

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2019

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A8

MLB



AP Photo/Ted S. Warren

Seattle Mariners starting pitcher Mike Leake throws against the Texas Rangers during the first inning of a baseball game on Wednesday in Seattle.

Leake outpitches Minor as Mariners topple Rangers 5-3

By **TIM BOOTH**
Associated Press

SEATTLE — For most of the season Seattle's Mike Leake has felt he's auditioning for others.

He'll find out over the next week whether that feeling was correct, and coming off two of his best performances of the season.

"I think I may have been all year in a way just because they were trying to maybe trade me in the offseason a little bit. But definitely I think I'm on the radar," Leake said.

Leake outpitched Mike Minor in what could be the final start for each before the upcoming trade deadline, Daniel Vogelbach hit a pair of solo home runs, and the Seattle Mariners beat the Texas Rangers 5-3 on Wednesday.

Leake and Minor have both been the subject of trade rumors — Minor more than Leake — leading up to next week's trade deadline. But it was Leake with the better outing in his first start since taking a perfect game into the ninth inning last Friday against the Angels.

"Unfortunately and fortunately I've been traded and moved around for the last few years, but it has given me the wherewithal to kind of know what to do in circumstances like this," Leake said.

Leake (9-8) threw seven innings, his only mistake giving up a two-out, two-strike home run to Roughned Odor in the sixth inning. Leake struck out seven, walked none and threw first-pitch strikes to 22 of 29 batters.

Leake's streak of 14 consecutive scoreless innings ended thanks to Odor. After a pair of two-out singles, Leake left an 0-2 pitch to Odor elevated and the Texas second baseman didn't miss, hitting his 18th home run of the season and fourth of the series. Odor homered in the series opener on Monday and hit a pair of long balls on Tuesday night.

Anthony Bass worked a perfect eighth in relief of Leake and Roenis Elias pitched the ninth for his 13th save.

The Rangers lost for the ninth time in 10 games.

Minor (8-6) has acknowledged all the trade discussions have been a distraction, especially with the Rangers' slide after the All-Star break that has seen them fall from wild-card contenders into likely sellers over the next week. Minor seemed fine for the first four innings before running into trouble in the fifth.

Minor was lifted after the sixth, giving up eight hits and four earned runs.

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Pendleton's Sweek, Camp earn top honors at EOU football camp

Sweek will attend National Football Academy camp this weekend

By **BRETT KANE**
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Football season still is few weeks away, but several Pendleton Buckaroos already are hitting the field.

Tanner Sweek and Walker Camp, both incoming seniors,

attended Eastern Oregon University's football camp, which ran from June 15-18, and received top honors at the camp's end. Sweek was named the camp's outstanding quarterback, while Camp was recognized as the outstanding lineman.

Blake Swanson, Cooper Roberts and Travis McGee also represented Pendleton at the camp, which hosted more than 450 football players from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Nevada.

"That's not what I was there

for," Sweek, 17, said of the recognition. "All five of us got to improve. That's what we were there for. It was a great experience."

Over the course of the weekend, players received individual instruction on offensive and defensive strategies, all under the guidance of Mountaineers football coach Tim Camp. Each evening, teams would challenge each other in 7-on-7 scrimmages, which were all played without linemen.

Pendleton's varsity football team already had attended Western Oregon University's camp earlier in the summer, but the five Bucks decided they wanted the extra work in order to gear up for their upcoming season.

The Bucks lost 17 seniors off their roster after this year's graduation. Sweek was a quarterback on the junior varsity team, but got some reps in on the varsity field as the season progressed.

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JENNINGS TO COMPETE IN USATF JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIPS



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Casey Severe (left) talks with Sam Jennings in the line for a car wash to support Jennings' trip to the USATF Hershey National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships this weekend in Sacramento, Calif.

PHS sophomore held a car wash fundraiser in support of his trip to Sacramento

By **BRETT KANE**
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — For Pendleton High School's Sam Jennings, the track and field season doesn't end with the Bucks.

On Tuesday evening the incoming Pendleton sophomore, along with friends, family and teammates, could be seen washing cars to raise money for his upcoming trip to Sacramento, California, to compete in the USATF Hershey National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships on Sunday. He'll throw the javelin — an event in which he's ranked fourth in the nation.

"I'm expecting high results," said Jennings, 15. "I've been working my butt off at practice. It should pan out."

So far, the practice has paid off. For his freshman year on the varsity track and field team, Jennings placed fourth in the javelin at the 5A State Championships in May. He threw 181 feet, 7 inches — just over 5 feet short of the 186-10 school record, which was set by Geoff Herd back in 2009.

"Sam is super focused in his event,"



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Nick Jennings sprays down cars during a car wash to support his brother's trip to the USATF Hershey National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships this weekend in Sacramento, Calif.

said Pendleton hurdling instructor and Rising Phoenix Track Club coach Ben Bradley. "For his age, he's great. He studies, and is always asking questions to perfect his technique."

Jennings is so dedicated to his craft that he braved the 95-degree summer heat to wash any car that came his way

in order to meet his \$500 goal for the trip. The money would help cover gas for the 13-hour drive down to Sacramento, as well as hotel expenses.

Jennings' path to the finals began after he made the top eight at the USA Track

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SPORTS SHORTS

Pac-12 to move football title game to Las Vegas in 2020

By **GREG BEACHAM**
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Pac-12 will move its football championship game to Las Vegas in 2020 and 2021.

Commissioner Larry Scott announced the decision Wednesday at the start of Pac-12 media day in Hollywood.

The league title game has been played at Levi's Stadium in suburban Santa Clara, California, since

2014. The event has struggled for solid attendance in the past half-decade, including a noticeably empty stadium for Washington's win over Utah last year.

After the upcoming season, the game will move to party-friendly Las Vegas and the Raiders' new stadium, which is still under construction just west of the Strip.

The Pac-12 men's basketball tournament has been played in Las Vegas since 2013, and conference leaders have credited the move with boosting attendance.



Pac-12 Conference Commissioner Larry Scott speaks during the Pac-12 Conference NCAA college football Media Day on Wednesday in Los Angeles.

AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez