



COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

Beavers from the brink

Arkansas misplays fly ball, OSU rallies to force Game 3

By **ERIC OLSON**
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Oregon State hadn't been able to catch a break in the College World Series finals. And then the ninth inning happened Wednesday night.

Three Arkansas fielders watched a foul ball drop between them with two outs. If one of them catches the ball, the Razorbacks would have locked up the national championship.

No one did. Cadyn Grenier singled in the

tying run, and Trevor Larnach followed with a two-run homer into the right-field bullpen to give the Beavers the lead in a 5-3 win that forced a third and deciding game on Thursday night.

"As soon as you see the ball drop, you know you have another

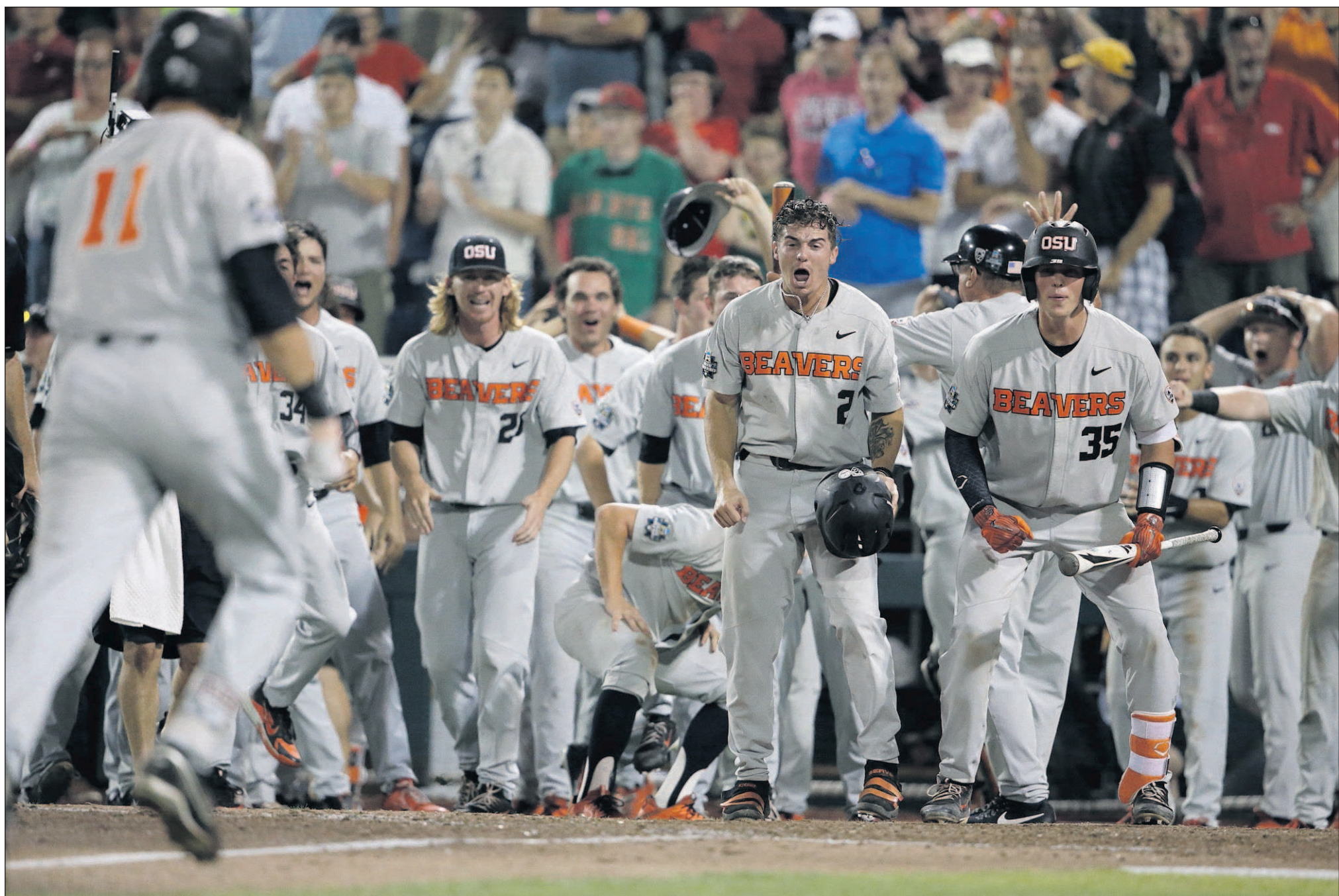
life," Grenier said. "I needed to refocus and make the most of that extra life we got. That's a gift."

