

Pendleton High School Invitational

Buckaroos lead the pack

Geier, George take first place

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — While playing the long 472-yard par-five 11th hole at the Pendleton Country Club on a sunny Thursday afternoon, Pendleton senior Jared Geier could feel that he was going to have a pretty good round of golf.

“I was just hitting my shots, hitting putts really well,” Geier said. “I made birdie there ... and I just couldn’t miss.”

Geier went on to make four birdies in his round to shoot a one-under 71 to earn top medalist at the Pendleton High School Invitational with a six stroke cushion over second place Gabe Cach of Hanford and Riley Lankford of Nixyaawii. Geier admitted he was pretty excited once he totaled up his scorecard and realized he broke par for the first time in his varsity career.

“It felt great,” Geier said of his round. “I’ve never shot one-under before, I’ve never actually shot under par before so it was a great feeling.”

Fellow Buckaroo Megan George earned top medalist honors for the girls side, shooting a 12-over 84. George was the one of only three players to shoot under 100 on the day, and she finished with a 10 stroke cushion on second place. The Buckaroos play the Country Club course twice a week, which came in handy for the top two players on Thursday.

“It helps you know where to hit the ball and how the greens are rolling,” Geier said. “It helped us out a ton today.”

Both the Buckaroo teams had solid showings at their second home tournament of the year, as the girls finished in second with a score of 415 and the boys in fourth with a 348. For the girls, George’s 84 carried the load while Rylee Harris finished fifth overall with an even 100,

See GOLF/3B



ABOVE: Hermiston junior Blue Blackhurst chips his ball onto the 10th green Thursday at the Pendleton County Club.

LEFT: Mac-Hi’s Noah Wilson tees off on the eleventh hole.

Prep roundup

Buckaroo tennis beats Eagles, 6-2

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The Pendleton girls tennis team won three of its four third-set tiebreakers to help boost the Buckaroos to a 6-2 win over Hood River Valley on Thursday.

The Buckaroos had lost to Hood River 5-3 earlier in the season after losing nearly all of their tiebreaks, so head coach Rocky Dillenburg was pleased to see his team stay tough and win the tiebreaks.

“It’s been a big point of emphasis in practices,” he said.

Pendleton’s Bethany Flanagan upset Montsie Gaerdo after a tiebreaker 6-4, 4-6 (10-8), exacting revenge after Gaerdo defeated Flanagan easily in two sets in the previous meeting. Also winning a tiebreaker was doubles pairings Becca Walker and Larissa Chambers, as well as Gabby Cuthbert and Lauren Spicknall.

Singles
Bethany Flanagan (P) def. Montsie Gaerdo 6-4, 4-6 (10-8)
Abby Williams (P) def. Jordan Zeigner 6-2, 6-4
Denae Smith (P) def. Monica Delarosa 6-3, 6-1
JoJo Summerset (H) def. Emma Florence 4-6, 6-2 (10-8)
Doubles
Oswald/Joseph (H) def. Scanlin/Senkerikova 6-1, 6-2
Walker/Chambers (P) def. Evans/Wothekelle 1-6, 6-4 (10-6)
Brady/Durant (P) def. Harsary/Ihoc 6-3, 6-4
Cuthbert/Spicknall (P) def. Dosier/Cherob 3-6, 6-2 (10-8)

HERMISTON (GIRLS) 6, THE DALLES 2 — At Hermiston, the Bulldogs girls tennis team breezed to a 6-2 win over The Dalles on Thursday afternoon.

“Good tennis all around,” Hermiston coach Jason Sivey said. “... Once again, I’m very proud of the whole team. Even the matches we lost were very hard fought battles that could have gone either way.”

Sivey pointed out No. 1 doubles team of Reed Middleton and Breena Wadekamper as one of

the best matches of the day, as they dominated The Dalles’ pairing for a 6-0, 6-1 victory. Sivey also liked No. 1 singles player Mackenzie Hill’s 6-1, 6-0 victory, saying she “came out with great intensity.”

