

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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1B

## BMCC hires Shick as men's soccer coach

### Shick spent 2017 as BMCC assistant coach

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — After only one year of existence, the Blue Mountain Community College's men's soccer program is getting a new head coach.

BMCC announced on Tuesday that Austin Shick has been hired as the newest men's soccer coach, replacing Art Mota after one season. Shick, who works as

BMCC's Student Life Coordinator also, served as the assistant coach for the Timberwolves' soccer program last season under Mota.

"I am very happy to take on this role, and look forward to mentoring and coaching our current squad through the spring," Shick said in a press release. "We have a lot of work ahead of us, but I'm fortunate to have a great group of young men who have the focus and determination that can take them anywhere."



Austin Shick

Shick has collegiate playing experience at Southwestern Oregon Community College in Coos Bay, Linn-Benton Community College in Albany, and Oregon State University, and has seven years of coaching experience at the club level prior to BMCC. He also holds a degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Management from Oregon State.

"Coach Shick has done a fantastic job as an assistant coach this past season, and we appreciate his commitment to each

student-athlete's education at BMCC," BMCC interim athletic director Dawn DiFuria McClendon said. "He understands the importance of hard work in the classroom as much as on the field. His passion for the game will make him a wonderful head coach for these young men."

The Timberwolves men's team finished its inaugural season in the fall of 2017 with a 1-12-1 overall record and a 1-10-1 mark in the NWAC East. Mota was also the coach of the Timberwolves women's team, and a school spokesperson said that it is still in the interviewing process for that position.



AP Photo/Ted S. Warren

Seattle Mariners relief pitcher Nick Vincent, right, waits on the mound before he was pulled from the game as second baseman Robinson Cano stands behind him at left, during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Houston Astros on Wednesday in Seattle.

## Houston's huge seventh inning dooms Mariners

By TODD MILLES  
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Gerrit Cole pitched seven strong innings and the Houston Astros scored six runs in the seventh to beat the Seattle Mariners 7-1 on Wednesday night.

Cole (2-0) struck out five, ending a string of double-digit strikeout games at three. He gave up just an unearned run.

The Astros sent 11 batters to the plate in their biggest-scoring inning of the season off Mariners starter Mike Leake and relievers Nick Vincent and James Pazos.

The first five Houston batters reached against Leake (2-1), starting with Josh Reddick's leadoff walk. After Yuli Gurriel hit a double in the left-field corner, Marwin Gonzalez followed by lining Leake's first pitch to center field for a two-run single that gave the Astros a 3-1 lead.

Brian McCann doubled to deep right center, and Houston grabbed a 4-1 lead on a fielding error by right fielder Mitch Haniger, who got a late jump on Evan Gattis' shallow fly ball.

Two batters later, George Springer hit a



AP Photo/Ted S. Warren

Houston Astros' George Springer follows through on a two-run double during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Seattle Mariners Wednesday in Seattle.

two-run double off Vincent that caromed off the right-center wall, and Houston had a 6-1 lead.

The Astros grabbed an early 1-0 lead on McCann's RBI double to left field in the second inning, scoring Gonzalez.

Seattle tied it 1-1 in the third on Robinson Cano's run-scoring single to center field.

### IN AND OUT OF LINEUP

Astros: Third baseman Alex Bregman (three hits in past 21 at-bats) and outfielder Jake Marisnick (10 strikeouts in past 13 hitless at-bats) were out of the starting lineup Wednesday. Manager A.J. Hinch said he will get more of his regulars days off in the coming weeks.

Mariners: To make room for outfielder Ben Gamel (strained right oblique) on Wednesday, LHP Ariel Miranda was sent to Triple-A Tacoma. Gamel batted seventh in his first game back, and will get the most time against right-handed pitching, manager Scott Servais said.

When Seattle needs a fifth starter Sunday in Texas, it will be RHP Erasmo Ramirez, who will make his season debut.

### TRAINER'S ROOM

Astros: McCann (right hand) felt a little sore the day after being hit on the knuckles by a Wade LeBlanc pitch Tuesday night, but was back behind the plate Wednesday, batting seventh.

See MARINERS/2B

### College baseball

## T'wolves lose pair to Big Bend

East Oregonian

MOSES LAKE, Wash. — The Blue Mountain Timberwolves baseball team had its four-game win streak snapped with a pair of tough losses to Big Bend in a doubleheader on Wednesday afternoon. The Timberwolves dropped the first game 9-6 and then fell 6-2 to end the day.

The losses drop the Timberwolves (18-16 overall, 7-7 East) to fourth place in the NWAC East, three games back of Spokane for the final playoff spot in the region and two games back of Big Bend in third.

In the opener, the Timberwolves trailed 3-0 before Nate Cantonwine ripped a two-run home run and Joe Hixenbaugh smacked an RBI double to tie the game at 3-3. The Timberwolves then tied the game again in the sixth with an RBI single by Brady White and a sacrifice fly by TJ Rea to make it a 5-5 game.

In the seventh, the Timberwolves led for the first time in the game on another homer by Cantonwine — this time a solo shot — for the 6-5 advantage. However, the lead was short-lived as Brooks Juhasz came on in relief in the bottom half of the seventh and allowed three hits and three runs to Big Bend (21-11, 9-5) to give the home team a 8-6 lead.

Colton Walker followed up his shutout last week with a six-inning performance, allowing 10 hits and five runs with three strikeouts.

See T'WOLVES/3B

**NBA PLAYOFFS: RND 1**

No. 6 seed

**NEW ORLEANS PELICANS**

(48-34)

No. 3 seed

**PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS**

(49-33)

**Game 3:** Today, 6 p.m.

At New Orleans, Smoothie King Center **TV:** TNT

**Series:** NO leads 2-0

### Sports shorts

#### Group submits offers to buy Portland sites for ballpark

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — The backers of an effort to bring a professional baseball team to Portland have submitted formal proposals to buy sites to potentially build a stadium.

The backers operating under the Portland Diamond Project have sent offers for two possible sites for a ballpark near downtown, The Oregonian reported Tuesday.

The management group sent an unsolicited offer to buy the headquarters of Portland Public Schools, district spokesman Dave Northfield said.

The site in the Rose Quarter north of the Moda Center complex was valued at more than \$100 million, according to county assessor records.

#### Titans say they will exercise 5th-year option on QB Mariota

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Tennessee Titans have announced they will exercise their fifth-year option on quarterback **Marcus Mariota**.

The move keeps Mariota under contract through the 2019 season. Titans general manager Jon Robinson made the announcement ahead of the May 3 deadline to declare for players drafted in 2015.

The Titans selected the 2014 Heisman Trophy winner from Oregon with the second overall pick in the 2015 draft. Mariota has made 42 regular-season starts over the last three years and has completed 61.8 percent of his passes for 9,476 yards with 58 touchdowns and 34 interceptions. He threw 13 touchdown passes with a career-high 15 interceptions last season but also led the Titans to their first playoff victory since January 2004.



#### THIS DATE IN SPORTS

**1897** — John J. McDermott wins the first Boston Marathon in 2 hours, 55 minutes, 10 seconds.

**1991** — Evander Holyfield retains the heavyweight title with a unanimous 12-round decision over 42-year-old challenger George Foreman in Atlantic City, N.J.

**1992** — Michael Jordan of the Chicago Bulls wins his sixth straight NBA scoring title with a 30.1 average.

**2010** — Kenya's Robert Kiprono Cheruiyot wins the Boston Marathon, breaking the course record with a time of 2:05:52.

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