

EAST OREGONIAN

SPORTS

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1B

PENDLETON



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pendleton relief pitcher Ryan Stahl, center right, is hoisted into the air by teammate Avery Deutz while celebrating with Daniel Naughton (8) and Tyler Chichester (7) in the Bucks' 4-3 win against Hood River on Tuesday in Pendleton.

League champs!

Buckaroos defeat Eagles, clinch first CRC title since 2014

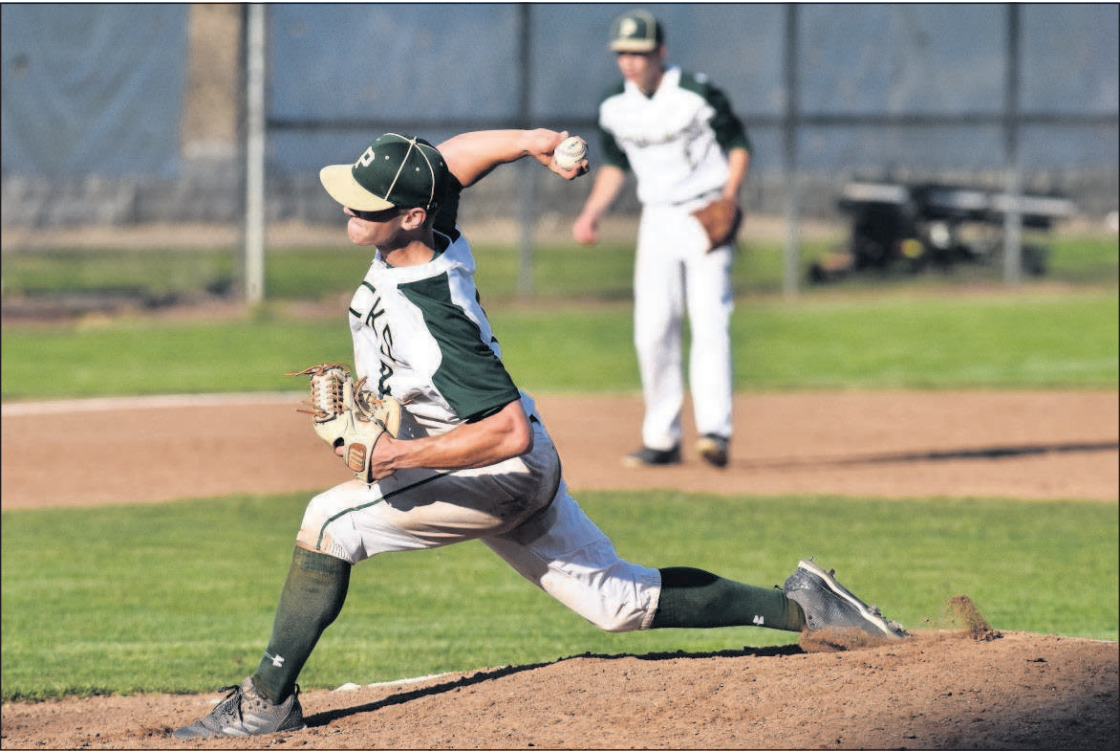
By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Ryan Stahl stood atop the mound at Bob White Field and stared in at catcher Justin Duso for the sign in a 1-2 count.

Stahl's Pendleton Buckaroos were grasping on to a 4-3 lead over Hood River, but the Eagles had the bases loaded with two outs and their six-hole hitter Caden Leiblein at the plate. Stahl took the sign, rocked and spun a curveball that caught just enough of the plate to get the home plate umpire to call strike three for the third out.

That sealed the 4-3 win for Pendleton, which also clinched its first Columbia River Conference championship since 2014 and resulted in the Buckaroos (15-8 overall, 9-2 CRC) tossing their gloves towards the sky and celebrating down the third base line.

"It couldn't happen to a better group of boys, they deserve it," Pendleton coach TJ Hague-wood said proudly after the



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Pendleton's Daniel Naughton throws from the mound in the Bucks' 4-3 win against Hood River on Tuesday in Pendleton.

game. "They worked their tails off, they've been good teammates and they've done everything we've asked them to do."

Stahl has been outstanding as a pitcher in his first season on varsity, as he came into the game with an ERA of only

1.16 in 22 innings. He inherited a daunting situation on Tuesday as he came on in relief of starter Daniel Naughton with one out and the bases full of Eagles (13-11, 7-4). And Stahl's start was rough, allowing an infield single and a hit-by-pitch that, coupled

with a Pendleton error, plated three runs for the Eagles.

However, with two outs and the tying run at third base, Stahl kept his cool and earned the biggest out of the season when he

See BASEBALL/3B

Garton's walk-off RBI completes season sweep of Eagles

For the first time since 2015, Pendleton won all four games against Hood River

By ALEXIS MANSANAREZ
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Whenever Pendleton sees Hood River on its schedule, the Buckaroos

know they are in for a challenge. In the two teams' previous meetings, the Eagles have led for a good portion of play and it was up to the Bucks to come back.

It was no different Tuesday at Steve Cary Field as Pendleton played host for the final time in the regular season.