Singles
Mackenzie Hill (H) def. Yahaira Alvarez 6-1, 6-0
Lindsay McAllister (H) def. Dalia Mondragon 6-3, 6-2
Adriann Stewart (H) def. Michaela Height 6-1, 6-0
Ariene Santillan (TD) def. Olivia Thomas 1-6, 6-4 (10-8)
Doubles
Middleton/Wadekamper (H) def. Contreras/Varland 6-0, 6-1
Perkins/Mecham (H) def. Huila/Leon 6-4, 6-3
Najera/Guzman (TD) def. Snyder/Bradshaw 6-4, 6-7 (7-3)
Mitchell/Hofbauer (H) def. Andrade/Eziquio 6-3, 6-4

HERMISTON 5, THE DALLES 3 — At The Dalles, the Hermiston boys tennis team played a strong match on the road and came home 5-3 winners over The Dalles on Thursday.

Hayden Cissna moved to No. 1 singles for the day and grinded out a win. He dropped the first set 6-4, but battled to win the next set 6-1 and won a 10-4 tiebreaker.

“Super happy for Hayden and his big win,” coach Shann West said. “Love to see kids feel good about how they’re performing. He won’t stop smiling.”

Also of note was No. 1 doubles pairing Thomas McCullough and Patrick Wicks, who won 7-5, 7-5 and played at a “high level” according to West.

Hermiston also finished up a previous match with The Dalles that was shortened due to weather, where Hermiston and The Dalles split 4-4. Jason Morris had the lone win in singles action for Hermiston, and the top three doubles teams of McCullough/Wicks, Matt Eckhardt/Austin Garcia, and Trent Pitney/Josue Cadenas all earned wins.

See ROUNDUP/3B

NBA PLAYOFFS: RND 1



No. 6 seed
NEW ORLEANS PELICANS
(48-34)

No. 3 seed
PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS
(49-33)

Game 4: Saturday, 2 p.m.
At New Orleans, Smoothie King Center **TV:** TNT
Series: NO leads 3-0

Mirotic, Davis lead Pelicans to 3-0 series lead over Blazers

By BRETT MARTEL
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Nikola Mirotic scored a career play-off-best 30 points to go with eight rebounds, three steals and a block, and the New Orleans Pelicans beat the Portland Trail Blazers 119-102 on Thursday night to take a 3-0 lead in their first-round playoff series.

Anthony Davis had 28 points, 11 rebounds, three steals and two blocks for New Orleans, which can advance past the first round of the playoffs for the first time since 2008 with one more victory.

The 6-foot-10 Mirotic, acquired in a midseason trade after DeMarcus Cousins’ season-ending Achilles tear, made 12 of

15 shots, scoring on everything from quick-release 3-pointers to cutting dunks and fast-break layups.

Damian Lillard scored 20 for Portland, but also missed nine of 14 shots. CJ McCollum scored 22 and Al-Farouq Aminu added 21, but Portland trailed by double digits for most of the first half and all of the second.

Game 4 is Saturday. The Blazers had no answer for a Pelicans offense orchestrated once again to prolific effect by guard Rajon Rondo, who had 16 points and 11 assists — giving him 37 assists in the series. Jrue Holiday added 16 points for New Orleans, which shot 53 percent (46 of 87).

See BLAZERS/2B



AP Photo/Vernica Dominach
Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard (0) goes to the basket against New Orleans Pelicans forward Nikola Mirotic (3) during the first half of Game 3 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series in New Orleans, Thursday.

Sports shorts

Armstrong settles \$100M lawsuit with US government

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Lance Armstrong reached a \$5 million settlement with the federal government in a whistleblower lawsuit that could have sought \$100 million in damages from the cyclist who was stripped of his record seven Tour de France victories after admitting he used performance-enhancing drugs throughout much of his career.

The deal announced Thursday came as the two sides prepared for a trial that was scheduled to start May 7 in Washington.



‘Seinfeld’ actor shows up at Devils game with face painted

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Life imitated art at the Stanley Cup playoffs as the actor who played Puddy on the TV sitcom “Seinfeld” showed up at the game with his face painted as a New Jersey Devils fan.

Patrick Warburton is a Devils fan and in a 1995 episode of the hit show he appeared with his face painted in red and green.

The team posted a video of Warburton on Wednesday cheering to the crowd at Newark’s Prudential Center that “we’re the Devils!” The 53-year-old stripped off his shirt to reveal a letter “D” on his chest.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1912 — Fenway Park opens in Boston with the Red Sox beating the New York Yankees 7-6 in 11 innings. Tiger Stadium in Detroit also opens its doors as the Tigers defeat the Cleveland Indians 6-5.

1986 — Chicago’s Michael Jordan sets an NBA single-game playoff scoring record with 63 points in a 135-131 double overtime loss to the Boston Celtics, in Game 2 of the first round in the Eastern Conference.

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