

COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

Beavers stumble in opener

Arkansas tags Heimlich for four runs in fifth, wins 4-1

By ERIC OLSON
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Arkansas didn't hit much against Luke Heimlich and Christian Chamberlain in Game 1 of the College World Series. In fact, the Razorbacks struck out 16 times.

Somehow, some way, they sit on the cusp of their first national championship in baseball after beating Oregon State 4-1 Tuesday night.

They capitalized against a faltering Heimlich in a four-run fifth inning, got a strong start from Blaine Knight with shutdown relief pitching and mixed in a few big defensive plays. That enabled the Razorbacks to win on a night when they mustered just five hits.

"I feel fortunate to win the game," Razorbacks coach Dave Van Horn said. "Baseball is a little different game sometimes, and you have eight innings where you don't do much and you put together one inning. You pitch good enough and play defense, you can win. That's kind of what went on tonight."

The finals opener, delayed a day because of rain, seemed to have a little bit of everything — a fly ball lost in the sun that went for

a ground-rule double, a runner interference call against Oregon State and an overturned foul call on a ball hit down the right-field line.

Nothing turned the game more than the sudden collapse of Heimlich.

"He started to lose it," OSU coach Pat Casey said. "He didn't throw the ball where he needed to. He'd been real good all year long, and certainly really struggled in that inning."

After failing to get out of the third inning in both of his previous CWS starts, the Beavers' ace was in full command while striking out five and limiting the Razorbacks (48-19) to one hit through four innings.

In the fifth, though, the senior left-hander issued a walk and hit two batters.

"He lost command of his fastball a little bit and was out of the zone, so as hitters we're all just trying to be patient, see him in the zone, and he ended up also missing his spots a few times," Arkansas outfielder Heston Kjerstad said. "That equaled a few more runs for us."

Arkansas starter Blaine Knight (14-0) went back to the mound with a 4-1 lead, pitched another inning and left having allowed seven

See OSU/3B



Oregon State catcher Adley Rutschman (35) collides with third baseman Michael Gretler trying to catch a fly ball hit by Arkansas' Dominic Fletcher during the ninth inning of Game 1 of the NCAA College World Series baseball finals in Omaha, Neb., Tuesday. Arkansas won 4-1.

AP Photo/Ted Kirk

Hermiston continues championship streak in trapshooting with three-peat

On Saturday, Hermiston successfully defended its state title

By ALEXIS MANSANAREZ
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — As Hermiston gets ready to move into the WIAA, there's one team that will continue to compete in Oregon.

Hermiston's trapshooting team has dominated its competition since the league's inaugural season in 2015, and this year was no different as Hermiston won its third consecutive state title.

Hermiston competed the three-peat over the weekend at the 2018 Oregon State High School Clay Target League State Tournament at the Hillsboro Trap & Skeet Club. Behind the efforts of Thomas Mabbot and Mitchell Pimentel of the



The Hermiston trap shooting team poses with the first-place trophy after winning its third consecutive title at the 2018 Oregon State High School Clay Target League State Tournament at the Hillsboro Trap & Skeet Club on Saturday. Hermiston won after hitting 485 of 500 targets.

Photo courtesy of John Adams

boys varsity team, Hermiston finished with a team total of 485 (out of 500) points.

Head coach John Adams credits the good work to the time and

effort the team puts in during the season.

"The kids practice and work on

See HERMISTON/3B

Legion baseball

Hodgen rallies to split DH

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — For a brief time on Tuesday evening, it appeared as if Hodgen Distributing was on its way to being swept in a doubleheader with the Idaho Cubs.

The Cubs already had a 9-3 victory in its back pocket and had just scored five runs in the top of the first inning of the second game to put Hodgen in a tough spot. However Hodgen was able to reset itself and start to work its way back into the game, which it did with the help of a nine-run sixth inning where the home team went from a four-run deficit to a five-run lead en route to a 12-7 victory at Bob White Field.

The rally for Hodgen Distributing (14-5) began with a walk to Ryan Stahl and an Idaho error that allowed Roberts to reach safely. That brought Kyle Field to

the plate, and the team-leader in RBI added to his total with a two-run double into the left-center field gap and Ty Beers promptly followed with a double that was crushed off the right field fence to score Field to cut the Idaho lead to 7-6 — still with no outs.

Later with the bases loaded, Logan Weinke drew a walk to bring home the tying run and Chris Large was hit by a pitch to bring in the go-ahead run. But Hodgen wasn't done there, as Curtis Simons would score from third on a wild pitch, Tanner Sweek hit a two-run double to left and Field hit a RBI single to right to push the score to 12-7.

Hodgen's first run of the game came in the fourth inning when Stahl hit a sacrifice fly RBI to left to score Large, and then it added two in the fifth when Field and

See LEGION/3B

Sports shorts

Body found in Braves ballpark beer cooler

ATLANTA (AP) — The body of a third-party contractor has been found inside a beer cooler at SunTrust Park.

The body was found Tuesday by a worker from the same company, Cobb County police spokeswoman Sarah O'Hara tells The Atlanta Journal-Constitution she could not say if foul play is suspected because the investigation is ongoing.

Cobb County police say in a statement that officers responded to a "call of a deceased person located at SunTrust Park" before the Braves game.

Washington State football player had brain damage at death

(AP) — The family of the Washington State football player who died of suicide in January said the 21-year-old quarterback had extensive brain damage that's been linked to concussions from playing the sport.

Tyler Hilinski was found dead in his apartment with a gunshot wound and a suicide note on Jan. 16.

Mark and Kym Hilinski told NBC's "Today" show on Tuesday that the Mayo Clinic requested to do an autopsy of their son's brain. The family said the autopsy results indicated that their son had signs of extensive brain damage known as chronic traumatic encephalopathy, or CTE.



AP Photo/Young Kwak, File

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1914 — Jack Johnson wins a 20-round referee's decision over Frank Moran at the Velodrome d'Hiver in Paris.

2017 — Florida scores four runs in the eighth inning to pull away from LSU, and the Gators beat their Southeastern Conference rival 6-1 to complete a two-game sweep in the College World Series finals for their first national title in baseball. LSU loses for the first time in seven appearances in a championship game.

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