

Prep roundup

Knights pick up volleyball wins over Mustangs, Vikings

East Oregonian

The Irrigon Knights volleyball team began the 2018 season with a pair of victories on Friday, defeating Heppner 3-1 before knocking off its league rival, Umatilla, 3-0 as well.

Against Heppner, the Mustangs (1-1) took the first set 25-20, but Irrigon came back to win the next three sets 25-21, 25-20, 25-20. Haley White led the Knights (2-0) with 13 kills, Emma Muller had seven and Brianna Rice had six, while Makenna Collins led the team’s defense with 16 digs. Sydney Wilson led the Mustangs with six kills.

Then against Umatilla, Irrigon won easily 25-15, 25-11, 25-13.

Heppner also matched up with Umatilla (0-2) on Friday, where the Mustangs won 3-0 with scores of 25-11, 25-8 and 25-14. Jenna McCullough led the Mustangs in the match with nine kills and Nicole Propheter had four, while

Claire Grieb, Wilson and Propheter each had four serving aces.

“We played hard and today showed us what we need to work on,” Heppner coach Mindy Wilson said.

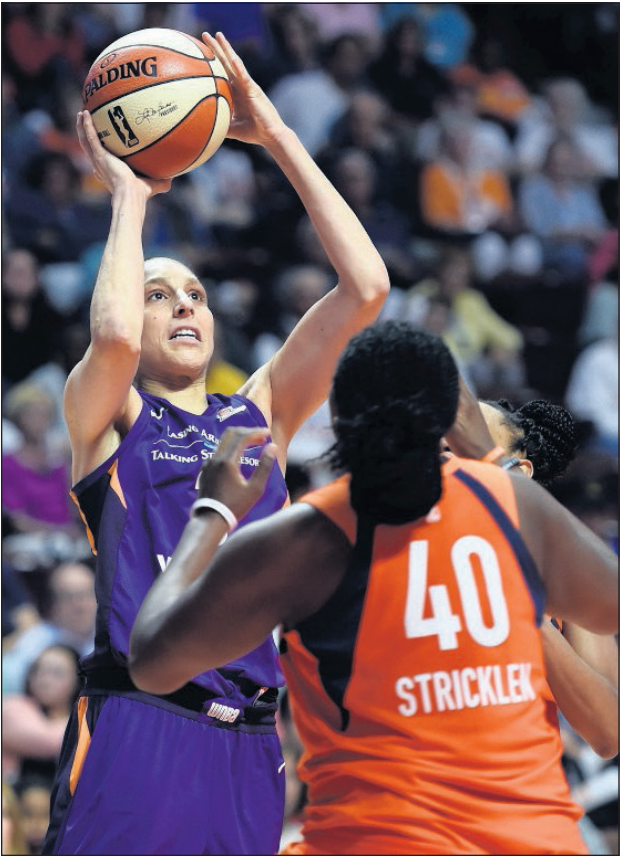
Echo wins twice at 1A Preview

The Echo volleyball program started off 2018 in a good way, winning two of its three matches at the 1A Season Preview Tournament on Friday afternoon.

The Cougars (2-1) started the day with a 2-1 win over Prairie City (25-18, 25-20, 15-12), then defeated Country Christian 2-0 (25-22, 25-20), but finished the day with a 2-0 loss to Hosanna CHristian (25-14, 25-15).

The Cougars continue the tournament on Saturday against Days Creek at 10 a.m., North Clackamas Christian at 3 p.m. and then against McKenzie at 6 p.m.

WNBA PLAYOFFS



Sean D. Elliot/The Day via AP

Phoenix Mercury guard Diana Taurasi shoots over Connecticut Sun defenders Jasmine Thomas, obscured, and Shekinna Stricklen (40) during the second half of a single-game WNBA basketball playoff matchup Thursday in Uncasville, Conn.

The ultimate winner

Taurasi 13-0 in winner-take-all WNBA games

By DOUG FEINBERG

Associated Press

UNCASVILLE, Conn. — When it comes to winner-take-all games in the WNBA playoffs, Diana Taurasi takes them all.

Taurasi put on quite a show in a single-elimination matchup Thursday night, helping the Phoenix Mercury advance to the semifinals by scoring 27 points in a win at Connecticut.

The victory made Taurasi a perfect 13-0 in postseason games that decide which team advances to the next round and who goes home. That’s right, she’s never lost a deciding Game 3 or 5, or even a one-and-done. She’s won seven of those decisive contests on the road, too.