Arkansas (48-20) turned back the Beavers (54-12-1) when they threatened in the sixth and eighth innings, and they were in position to do the same in the ninth if not

for the bungled foul ball.

Zach Clayton, who pinch ran for Zak Taylor after a walk leading off the ninth, was on third when Grenier came up to bat with the entire stadium on its feet.

See **OSU/3B**



AP Photo/Nati Harnik

Oregon State's Cadyn Grenier (2) and Adley Rutschman (35) celebrate with teammates after Trevor Larnach (11) hit a two-run home run against Arkansas that scored Grenier during the ninth inning of Game 2 of the NCAA College World Series baseball finals in Omaha, Neb., on Wednesday. Oregon State won 5-3.

Prep softball

Riverside's Wightman earns district POY

East Oregonian

Riverside senior pitcher Skylar Wightman earned the 3A Special District 1 Player of the Year this season as she pitched and helped her Pirates hit their way into a second place finish and a spot in the state playoffs.

Wightman finished with a 2.60 earned-run average in 76 innings in district play, registering 135 strikeouts — a ratio of 12.4 strikeouts per seven innings — to just 12 walks. She also handled the bat well, hitting for a .564 average with a home run, six doubles and 20 RBI while also drawing 17 walks.

Echo/Stanfield head coach Bryan Bailey earned district coach of the year honors after leading the Cougars to the regular season and district titles.

Along with Wightman on the all-district first team was pitcher

See **SOFTBALL/3B**



Riverside senior Skylar Wightman prepares to take a lead from a base during a 2018 game. Wightman was the 3A Special District 1 Player of the Year and all-state first team selection this spring.

Photo courtesy of Jordan Mittelsdorf

Mariners outlast Orioles in 11 innings

By **DAVID GINSBURG**
Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Denard Span hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the 11th inning after Kyle Seager delivered a two-run homer in the ninth, and the Seattle Mariners beat the Orioles 8-7 Wednesday night to move within a victory of an unprecedented four-game sweep in Baltimore.

Playing without injured Nelson Cruz for a second straight game, the Mariners got a home run from Ryon Healy and collected 14 hits while improving their record in extra innings to 7-0.

The Mariners came to town having lost six of seven. Now, after winning three straight over the lowly Orioles, they can complete the first four-game road sweep of Baltimore in franchise

history.

Seattle has never swept a two-game series in Baltimore, and its last three-game sweep of the Orioles on the road was in 2007.

Jean Segura led off the 11th with a double against Mychal Givens (0-5), and Span drove in the go-ahead run with a deep fly to center off Donnie Hart.

Chasen Bradford (5-0) worked the 10th and Edwin Diaz got three outs for his major league-leading 30th save, a club record before the All-Star break. He has earned the save in each game of this series.

The Orioles trailed 5-4 in the eighth inning before Chris Davis interrupted his season-long slump with a three-run homer off Alex Colome. The drive, on a 3-1 pitch, soared onto Eutaw Street

See **MARINERS/2B**

Sports shorts

Oops, times 8: WC new record for own-goals

(AP) — Mexico defender Edson Alvarez's 74th-minute own-goal against Sweden was the seventh time at this year's World Cup that a player has sent the ball into his team's net — a tournament record — and Switzerland goalkeeper Yann Sommer made it eight on an unlucky bounce.

As with many of the earlier miscues, Alvarez was trying to clear a cross in the box. But it bounced off of him and inside the left goalpost as keeper Ochoa watched.



AP Photo/Eric Gay, File

Becky Hammon promoted, moves up San Antonio Spurs coaching ladder

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Becky Hammon is moving up San Antonio's coaching ladder.

The Spurs announced Wednesday that they have promoted Hammon, and that she will fill the spot vacated by James Borrego on the team's roster of assistant coaches.

Borrego left the Spurs to become the new coach of the

Charlotte Hornets.

Hammon has been a member of the San Antonio coaching staff since 2014, and was one of six assistants under Gregg Popovich last season. Hammon has been among the assistants who sit in the row directly behind the Spurs bench, but this move means she will be in the front row alongside Popovich starting this season.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1971 — Muhammad Ali wins a four-year legal battle to overturn his 1967 conviction for draft evasion in an 8-0 vote by the U.S. Supreme Court.

2007 — Frank Thomas hit his 500th home run and Craig Biggio becomes the 27th player in major league history to get 3,000 hits.

2009 — Mariano Rivera earns his 500th save, becoming the second reliever to reach the milestone, and the New York Yankees beat the Mets 4-2.

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