

Sports

NCAA BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

Beavers' season ends with two surprising losses in regional

By Gary Horowitz
Associated Press

CORVALLIS — Oregon State has been eliminated from the Corvallis Regional.

Talk about a quick exit for the defending national champions.

Isaac Collins hit a solo homer in the top of the third inning, giving No. 2 seed Creighton a lead it would not relinquish in a 4-1 victory Saturday.

"That was huge," said Collins, a junior second baseman. "Yesterday (a 6-0 loss to No. 3 seed Michigan) we had some hard times scoring runs. We just needed something to get on the board."

The orange and black-clad home fans had little to cheer about in the four-team, double-elimination regional.

After losing to No. 4 seed Cincinnati 7-6 in their first

game Friday, No. 1 seed OSU (36-20-1) was in the difficult position of needing four straight wins to advance to next week's super regional.

Creighton (39-12) outplayed OSU in Saturday's elimination game.

The Bluejays continued their hot streak by beating Cincinnati 6-1 in an elimination game on Sunday, and topping Michigan 11-7 later in the day.

Creighton and Michigan play again today, with the winner advancing to a super regional.

OSU, the No. 16 national seed, was the first national seed sent home in the 2019 NCAA Tournament.

"It was a matter of us not playing good baseball, bottom line," OSU interim head coach Pat Bailey said.

After seven innings, the

Beavers trailed 4-1 and had as many errors (three) as hits.

OSU fans gave junior catcher Adley Rutschman a standing ovation after his deep fly out to center leading off the bottom of the eighth, acknowledging what was almost certainly his last plate appearance in a Beavers uniform. The Pac-12 Player of the Year has been projected as the No. 1 overall pick in next week's Major League Baseball draft.

"It's all been said about him. You can't say enough good things," OSU sophomore designated hitter Alex McGarry said.

The Bluejays, who won the Big East regular season and conference tournament championship, added two more runs in the third after Collins' homer, helped by two

OSU errors, to extend the lead to 3-0.

OSU sent the potential tying run to the plate in the bottom of the ninth, but Tyler Malone grounded into a 4-6-3 double play to end the game.

"I'm really impressed with how our team responded," Creighton coach Ed Servais said.

Despite hitting several balls to the warning track, OSU managed just four hits — two apiece from McGarry and senior first baseman Zak Taylor — and stranded nine base runners.

It was a disappointing ending for the Beavers, who lost six of their last nine games and had the lead for just one-half inning in two regional games. They committed five errors.

"That's not how any of us wanted to end," Taylor said.

STANLEY CUP FINALS: GAME THREE

Bruins rout Blues, take 2-1 lead

By Joe Harris
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — St. Louis was ready to celebrate its first Stanley Cup Final game on home ice in 49 years. The Blues didn't cooperate.

The Blues were the worst team in the NHL for the first part of the season and they looked very much like that team Saturday night in a 7-2 loss that left them trailing the Boston Bruins 2-1 in the Stanley Cup Final.

A boisterous crowd that

included actors and St. Louis natives Jon Hamm and Jenna Fischer and a number of NFL players were on hand to cheer on the Blues, enjoying some limelight in a city more familiar with celebrating baseball's storied Cardinals or, not all that long ago, the now-departed Rams from the NFL.

The Blues outshot the Bruins 6-0 in the first six minutes and then it was all Boston. The Bruins scored four straight goals, including three in the opening period,

and were well on their way to a rout. It is another disappointing performance on home ice for St. Louis, which fell to 5-6 this postseason as the host while boasting an 8-3 road record.

"I think they (the fans) deserved a better game," Blues center Ryan O'Reilly said. "It's disappointing and not what we wanted. But I think they've been patient all year for us and they'll be with us the next game."

Patrice Bergeron gave the

Bruins a 1-0 lead with a power play goal midway through the first period. Boston scored on all four power plays in the game and improved to 6 for 14 with the man advantage in the series.

"We've got to stay out of the box even more," said Blues left winger David Perron, who took the penalty that led to the goal. "The Bruins did a good job and we can't give them life that way. They have a good power play, we knew that, and they capitalized tonight."