“It’s just, at the end of the day: do you want to keep playing?” Taurasi said before the game. “Do you want to keep playing? As a team, do you want to come out here tonight, try to win the game, so you can get on a plane and go to wherever it is, and keep the season going, and keep playing. You know, I want to keep playing. I worked hard this offseason, I think as a group we’ve worked really hard.”

It sounds like a simple enough philosophy, yet no one can match her success at it.

“If I had the answer, I’d gladly tell you,” the former UConn star said. “A lot of it

is luck. A lot of it is having great teammates. You don’t do it alone in this sport. We relish these moments where it’s up to you if you want to keep playing.”

Next up, for Taurasi and her team is a best-of-five series against Seattle.

At 36, Taurasi is enjoying one of the best seasons of her career both from a scoring and passing standpoint — she averaged nearly 21 points per game, third best in the league. She began these playoffs by scoring 25 in a one-game elimination win over Dallas.

“She amazes me really every single day, to be able to do what she continues to do at such a high level at her age is amazing,” Mercury coach Sandy Brondello said. “When we need her to score, she scores, when we need her to get us into our sets and make the appropriate play, she does it.”

Taurasi was instrumental in the Mercury’s 96-86 win over Connecticut, yet didn’t take a shot in the fourth quarter. She only scored two points in the period, on free throws. But she came up with a big rebound late in the game over 6-foot-5 Jonquel Jones.

“In that fourth quarter, I’m not even sure that she took a shot,” Brondello marveled afterward. “It shows a lot about her and her competitiveness. She will do whatever it takes to win and I don’t know if I have seen anyone with the will to win bigger than what hers is and she is so critical for our success.”

Koepka powers into a share of the lead at Northern Trust

By DOUG FERGUSON

Associated Press

PARAMUS, N.J. — Brooks Koepka showed some muscle and unleashed a monstrous finish Friday to share the lead in The Northern Trust.

Tiger Woods missed yet another putt and was relieved to still be playing.

Koepka spent most of the second round trading birdies and bogeys, going nowhere. One swing changed everything on the 631-yard 13th hole at Ridgewood Country Club. From just under 310 yards, he swung his 3-wood as hard as he could and saw the tight draw that had been missing all day. It stopped 20 feet from the hole, Koepka made it for eagle and then closed with three straight birdies for a 6-under 65.

He tied Jamie Lovemark, who shot a 66.

“I wasn’t happy the first 11 holes the way I hit it,” Koepka said. “When I hit that 3-wood, it all clicked. I felt like I was finally able to release the golf club. Just tried to hit as hard as I could, big draw. Aimed at the tree on the right and tried to draw it back to the flag. When I did that, everything started to click.”

The U.S. Open and PGA champion took it from there.

Lovemark, winless in 135 starts as a pro, made five birdies in a six-hole stretch around the turn and was the first to reach 10-under 132.

Before long, a list of contenders lined up behind them in an entertaining start to the FedEx Cup playoffs.

Adam Scott, building on his confidence from playing in the final group at the PGA Championship, had a 64 for the low round of the tournament and was one shot behind. Another shot back was Dustin Johnson, the world No. 1, who had another 67 that for the second straight day featured a triple bogey on his card. At least he got this one out of the way early, taking five



AP Photo/Julio Cortez

Brooks Koepka acknowledges the gallery after chipping on the 14th hole during the first round of the Northern Trust golf tournament, Thursday, Aug. 23, 2018, in Paramus, N.J.

shots from a mangled lie in deep rough behind the first green.

“That was not a fun start,” Johnson said. “There was nothing to do but laugh at that point.”

Bryson DeChambeau had a 66 and joined Johnson at 134. The group at 7-under 135 included Sean O’Hair, who is No. 112 in the FedEx Cup and needs to get to No. 70 by the third playoff event at the BMW Championship being played this year at Aronimink, his home club outside Philadelphia. He already is planning to play the member-guest a few weeks later, but O’Hair would love to play Aronimink for a \$9 million purse.

Woods was not part of the action, even though he hit the ball beautifully. Woods had a birdie putt on every

hole until the par-3 15th, when his tee shot rolled just off the green against the collar. All he had to show for it was two birdies, giving him four birdies in 36 holes.

He finished with a three-putt bogey from just inside 30 feet, giving him another 71. He made the cut on the number, leaving him 10 shots behind.