In two of the three comebacks, second baseman Aspen Garton has been at bat with two outs and the game on the line.

That was also no different against Hood River the fourth time. For Garton, the win against Hood River was the first time she was a part of a sweep of the Eagles — the last time the Bucks pulled that off was in the 2014-15 season.

With two out and two on, Garton smacked a line drive into center field for the walk-off RBI. Her heavy hitting completed the season sweep of the Eagles and

moved Pendleton's win streak to 22 consecutive games after the 3-2 victory.

"We've played these guys four times and three out of the four games I've been put at the position where there was two outs, game on the line, and needless to say I've grown a few gray hairs," Garton said. "All I wanted to do was get a base hit, I

See SOFTBALL/3B

Prep roundup

Mustang golfers shine at districts

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Nixyaawwii golfer Riley Lankford captured his fourth consecutive individual district championship after shooting a second-round 75 at the Pendleton Country Club on Tuesday. Lankford finished with a 36-hole score of 152, which gave him an 11-stroke cushion over Enterprise's Brycen Locke (163) in second place.

The Heppner Mustangs wrapped up the boys' team district championship with a score of 713. Also qualifying to state were Grant Union (750), Burns (759) and Echo (803). Logan Burright led the Mustangs with a 171, followed by Reno Ferguson's 173, Kellen Grant's 176, Cason Mitchell's 193 and Gavin Hanna's 202.

Echo was led by Ian Faulkner's 181, Kyle Ranger's 199, Ian Beenblossom's 206 and James Stradley's 221.

The Heppner girls also took home a district title after shooting a 720, beating out La Grande by a whopping 102 strokes. Sasha Keown led the Mustangs with a 170, followed by Sophie Grant's 174, Nicole Prophetor's 178, Claire Grieb's 198, and Madison Combe's 200.

Wallowa's Tori Suto won the individual title after shooting a 147.

BASEBALL

WESTON-MCEWEN 11-23, UNION 1-18 — At Athena, the Weston-McEwen TigerScots broke out the bats to earn a doubleheader sweep over Union 11-1 and 23-18 to finish up their season on Tuesday.

In Game 1, the TigerScots (5-16 overall, 3-8 2A/1A Special District 6) had a six-run second inning to give them a commanding lead en route to the victory against the Bobcats (3-14, 2-9).

Leading the way for Weston-McEwen in the first outing was Travis Hendley, who went 2-for-3 at the plate with two RBI. Parker Munck and Chance McDowell pitched in three RBI each.

Hendley also earned the win on the mound, surrendering only two hits and one run with three strikeouts over five innings.

In Game 2, Hendley hit two home runs and drove in five runs to lead the TigerScots' offense. Other leaders included Dylan Cain with a double and four runs, Gavin Smith with two hits and four runs and Garrett Shell with four RBI.

IRRIGON 12, MAC-HI 4 — At Milton-Freewater, the Irrigon Knights put together their fifth straight victory with a 12-4 win over Mac-Hi on Tuesday evening.

Adrian Roa and Ryan Hussey were each a perfect 3-for-3 at the plate for the Knights (13-8), with Roa scoring four runs and Hussey knocking in two runs. Also, Johnny Phillips had a triple with three runs and two RBI, and Zack Henrichs went 2-for-4 with three RBI. As a team, Irrigon pounded 14 hits.

Six Pioneer players recorded a hit in the game, with Matt Cunnington leading the pack with a double and two RBI.

PILOT ROCK 7-7, ELGIN 0-6 — At Elgin, the Pilot Rock Rockets bumped their win streak to 11 games with a doubleheader sweep of Elgin on Tuesday, winning 7-0 and 7-6.

In Game 1, the shutout win was thanks to Rockets (16-2 overall, 11-1 Special

See ROUNDUP/2B

Sports shorts

Farquhar visits with White Sox at ballpark

CHICAGO (AP) — The White Sox say reliever Danny Farquhar seemed like his usual joking self when he visited the team at Guaranteed Rate Field for the first time since he collapsed in the dugout with a brain hemorrhage during a game in Chicago last month.

The 31-year-old Farquhar spent about an hour at the ballpark on Tuesday. Fellow pitcher Miguel Gonzalez says Farquhar was "pretty pumped" and reliever Nate Jones says the visit "was exciting for everybody."



Tiger: I'm getting close to winning

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Tiger Woods said he's on the verge of putting it all together and winning his first PGA tournament in five years — if he can just start rolling the ball a little better on the greens.

The 42-year-old Woods made some significant progress in that area Saturday shooting a 3-under 68, but he was nine strokes behind leader Jason Day entering the final round of the Wells Fargo Championship and all but out of contention.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1942 — Alsab, ridden by Basil James, wins the Preakness Stakes by one length over Requested.

1961 — Jim Gentile of the Baltimore Orioles hits consecutive grand slams in the first and second innings of a 13-5 rout of Minnesota.

2009 — LeBron James scores 47 points to lift Cleveland to a 97-82 win over Atlanta. The Cavaliers set an NBA record with their seventh straight double-figure win to eclipse the mark set by the 2004 Indiana Pacers.

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