

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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AP Photo/Wade Payne

Oregon State players celebrate as Tennessee guard Jaime Nared (31) walks off the court after Oregon State's 66-59 win in a second-round game in the NCAA women's college basketball tournament on Sunday in Knoxville, Tenn.

Beavers are 'Sweet' once again

Oregon State upsets Tennessee to reach Sweet 16 for third straight year

By RHIANNON POTKEY
Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Oregon State coach Scott Rueck had insulated himself from much of the media coverage leading into the women's NCAA Tournament.

But struggling to sleep at 2 a.m. Sunday morning before Oregon State faced Tennessee in the second round, Rueck stumbled upon an ESPN preview article.

He noticed a nugget about the Lady Vols having never lost at home in the NCAA Tournament and thought, "How often in life do you have a chance to do something for the first time?" After informing his team at

Second Round



#6 Oregon St

66



#3 Tennessee

59



shoot-around about their shot at history, the Beavers went out and added another chapter to their renaissance.

Senior Marie Gulich had 14 points and 12 rebounds to lead sixth-seeded Oregon State to its third straight regional semifinal

appearance with a 66-59 win over third-seeded Tennessee at Thompson-Boling Arena.

"We had an opportunity to do something today that is really special and that is a first," Rueck said. "So when the clock was ticking down right at the very

end and we knew we had it, I just couldn't hardly believe how far this team has come."

Rueck can say the same for his program. The one-time Pac-12 Conference doormat has become a perennial contender with expectations to make deep tournament runs and share the stage with tradition-rich Tennessee.

The Lady Vols had been 57-0 at home in NCAA play with most of those victories coming under late Hall of Fame coach Pat Summitt, who led the team to eight national championships. It's the second straight season that Tennessee lost in the second round of the NCAAs and will miss the Sweet 16 in back-to-back seasons for the first time in the program's 37-year tournament history.

Tennessee (24-8) and OSU (25-7) played an intense game befitting of two teams separated by only one spot in the AP poll entering the tournament.

See BEAVERS/3B

NCAA Women's Tournament

No. 2 seed Oregon cruises to Sweet 16 with win over Minnesota

By ANNE M. PETERSON
AP Sports Writer

EUGENE — At the halftime buzzer against Minnesota, Sabrina Ionescu nailed an improbable 3-pointer and then fell to the court. A moment later, she was clearly angry with herself for missing the free throw that went with it.

The moment was typical of Oregon's sophomore guard.

Ionescu had 29 points, nine assists and seven rebounds and the second-seeded Oregon Ducks advanced to the Sweet 16 with a 101-73 victory over the No. 10 Golden Gophers in the second round of the women's NCAA Tournament on Sunday night.

"She's dialed in," Ducks coach Kelly Graves said. "She's rock solid." It was the 11th straight victory for



the Ducks, who are headed to the round of 16 for the second straight season. Last year they went to the Elite Eight for the first time in program history.

Ionescu was just short of her second straight and 11th career triple-double. A sophomore, Ionescu holds the career NCAA record for triple-doubles.

Fellow sophomore Ruthy Hebard finished with 22 points and 10 rebounds for the Ducks, who led by as many as 34 points. Ionescu went to the bench with 8:31 left in the game and Oregon up by 30.

"The ball went through the basket today for me," Ionescu said. "It was just kind of in the flow of the game. People were getting me the ball in position for me to score, which was nice to see, and then Ruthy played well inside. I was getting her the ball and vice versa."

With her fourth assist of the game, Ionescu broke the Pac-12 single-season record of 278, set by Arizona's Brenda Pantoja in the 1995-96 season. She finished the game with 284.

Carlie Wagner led the Golden Gophers with 20 points. Oregon's 101 points were the most Minnesota had given up all year.

"Obviously a tough moment for our team," Minnesota coach Marlene Stollings said. "I'm really proud of

See OREGON/3B



Oregon's Sabrina Ionescu, left, Lexi Bando and Ruthy Hebard, right, wave to their fans after defeating Minnesota 101-73 in the second-round game in the NCAA women's basketball tournament on Sunday in Eugene.