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER

LA. FC nips Portland Timbers, 3-2

PORTLAND (AP) — Latif Blessing gave a simple "yes" when asked if he considers Los Angeles FC and Portland a rivalry.

Saturday's matchup had all the makings.

Carlos Vela had a goal and an assist in the first half to lead LAFC past the Timbers 3-2.

Vela, Major League Soccer's goals and assists leader, helped LAFC (11-1-4) fend off Portland's late rally to end the Timbers' 15-game win streak in home openers.

LAFC withstood a run that included an 85th minute goal by Portland's Brian Fernandez to pull within one, and showing in the final minutes that resulted in yellows to Fernandez and LAFC's Adama Diomande.

"We're not naive, we understand teams are going to have a hard way to play against us, try to make it hard," LAFC coach Bob Bradley said. "When's the last

time you saw Messi get mauled the way Carlos (Vela) got mauled tonight?"

Vela scored in the 6th minute after intercepting a pass from Portland goalkeeper Jeff Attinella. He found Diego Rossi on a cross for a goal that made it 2-0 in the 34th minute.

Portland didn't go away. Christian Paredes scored less than two minutes into the second half on a goalkeeper deflection as the Timbers pulled within a goal. LAFC's Blessing countered in the 54th minute with a wide-open volley off of a cross.

"Great cross, great finish, so I'm happy," Blessing said.

Fernandez scored on a bicycle kick inside the six-yard box to pull Portland within 3-2 in the 85th minute. It was Fernandez's fourth goal in three appearances with the Timbers since he was acquired as a designated player on May 6.

"We knew that if we had a good start to the second half, the game was there,"

Timbers midfielder Diego Valeri said.

"And obviously, the crowd lifted us.

"It was a good game, and a good performance, but not the result we wanted, so we have to keep going."

It was the first home game of the season for the Timbers (4-7-2) and the debut of the remodeled Providence Park. According to the club, the expansion added 4,137 seats in a grandstand on the stadium's east side to push capacity over 25,000. MLS commissioner Don Garber was in attendance among the sellout crowd of 25,218.

"The place is rocking as it always does, it's just a little bit louder," Garber said at halftime. "More people sort of showing their passion for the team. ... The Timbers are such an important part of the history of soccer in America have been reflected in the addition."

Vela has 16 goals and 10 assists this season, six goals ahead of the next-highest scorer.

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Fair Family Essay Contest 2019
How to nominate a local family:


Write a one page essay about why you think the family of your choice deserves recognition as the 2019 Baker County Fair Friends of the Year. Submit essays to info@bakercityherald.com no later than 5 pm on Friday July 5th.

The Baker County Fair Friends will be featured in the Monday, July 29th edition of the Baker City Herald. We will introduce the 2019 Fair Friends of the Year during our opening ceremony, Tuesday, July 30th, at the Friends of the Fair Sponsorship Dinner.



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BRIEFING

BMS athletes compete at state meet

CORVALLIS — A group of Baker Middle School track and field athletes competed at the Oregon Middle School Meet of Champions May 23 at Corvallis.

The Baker boys finished 20th with 10 points. The Baker girls did not score.

Oregon Middle School Meet of Champions (Baker results)	
Boys events	
400 — 8. Jackson Chandler, 55.60	800 — 18. Jock Rigueiro, 2:15.11
3000 — 11.30. Jaron Long, 2:19.43	4x100 relay — 5. Baker, 47.81
4x400 relay — 5. Baker, 3:52.67	Long jump — 8. Reece Hatfield, 17-9.25
Girls events	
400 — 20. Anna Bekling, 1:03.65	High jump — 16. Jozie Ramos, 4-6

Eastern Oregon rodeo riders head to state

PRINEVILLE — A small group of Eastern Oregon rodeo team riders will compete at the Oregon state finals June 12-15 at Prineville.

Michelle Williams will compete in girls all-around, barrels, breakaway roping, goats, girls cutting and reined cow horse.

Lexie Harrell will compete in girls all-around, barrels, breakaway roping, poles and team roping.

