



Pendleton's Nick Bower dives back to first base as Sandy first baseman Hunter Mein waits for the ball in the Bucks' 13-5 win against the Pioneers on Monday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

## BASEBALL: Pendleton racks up 18 hits

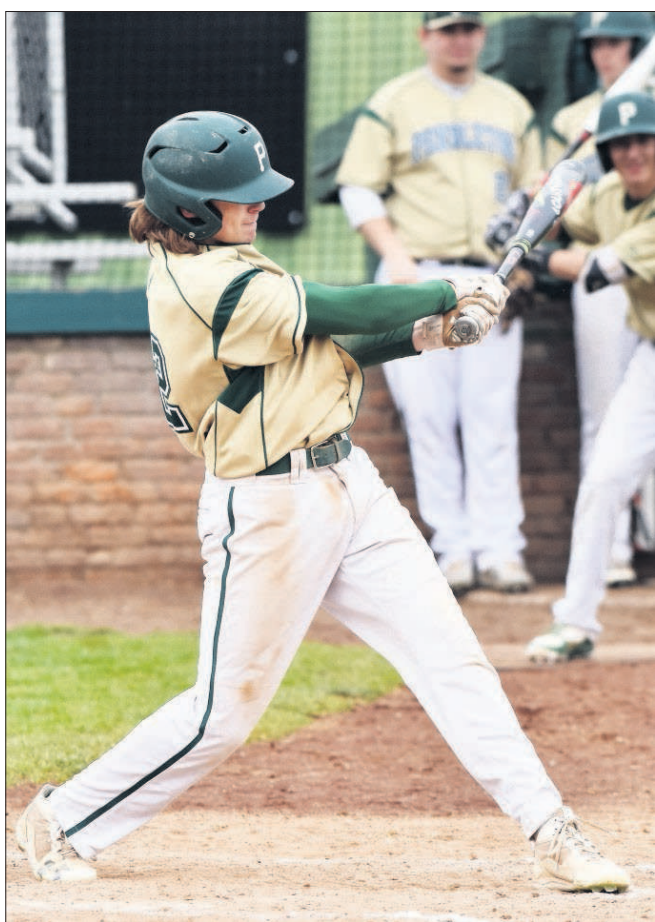
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"Gabe is our table setter and he's doing a heck of a job getting us started and putting in consistent at-bats," Pendleton coach T.J. Hague-wood said. "He just does a lot of good things. He works counts, he'll hit with two strikes, he'll hit good pitching or slow pitching, he hits right-handed and left-handed. He is just a very solid baseball player."

The Buckaroos needed a good offensive outing to make up for more defensive woes, as the Buckaroos totaled seven errors, three of which came in the first inning. Those three first inning errors contributed to three runs for Sandy, putting Pendleton in an early hole.

But the Buckaroos battled back in the second inning and got on the board with an RBI infield single by Cam Sanford and then a bases-loaded triple by Umbarger that put the Bucks on top 4-3. An RBI single by Naughton made it 5-3, and from there the Buckaroos never looked back.

A big reason for Pendleton's cushion was the superb outing from starting pitcher Chris Large. The junior right-hander did not walk a batter



Pendleton's Gabe Umbarger follows through on a three RBI triple in the Bucks' 13-5 win against Sandy on Monday in Pendleton.

and struck out eight over six innings while giving up five runs, only one of which was earned because of defensive

miscues. Large was able to mix his fastball and slider well enough to keep the Pioneers off-balance for most

of the game, which Hague-wood was happy to see.

"When Chris is on, he challenges hitters and doesn't try to nibble," Hague-wood said. "He's confident in his pitches, he's not necessarily an overpowering guy, but he's got enough velocity to do some things and has an excellent slider. When he's on, he's tough and he was on today."

Pendleton resumes action at the Red Lion Classic on Tuesday with a game against St. Helens at 3 p.m. at Bob White Field, which will be followed by a home run derby. The derby will feature two players from each of the seven teams playing in the round-robin tournament — Pendleton, David Douglas, Redmond, Rex Putnam, Roseburg, Sandy, St. Helens — and will take place at 5:30 p.m. at Bob White Field.

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PHS	052141	X	—	13	18	7

(S) K. Hudson, C. Conger (4) and J. Dukart, L. Ulmer (5) and T. King, (P) C. Large, M. Damianew (7) and J. Duso. W — Large, L — Hudson.  
2B — C. Carson (SHS); N. Bower 2, O. Doherty, D. Naughton (PHS); 3B — J. Dukart (SHS); G. Umbarger 2 (PHS).

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## Softball: Pendleton smashes 3 HRs in win

Continued from 1B

But each time the Riverhawks would threaten, Richards and the defense behind her would tighten up and make smart plays to escape the jams.

"I think that's good for us to play with a small lead through most of the game," Cary said, "so we have to stay sharp defensively, stay sharp in the circle and keep our focus hitting. There was a lot of value in having a close game."

Richards finished the game with a solid pitching line, tossing all seven shutout innings while allowing just six hits with 11 strikeouts, never allowing a Chiawana runner to get past second base. She battled with her command throughout the game, though, and walked three batters while going to three-ball counts to six batters. Richards also helped herself a bit on offense, tallying three hits with a double. Cary liked what Richards brought overall, and assessed Richards' outing as another day of improvement.

"What I was most happy with is Lauren's now found an off-speed pitch, and that's where we've been struggling up to this point," Cary said. "By the time we were hitting the fourth inning the other team's had gaged her speed, and now throwing an off-speed pitch kept (Chiawana) off-balance for seven innings, rather than just three or four. That's going to be a great weapon for her now and make her far more effective."

Richards and the rest of the Buckaroos' hard work in those tight situations was rewarded in the bottom of the fifth inning, when Aspen

Garton blasted a three-run home run far past the center field fence to give the Buckaroos some breathing room. Garton finished the game a perfect 3-for-3 at the plate, and the home run was her third of the season with all three coming in the past two games.

"She hits a ton of home runs off of me in batting practice so I knew she could do it," Cary joked of Garton's power. "I don't know if we expected her to pop three of them out of the yard at this point in the season, but I hope she keeps doing it and I'm sure she will. She's a great hitter, she really attacks the inside half of the ball well, and she's just a great competitor, too."

Now the Buckaroos will gather up their gear and head west for a two-day spring break tournament in Milwaukie, where the team will face a lot of talented Class 6A and 5A teams. Action will get started on Monday morning at 10 a.m. with a game against McMinnville (3-1) and then another game against Clackamas (4-1) at 12:30 p.m. at Hood View Park.

"We're going to see some great teams, which will be great for us," Cary said. "Every time we go there we see good pitching, good defense, a very competitive tournament which is what we want."

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(C) A. McKinney, M. Bishop (5) and C. Cissne. (P) L. Richards and K. Solomon. W — Richards, L — McKinney.  
2B — A. McKinney (CHS); L. Richards (PHS). HR — K. McGlothlan, L. Richards, A. Garton (PHS).

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Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Kalan McGlothlan, of Pendleton, slides after attempting to steal second base as Chiawana's Kylie Thome tries to tag during Saturdays game against Chiawana at Steve Cary Field. McGlothlan was out.

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