				
<b>Top 25 Schedule</b>				
<b>Wednesday</b>				
No. 8 Xavier 89, Marquette 70 South Carolina 77, No. 20 Florida 72 No. 24 URI 78, Fordham 58 No. 19 Auburn 91, Missouri 73 No. 9 Cincinnati 75, Temple 42 Wyoming 104, No. 23 Nevada 103				
<b>Thursday</b>				
No. 25 Michigan at No. 3 Purdue, 4 p.m. (ESPN) Penn State at No. 13 OSU, 5 p.m. (BTN) Colorado at No. 11 Arizona, 5:30 p.m. (FS1) UCF at No. 17 Wichita State, 6 p.m. (ESPN2) Utah at No. 21 Arizona State, 6:30 p.m. (PAC12) BYU at No. 16 Saint Mary's, 8 p.m. (ESPN2) Colorado at No. 11 Arizona, 5:30 p.m. (ESPN)				
<b>Pac-12 Schedule</b>				
<b>Wednesday</b>				
USC 69, Stanford 64				
<b>Thursday</b>				
Colorado at No. 11 Arizona, 5:30 p.m. (FS1) Utah at No. 21 Arizona State, 6:30 p.m.				

(PAC12) Cal at UCLA, 7:30 p.m. (FS1)						
<b>NCAA Women's Basketball</b>						
<b>Top 25 Schedule</b>						
<b>Wednesday</b>						
No. 1 UConn 93, Memphis 36 No. 20 West Virginia 82, Texas Tech 52 No. 24 TCU 68, Kansas State 63 Iowa State 78, No. 19 Oklahoma State 69						
<b>Thursday</b>						
No. 4 Louisville at Miami, 8 a.m. (ACCNE) Arkansas at No. 9 South Carolina, 3:30 p.m. (SECN) No. 11 Missouri at No. 21 Georgia, 4 p.m. (SECN+) Ole Miss at No. 10 Tennessee, 4 p.m. (SECN+) No. 6 Texas at No. 3 Baylor, 4 p.m. (ESPN2) Boston College at No. 18 Duke, 4 p.m. (ACCNE) No. 5 Notre Dame at Pitt, 4 p.m. (ACCNE) No. 12 OSU at Iowa, 5 p.m. No. 14 Maryland at Northwestern, 5 p.m. Florida at No. 2 Miss. State, 5:30 p.m. (SECN)						
<b>Pac-12 Schedule</b>						
<b>Wednesday-Thursday</b>						
No games scheduled.						
<b>Hockey</b>						
<b>NHL</b>						
<b>Eastern Conference</b>						
<b>Atlantic Division</b>						
	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>OT Pts</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>
Tampa Bay	48	33	12	3	69	170
Boston	48	20	10	8	64	153
Toronto	50	27	18	5	59	158
Detroit	47	19	20	8	46	125
Montreal	48	20	22	6	46	124
Florida	46	19	21	6	44	130
Ottawa	46	15	22	9	39	122
Buffalo	48	13	26	9	35	110
<b>Metropolitan Division</b>						
	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>OT Pts</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>
Washington	48	28	15	5	61	146

New Jersey	47	24	15	8	68	144
Philadelphia	48	24	16	8	56	140
Columbus	48	26	19	3	55	129
Pittsburgh	50	26	21	3	55	145
N.Y. Rangers	49	24	20	5	53	147
N.Y. Islanders	49	24	20	5	53	176
Carolina	48	21	19	8	50	131
<b>WESTERN CONFERENCE</b>						
<b>Central Division</b>						
	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>OT Pts</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>
Winnipeg	49	29	13	7	65	161
Nashville	46	28	11	7	63	142
St. Louis	50	28	19	3	61	145
Dallas	49	28	17	4	60	154
Colorado	47	27	17	3	57	156
Minnesota	48	26	17	5	57	141
Chicago	48	22	19	7	51	141
<b>Pacific Division</b>						
	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>OT Pts</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>
Vegas	47	32	11	4	68	163
San Jose	47	26	14	7	59	138
Calgary	48	25	16	7	57	134
N.Y. Islanders	49	26	18	5	57	139
Anaheim	49	23	17	9	55	137
Edmonton	48	21	24	3	45	131
Vancouver	48	19	23	6	44	127
Arizona	49	12	28	9	33	117
NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.						
<b>Wednesday's Games</b>						
Toronto 3, Chicago 2, OT Los Angeles 2, Calgary 1, OT						
<b>Thursday's Games</b>						
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 4 p.m. Minnesota at Pittsburgh, 4 p.m. Nashville at New Jersey, 4 p.m. Boston at Ottawa, 4:30 p.m. Chicago at Detroit, 4:30 p.m. Washington at Florida, 4:30 p.m. Carolina at Montreal, 4:30 p.m. Colorado at St. Louis, 5 p.m. Toronto at Dallas, 5:30 p.m. Columbus at Arizona, 6 p.m. Calgary at Edmonton, 6 p.m. Buffalo at Vancouver, 7 p.m. N.Y. Islanders at Vegas, 7 p.m. Winnipeg at Anaheim, 7 p.m. N.Y. Rangers at San Jose, 7:30 p.m.						