

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2019

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A LOOK BACK



Staff photo by E.J. Harris, File
Pendleton catcher Justin Duso and pitcher Chris Large confer at the mound during a game against Roseburg on March 25, 2019, in Pendleton.

Bucks coaches and players reflect on their historic season

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — What started in uncertainty ended in history.

Pendleton's varsity baseball team recently closed the best season it has had in 27 years. In their debut year with the Intermountain Conference, the Bucks were named the league champions before battling their way through the 5A playoffs, which came to an end in Keizer in a state title game against the top-ranked Central Panthers.

Although the Bucks fell 11-4, it marked Pendleton's first championship showing since 1992, when they lost to

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Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Pendleton's Quinn Doherty (7) fields a throw from pitcher Cooper Roberts (15) to put out a Southridge runner during a game on April 11, 2019, at Bob White Field.

Hodgen Distributing drops season opener to La Grande

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Pendleton's 17U legion season opener Friday was a battle that ended in narrow defeat.

Hodgen Distributing kicked off their summer ball program with a heartbreaking 6-5 loss to the visiting La Grande Legacy Legends. Pendleton got big hits from Curtis Simons and Pilot Rock's Logan Weinke, but the effort fell short.

"That's baseball," Hodgen Distributing head coach Wes Armstrong said. "The ball falls a couple of different ways, and it's a different game. La Grande has a great program."

The game was part of a weekend-long Ashlee Hodgen Memorial Tournament, which also welcomes teams from Hermiston, Meridian, Pasco, Clark County, Baker City, and Vancouver. The tournament, now in its fourth year, was named after Ashlee Hodgen, daughter of assistant coach Mike Hodgen, who died in 2015.

Pendleton will play two more games today to close out the tournament — one against Hammertime from Hockinson, Wash., at 12:30 p.m., and another against Hermiston at 8 p.m. Both will be at Bob White Field.

"So far, so good," tournament director

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Leonard, Raptors move within victory of first championship

By JANIE MCCAULEY
Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Kawhi Leonard's hot hand is sending the Raptors home to Toronto on the cusp of a startling upset for Canada.

Leonard outdueled the Splash Brothers for 36 points and 12 rebounds, and the Raptors moved within a victory of the franchise's first championship by winning a second straight game on Golden State's home floor, beating the Warriors 105-92 on Friday night for a 3-1 lead in the NBA Finals.

Klay Thompson made a strong return after missing Game 3 with a strained left hamstring and scored 28 points with six 3-pointers in what might have been the final game after 47 seasons at Oracle

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SPORTS SHORTS

Patriots unveil Super Bowl LIII ring, largest in history

New England Patriots players, coaches, team executives and football staff received their Super Bowl LIII championship rings on Thursday at a private party at owner Robert Kraft's home. It is the largest Super Bowl ring in history, according to Jostens, which crafted the 10-carat gold piece for the team's sixth championship. It features on average 422 diamonds and 20 blue sapphires for a total 9.85-carat hunk of jewelry.

— Wire services



FanDuel will donate every goal scored by team USA

NEW YORK (AP) — The Women's World Cup kicks off Friday, and FanDuel is going all in to celebrate this year's tournament and the biggest international sporting event of the summer. The company announced Friday that for the first time it is offering a range of fantasy contests for the Women's World Cup. FanDuel will also contribute \$1,000 to the Women's Sports Foundation (WSF) for every goal Team USA scores during the tournament, in addition to a \$10,000 initial donation.

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