Logan Nedrow will compete in barrels and breakaway roping.

Maggie Mackenzie will compete in breakaway roping and goats.

Kylie Siddoway will compete in girls cutting.

Local rodeo team competes at Burns

BURNS — The Eastern Oregon rodeo team completed its regular season May 18-19 at two high school rodeos at Burns.

On May 18, Logan Nedrow was fifth in breakaway roping and ninth in barrels. Lexie Harrell was sixth in team roping headers and fourth in poles. Michelle Williams was sixth in goats and eighth in barrels.

On May 19, Nedrow was fourth in breakaway roping and fifth in barrels. Mackenzie was eighth in breakaway roping and seventh in goats. Harrell was eighth in team roping headers. Williams was seventh in barrels and 10th in goats.

Brooks named regional coach of the year

DURHAM, N.C. — Duke women's golf coach Dan Brooks, a Baker High School graduate, was named the Women's Golf Coaches Association East Region Coach of the Year.

Brooks, who just completed his 35th campaign with the Blue Devils, led Duke to its seventh NCAA Championship last month.

His seven NCAA Championships is the most by a women's golf head coach. Brooks now owns 136 career tournament victories, which continues to be an NCAA Division I record.

Brooks has been selected national coach of the year six times. This year's national coach of the year will be announced this week.

Area riders place at Spray Rodeo

SPRAY — A trio of Baker City-area riders placed in their events May 26 at the Spray Rodeo.

Garret Rogers of Baker City was first in team roping header.

Samantha Kerns of Haines was seventh in breakaway roping, and Kim Williams of North Powder was 11th.

Andersen receives scholar award

KLAMATH FALLS — Annika Andersen, an Oregon Institute of Technology senior from Baker City, was among 25 OIT athletes earning the Daktronics-NAIA Scholar Award recently. Andersen competes in track and field. To earn recognition as an NAIA scholar athlete, a student must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 and be at least a junior.

Andersen placed 15th in the first round of the women's 3,000 steeplechase at the NAIA Outdoor Championships May 25 at Gulf Shores, Alabama. Andersen's time was 11:28.78.

Kyle Busch wins 55th NASCAR Cup race

LONG POND, Pa. (AP) — Kyle Busch tossed his young son in the air twice in victory lane and sprayed champagne toward anyone dry within reach. The good times and NASCAR milestones keep piling up for Busch and Joe Gibbs Racing.

Heck, Busch might even give his Pocono Raceway trophy to his wife for a birthday present.

Take Sunday: Busch matched Hall of Fame driver Rusty Wallace for ninth on the NASCAR Cup Series career victory list with 55. He won for the fourth time this season. And the season of JGR that already includes a Daytona 500 championship and a Hall of Fame nod for patriarch Joe Gibbs shows no sign of tapering off.

Cantlay wins Memorial golf tournament

DUBLIN, Ohio (AP) — Patrick Cantlay got another handshake with Jack Nicklaus, this time as the Memorial winner.

Starting four shots behind, Cantlay closed with an 8-under 64 for a two-shot victory Sunday. It was the lowest final round by a winner in tournament history, and it moved the 27-year-old Californian into the top 10 in the world.

Martin Kaymer, trying to end five years without a victory, started with a two-shot lead and never recovered from back-to-back bogeys on the back nine.

Serena, No. 1 Osaka eliminated

PARIS (AP) — Maybe it was the daunting deficit Serena Williams faced in the French Open's third round. Maybe it was the way her 20-year-old American opponent, Sofia Kenin, was questioning line calls.

Either way, as Williams attempted to start a comeback Saturday with a three-ace game, she followed those big serves with some serious staredowns.

Whether it was meant to get herself going or intimidate Kenin, it didn't work. Outplayed from start to finish, Williams lost 6-2, 7-5 to the 35th-ranked Kenin, ending her latest bid for a 24th Grand Slam title with her earliest loss at a major tournament in five years.

It was the second significant surprise in a matter of hours: Earlier in the day, No. 1 seed Naomi Osaka was eliminated 6-4, 6-2 by 42nd-ranked Katerina Siniakova of the Czech Republic.