“The name of the game is you’ve got to make putts, and you’ve got to roll it,” Woods said. “No matter how good your drive, you’ve still got to roll them and still got to make putts, and I didn’t putt very well today. I had a hard time seeing my lines, and consequently didn’t make anything.”

Jordan Spieth made putts to get off to a good start, only to give it all back with a triple bogey on his 10th hole of the round at

SCOREBOARD

Local slate

VOLLEYBALL				
Saturday				
Pendleton at Lewiston (ID), 8 a.m.				
Mac-Hi at La Grande, 8 a.m.				
Weston-McEwen, Pilot Rock, Heppner at Grant Union Tournament, 8 a.m.				
Echo vs. North Clackamas Christian (at Country Christian), 3 p.m.				
GIRLS SOCCER				
Saturday				
Mac-Hi at Estacada, 9 a.m.				
COLLEGE FOOTBALL				
Saturday				
College of Idaho at Eastern Oregon, 6 p.m.				
COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL				
Saturday				
Eastern Oregon vs. Rocky Mountain (at Butte, MT), 11 a.m.				
Eastern Oregon vs. Montana Western (at Butte, MT), 3 p.m.				

Baseball

MLB				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	90	40	.692	—
New York	80	47	.630	8½
Tampa Bay	68	61	.527	21½
Toronto	59	69	.461	30
Baltimore	37	91	.289	52
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	73	55	.570	—
Minnesota	61	67	.477	12
Detroit	53	76	.411	20½
Chicago	49	79	.383	24
Kansas City	39	90	.302	34½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	78	50	.609	—
Oakland	77	52	.597	1½
Seattle	73	56	.566	5½
Los Angeles	63	66	.488	15½
Texas	57	72	.442	21½
Friday's Games				
N.Y. Yankees 7, Baltimore 5, 10 innings				
Toronto 4, Philadelphia 2				
Tampa Bay 10, Boston 3				
Chicago White Sox 6, Detroit 3				
Oakland 7, Minnesota 1				
Kansas City 5, Cleveland 4				
Seattle 6, Arizona 3				
Houston 9, L.A. Angels 3				
Texas at San Francisco, late finish				
Saturday's Games				
N.Y. Yankees (Happ 14-6) at Baltimore (Yacabonis 0-1), 10:05 a.m., 1st game				
Texas (Perez 2-5) at San Francisco (Suarez 4-9), 1:05 p.m.				
Philadelphia (Pivetta 7-10) at Toronto (Sanchez 3-5), 1:07 p.m.				
Boston (Porcello 15-6) at Tampa Bay (Yarbrough 12-5), 3:10 p.m.				
Chicago White Sox (Giolito 9-9) at Detroit (Carpenter 1-1), 3:10 p.m.				
N.Y. Yankees (Gray 9-8) at Baltimore (Ramirez 1-5), 4:05 p.m., 2nd game				
Oakland (Fiers 9-6) at Minnesota (Gonzales 0-1), 4:10 p.m.				
Cleveland (Kluber 16-6) at Kansas City (Fillymyer 1-1), 4:15 p.m.				
Seattle (LeBlanc 7-3) at Arizona (Ray 3-2), 5:10 p.m.				
Houston (Verlander 12-8) at L.A. Angels (Barria 8-7), 6:07 p.m.				
NL WILD CARD				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	80	47	.630	+4
Oakland	77	52	.597	—
Seattle	73	56	.566	4
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	72	56	.563	—
Philadelphia	69	59	.539	3
Washington	64	65	.496	8½
New York	57	71	.445	15
Miami	52	78	.400	21

