

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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Photo Contributed by Julie Murphy

Pendleton's Nessa Neveau hits a Del Norte pitch in a Little League softball state playoff game in Keizer on Saturday.

## U.S. wins 4th World Cup title



By ANNE M. PETERSON  
*Associated Press*

LYON, France — Megan Rapinoe stood on the field, arms outstretched, striking her now-trademark victory pose symbolizing the confidence of a U.S. team that celebrated and savored each triumph at the Women's World Cup.

Rapinoe won the Golden Ball as top player and the Golden Boot as top scorer, and the United States backed up its brashness by winning while simultaneously making a strong statement for gender equity.

"We've done exactly what we set out to do, done exactly what we wanted to do, said what we feel," Rapinoe said. "All of us, really. I know sometimes my voice is louder, but everybody is in this together. We're such a proud and strong and defiant group of women."

The U.S. won its record fourth Women's World Cup title and second in a row, beating the Netherlands 2-0 Sunday night when Rapinoe converted a tiebreaking penalty kick in the second half and Rose Lavelle added a goal.

Rapinoe scored in the 61st minute after a video review determined Stefanie van der Gragt had fouled Alex Morgan with a kick to the shoulder while competing for a deflected pass in the penalty area.

Two days past her 34th birthday, Rapinoe slotted the ball past Sari van Veenendaal for her sixth goal of the tournament. She became the oldest player to score in a Women's World Cup final.

"Getting to play at the highest level of the World Cup with the team we have is just ridiculous. But to be able to couple that with everything on the field and to back up all of those words with performances and to back up all of those performances with words, it's just

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## Pendleton 12U softball KNOCKS DOWN FIRST ROUND

### The little league team sweeps first day of Keizer-hosted tourney

By BRETT KANE  
*East Oregonian*

KEIZER — Twenty runs and 250 miles later, and Pendleton's 10/11/12 Little League softball team made off with a sweep in round one of the 12U state championships in Keizer.

On Saturday, Pendleton began with a 10-2 blowout over California's Del Norte program, followed by a 10-5 win against Beaumont.

With the two victories under its belt, Pendleton is on its way to defending its championship title.

"We hit the heck out of the ball today, and our pitching was pretty solid," coach Scott Wilson said. "We made a few mistakes that weren't normal. I think our girls were a little nervous. There's a lot

on the line, and they know that. They made a goal to win the state tournament. They put a lot of pressure on themselves. I think we had some first-day jitters, but we managed to pull through despite that."

Madaline Schumacher hit two singles against Del Norte, aiding in her perfect 2-for-2 batting performance that scored three runs and an RBI. She also stole three bases.

Pendleton put up four runs in the top of the second to take down Del Norte early on. The offensive charge was led by Nessa Neveau, who singled to score two runs. The play put Pendleton up 6-1.

"Del Norte was a good team," Wilson said. "They know how to play the game, they just didn't hit as well as we did today."

Kendall Murphy threw a complete game, holding Del Norte to just two runs, and benching two batters.

Beaumont posed more of a challenge, jumping out to a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning.

Pendleton was quick to answer back,

however, with another four-run second inning, and it only took two hits to do so.

Lea Wilson got it started with a ground ball to shortstop that scored Neveau and Maddy Lieuellen. With two outs on the board, Melanie Boatman singled to left field and sent Bailey Moore and Reese Furstenberg across home plate, allowing Pendleton to recover the game and take a 4-2 advantage that Beaumont never overcame.

Although Lilli Brooks gave up five runs, she also tallied five strikeouts over five innings on the hill. Schumacher threw an inning of relief, keeping Beaumont scoreless for the remainder of the contest.

Neveau led Pendleton's offense in game two, going 2-for-4 with three runs and two RBIs.

"Beaumont can hit the ball pretty well," coach Wilson said. "We played two good teams today. Maybe one of them will come up from the loser's bracket, and we'll see them in the championships."

## Mets' Alonso outlasts Vlad Jr. to win HR Derby

By TOM WITHERS  
*Associated Press*

CLEVELAND — Mets rookie Pete Alonso has a million-dollar swing.

New York's newest slugger outlasted a worn-down Vladimir Guerrero Jr. in the final round of the All-Star Home Run Derby on Monday night to win \$1 million — nearly double his 2019 salary.

Alonso somehow had enough to edge Guerrero, who hit 91 homers but ran out of gas in the last

round following an epic semifinal matchup against Dodgers outfielder Joc Pederson.

Needing 23 homers to beat Guerrero, Alonso connected for a homer to left-center before flipping his bat high into the air and hugging his pitcher, cousin Derek Morgan. Alonso was then swarmed by the NL All-Stars who were treated to a power display unlike any in the event's history.

"This was surreal," Alonso said.

Alonso is the second rookie to

win outright, following Yankees star Aaron Judge in 2017. He's also the first Mets player to win the derby since Darryl Strawberry shared the title with Wally Joyner in 1986.

Alonso, making the major league minimum of \$555,000 this season, has hit 30 home runs. He'll showcase his swing again in Tuesday night's All-Star Game as baseball continues this season of the longball.

One of the only bright spots this season for the struggling Mets,

Alonso gave New York's NL fans something to brag about while the Yankees chase another title.

Alonso showed some dramatic flair with two nail-biting wins to reach the final against Guerrero. He nipped Cleveland's Carlos Santana 14-13 in the first round and Atlanta's Ronald Acuña Jr. 20-19 in the second to set up a showdown with the 20-year-old Guerrero, whose father won the event in 2007.

With one of baseball's most fearsome swings, Guerrero figured

to be a force but there was no way of predicting he'd hit 91 homers — 74 more than his dad's entire total 12 years ago.

But Alonso was up to the challenge, and shocked Guerrero, who had electrified a crowd of 36,199 fans while also destroying an on-field camera with one of the balls he didn't crush over the wall.

Guerrero defeated Pederson in a semifinal that required three extra swing(ings) and will go down in

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### SPORTS SHORTS

## Blanco, Clark lead Timbers to 1-0 win over NYCFC

NEW YORK (AP) — Sebastián Blanco scored his first goal in more than two months, Steve Clark had his second consecutive shutout and the Portland Timbers beat New York City FC 1-0 on Sunday night.

Clark had five saves and has had clean sheets in five of his last three starts.

Diego Valeri lobbed a free kick into the center of the area and, after it

deflected off defender Sebastien Ibeagha, Blanco scored on a first-timer in the 14th minute.

NYCFC (7-2-8) lost for the first time since a 4-0 loss to Toronto on March 29 and had its 12-game unbeaten streak snapped.

Portland (7-8-2) has won back-to-back games for the first time since a three-game win streak from April 20 to May 4 and has four wins in its last six.



Portland Timbers midfielder Sebastian Blanco (10) battles New York City FC defender Sebastien Ibeagha, left, during the second half of an MLS soccer match Sunday in New York.

AP Photo/Adam Hunger