

OSAA SOFTBALL/BASEBALL PLAYOFFS

BUCKS  
MAKING  
THEIR RUN

Only three local schools remain in state tournaments

By ALEXIS MANSANAREZ  
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The No. 1 Pendleton Buckaroos have waited an entire season for Tuesday’s semifinal matchup. The anticipated rematch between the hosting Bucks and the No. 4 Marist Catholic Spartans will put one team in the Class 5A Softball State Championship game, and end the other’s season.

It’s a situation Pendleton is all too familiar with after a 6-5 loss to Marist in last year’s semifinal round — the Spartans went on to win the state championship. But this time, the Bucks (26-2 overall) are hoping to turn the tide and make it back to the finals for the first time since the 2014-15 season.

Back then, starters Lauren Richards, Alexi Brehaut, Kalan McGlothlan and Rylee Gentner were freshman. Now, they are veterans on the diamond and have played a large role in Pendleton’s success this season.

In the circle, Richards has been the Bucks’ workhorse. She got some much-needed rest after Pendleton built up a 19-0 lead against Sandy in Round 1 of the playoffs, and then returned to throw a complete game versus Ridgeview where she allowed only three runs off five hits in the 8-3 victory.

Behind her sits Brehaut, Gentner and McGlothlan in the infield and all four bring the same energy to their at bats as they do on offense. Both Brehaut and McGlothlan hit home runs in the quarterfinal round to help keep their season alive.

The bats and the Bucks’ defense will need to be sound when the

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Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Lauren Richards, of Pendleton, jogs around the bases after smashing a home run during Saturdays game against Chiawana at Steve Cary Field.



Mariners win fourth straight, beat Rangers

By TIM BOOTH  
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Marco Gonzales pitched into the seventh inning and did not allow an earned run for a third consecutive start, helping the Seattle Mariners top the Texas Rangers 2-1 on Monday.

Seattle won for the ninth time in 10 games and reached 13 games above .500 for the first time since late in the 2014 season. And it was once again a one-run win. The Mariners have been held to three runs or less in seven of the past eight games, but are 7-1 in those games thanks largely to their pitching.

Seattle has 16 one-run wins, best in the majors.

Gonzales (5-3) lasted 6 2/3 innings and has not allowed an earned run since May 12 when he gave up four runs in a loss to Detroit. His only issue against Texas was walks. Gonzales walked four, including Ryan Rua with two outs in the seventh inning to conclude his day.

James Pazos got the final out of the seventh, before letting the duo of Alex Colome and Edwin Diaz work together for the first time. Colome, an All-Star closer acquired from Tampa Bay late last week, struck out a pair sandwiched around a two-out hit to finish the eighth inning, and Diaz pitched the



AP Photo/Elaine Thompson

Texas Rangers’ Rougned Odor (12) leaps as he tries but fails to avoid a tag by Seattle Mariners third baseman Kyle Seager on a rundown in the fifth inning.

ninth for his 19th save.

The only run for Texas came in the third inning when Rougned Odor reached on a bunt single and eventually scored on a passed ball.

Texas starter Doug Fister (1-5) cruised

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HELIX

Rodeo in 18th year draws new, seasoned competitors

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN  
East Oregonian

For many of the competitors in this weekend’s Heart of the Country Rodeo, Helix was just the beginning.

“We hit about five rodeos this weekend,” said Justin Huston, a bull rider from Coquille, after his first round of competition.

Huston said he wasn’t thrilled with his performance that day — he got bucked off — but said he had enjoyed the opportunity to compete in Helix for the first time.

The 18th Annual Helix Rodeo drew a crowd, with people from around the region

packing the stands. The event took place at the Quantum 9 Arena, and featured two rounds of saddle bronc, stock saddle bronc and bull riding. There was also barrel racing and tie-down roping, and two kids’ events — mutton bustin’ and stick horse barrel racing.

The rodeo also held a “Calcutta,” where they auctioned off calf-roping contestants. Spectators could bid to “buy” a cowboy, and if the cowboy placed in the top three in his event, the person that backed him won a percentage of his winnings for the day.

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Staff photo by Jayati Ramakrishnan

A tie-down roper chases a calf at the Helix Rodeo on Saturday.

Sports shorts

Serena Williams to make Grand Slam comeback Tuesday

(AP) — Serena Williams makes her comeback to Grand Slam tennis following the birth of her daughter in September. She hasn’t played in a major since winning her 23rd Grand Slam title at the 2017 Australian Open. The three-time French Open champion plays Kristyna Pliskova of the Czech Republic. Ranked 70th, Pliskova failed to advance past the first round in three previous attempts at Roland Garros.

Madrid celebrates title with fans back home

MADRID (AP) — For a third straight year, Real Madrid celebrated a European title with its fans.

Madrid brought the Cham-

pions League trophy home on Sunday and paraded it through the streets of the Spanish capital as thousands of fans saluted the newly crowned

champions.

Madrid was back in Spain after winning its 13th European title with a 3-1 win over Liverpool in Kiev on Saturday.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1922 — The Supreme Court rules organized baseball is primarily a sport and not a business and therefore not subject to anti-trust laws and interstate commerce regulations.

1946 — Chakoora and Uleta become the first thoroughbreds to complete a transcontinental flight. The 2-year-old fillies are flown from New York to Inglewood, Calif., by the American Air Express Corp., a trip that lasts 20 hours because of bad weather.