Sports shorts

James scores 40, nets a triple double as Cavs top Bucks 124-117

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron James scored 40 points as part of his third triple-double in four games and the Cleveland Cavaliers beat the Milwaukee Bucks 124-117 on Monday night.

James scored 17 points in the third quarter and finished with 12 rebounds and 10 assists for his 16th triple-double this season and 71st of his career.

Milwaukee cut a 17-point lead to 117-109, but James drove the length of the floor for a dunk with just over a minute left.

Cavaliers All-Star forward Kevin Love returned after missing six weeks because of a broken left hand and scored 18 points in 25 minutes.

Giannis Antetokounmpo had 37 points and went 11 for 11 at the foul line for Milwaukee.



James

"I know Eli Manning is probably watching this and thinking ... yes, I'm coming. I know Dak [Prescott] is watching this like, 'Yeah, he's coming.' And Alex Smith, he knows he can't run from me. I told him in the Pro Bowl. It's definitely going to be a great season, and it's going to be fun to be out here and be able to chase quarterbacks."

— Michael Bennett

The former Seattle Seahawk and now current Philadelphia Eagle at his introductory news conference on Monday.

Blue Jackets win 8th straight, top Bruins 5-4 in overtime

BOSTON (AP) — Cam Atkinson scored 2:55 into overtime to lift the Columbus Blue Jackets to a 5-4 victory over Boston on Monday night for their eighth straight victory, spoiling a splendid NHL debut for the Bruins' Ryan Donato.

Sonny Milano, Boone Jenner, Thomas Vanek and Artemi Panarin also scored for the Blue Jackets. Joonas Korhonen stopped 34 shots.

Columbus moved into a tie with Philadelphia with 85 points, but the Flyers hold the tiebreaker for third place in the Metropolitan Division and the Blue Jackets hold the first wild card in the Eastern Conference.

Donato had a goal and two assists for Boston, which moved a point behind idle Tampa Bay for first in the Atlantic. Riley Nash, Brad Marchand and David Krejci also scored for Boston, and Tuukka Rask had with 19 saves.



Saturday Prep Roundup

Dawgs top Falcons in opener

East Oregonian

HERMISTON — After getting rained out on Tuesday, the Hermiston baseball team was finally able to play its season-opener on Saturday afternoon when it hosted La Salle Prep. And it was worth the wait as Hermiston won 6-5 at Armand Larive Middle School.



5



6

After the Falcons took a 3-0 lead in the top of the third, the Bulldogs (1-0) quickly answered in the bottom half of the inning with two runs as Lukas Tolan scored from third on a balk and then Landon Jones' double to left brought home Wyatt Noland to make it 3-2.

Then trailing 4-2 in the sixth, a double by Joey Gutierrez and a single by Jordan Ramirez set the Bulldogs up for some runs. Gutierrez scored from third on an error and then Joel Mendez's single brought home Ramirez to tie the game at 4-4. Three batters later, Caden Schwirer hit a two-run single to left field to put the Bulldogs up 6-4.

In the seventh, La Salle Prep scored one run on a bases-loaded walk from Ramirez and had the bases loaded with two outs before Ramirez worked a three-pitch strikeout to end the game.

Ramirez got the win on the mound with two innings of relief, and also had a standout day at the plate going 3 for 3 with a run scored. Tolan started on the mound and struck out six over five innings while giving up five hits, three runs and three walks.

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HHS	002004	X	6	9	4	

(L) M. Evans, J. Owens (4) and J. Jenson. (H) L. Tolan, J. Ramirez (6) and W. Noland. W — J. Ramirez, L — M. Evans.
2B — M. Evans, N. Grogan 2 (LSP); L. Jones, J. Gutierrez (HHS).

See PREP ROUNDUP/3B

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1897 — Yale beats Penn 32-10 in New Haven, Conn., in the first men's intercollegiate basketball game.

1954 — In the first televised NCAA championship game, La Salle defeats Bradley 92-76.

1971 — Two brothers face each other in goal for the first time in the NHL. Ken Dryden and the Montreal Canadiens get a 5-2 win against Dave Dryden and the Buffalo Sabres at the Montreal Forum. Ken appears after a second-period injury to Rogie Vachon and then Dave is immediately put in goal.

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