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	74	53	.583	—
St. Louis	72	57	.558	3
Milwaukee	72	58	.554	3½
Pittsburgh	63	66	.488	12
Cincinnati	56	73	.434	19
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	71	57	.555	—
Colorado	70	58	.547	1
Los Angeles	68	61	.527	3½
San Francisco	63	66	.488	8½
San Diego	50	81	.382	22½
Friday's Games				
Chicago Cubs 3, Cincinnati 2, 10 innings				
Toronto 4, Philadelphia 2				
Miami 1, Atlanta 0				
N.Y. Mets 3, Washington 0				
St. Louis 7, Colorado 5				
Seattle 6, Arizona 3				
Milwaukee 7, Pittsburgh 6, 15 innings				
L.A. Dodgers 11, San Diego 1				
Texas at San Francisco, late finish				
Saturday's Games				
Cincinnati (Castillo 7-10) at Chicago Cubs (Quintana 10-9), 11:20 a.m.				
Philadelphia (Pivetta 7-10) at San Francisco (Suarez 4-9), 1:05 p.m.				
Washington (Roark 8-12) at N.Y. Mets (Wheeler 8-6), 1:05 p.m.				
Philadelphia (Pivetta 7-10) at Toronto (Sanchez 3-5), 1:07 p.m.				
Atlanta (Sanchez 6-4) at Miami (Chen 4-9), 4:10 p.m.				
Pittsburgh (Taillon 9-9) at Milwaukee (Chacin 13-4), 4:10 p.m.				
Seattle (LeBlanc 7-3) at Arizona (Ray 3-2), 5:10 p.m.				
St. Louis (Gant 5-5) at Colorado (Marquez 11-9), 5:10 p.m.				
San Diego (Kennedy 0-2) at L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 6-5), 6:10 p.m.				
NL WILD CARD				
	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	72	57	.558	+½
Milwaukee	72	58	.554	—
Colorado	70	58	.547	1
Philadelphia	69	59	.539	2
Los Angeles	68	61	.527	3½

MLB				
NORTHWEST LEAGUE				
North Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Vancouver (Blue Jays)	17	12	.586	—
Spokane (Rangers)	16	13	.551	1
Tri-City (Padres)	13	15	.464	3½
x-Everett (Mariners)	12	16	.428	4½
South Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
x-Hillsboro (D-Backs)	21	8	.724	—
Salem-Keizer (Giants)	13	16	.448	8
Eugene (Cubs)	13	16	.448	8
Boise (Rockies)	10	18	.345	11
Friday's Games				
Spokane 10, Salem-Keizer 2				
Vancouver 2, Boise 1				
Tri-City 5, Eugene 4, 11 innings				
Hillsboro 1, Everett 0				
Saturday's Games				
Salem-Keizer at Spokane, 6:30 p.m.				
Game 28: Vancouver, 7:05 p.m.				
Tri-City at Eugene, 7:05 p.m.				
Everett at Hillsboro, 7:05 p.m.				
LITTLE LEAGUE				
Little League World Series				
At South Williamsport, Pa.				
Saturday's Games				
International Championship				
Game 27: Seoul (South Korea) vs. Kawaguchi (Japan), 9:30 a.m.				
United States Championship				
Game 28: Honolulu vs. Peachtree City (Ga.), 12:30 p.m.				
Sunday's Games				
At Lamade Stadium				
Third Place				
Game 29: Loser Game 27 vs. Loser				
Game 28, 7 a.m.				
World Championship				
Game 30: Winner Game 27 vs. Winner				
Game 28: Noon				

Basketball

WNBA PLAYOFFS

Semifinals
(x-if necessary)
(Best-of-5)

Seattle vs. Phoenix

Sunday: Phoenix at Seattle, 2 p.m.
Tuesday: Phoenix at Seattle, 7 p.m.
Aug. 31: Seattle at Phoenix, 7 p.m.
Sept. 2: Seattle at Phoenix, TBA
Sept. 4: Phoenix at Seattle, TBA

Atlanta vs. Washington

Sunday: Washington at Atlanta, Noon
Tuesday: Washington at Atlanta, 5 p.m.
Aug. 31: Atlanta at Washington, 5 p.m.
Sept. 2: Atlanta at Washington, TBA
Sept. 4: Washington at Atlanta, TBA

Soccer

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

W L T Pts GF GA

Atlanta United FC 16 4 6 54 55 30

New York 15 6 4 49 48 26

New York City FC 14 6 6 48 49 33

Columbus 11 8 7 40 33 33

Philadelphia 10 11 3 33 34 39

Montreal 10 13 3 33 33 42

New England 7 9 8 29 38 40

D.C. United 7 9 6 27 39 39

Toronto FC 6 12 6 24 40 45

Chicago 6 15 6 24 37 52

Orlando City 7 16 2 23 38 59

WESTERN CONFERENCE

W L T Pts GF GA

FC Dallas 13 5 7 46 40 31

Los Angeles FC 12 7 7 43 50 40

Sporting K.C. 12 6 7 42 45 30

Real Salt Lake 11 10 5 38 36 44

LA Galaxy 10 9 8 38 49 48

Portland 10 6 7 37 35 34

Seattle 10 9 5 35 31 26

Vancouver 9 9 7 34 40 49

Minnesota United 9 14 2 29 38 50

Houston 7 11 7 28 41 37

Colorado 6 13 6 24 31 42

San Jose 3 13 8 17 34 44

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.