

Snow leads George Stevens by Ellsworth 6-3

BLUE HILL — Allyson Snow pitched a six-hitter while striking out four to lead the George Stevens Eagles past the Ellsworth Eagles 6-3 in high school softball action Thursday.

HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

Olivia Stevenson had two singles and drove in four runs to pace the GSA offense. Katrina Limeburner added two doubles and an RBI. Lily Vox contributed two singles.

For Ellsworth, Callie Hammer homered and had two RBIs. Catlin Beal chipped in a double while Leah Stevens and Breanna Cummins each singled.

Hermion 29, John Bapst 0

At UMaine in Orono, Hermion pounded out 22 hits to defeat the John Bapst Crusaders. Haley Perry homered, singled twice, had six RBIs and scored six runs. Karli Theberge gave up three hits, struck out eight from the circle and helped her cause with three singles and five runs scored.

Chloe Raymond added three singles and scored four times.

For John Bapst, Gina Cambria, Abby Bowman and Erin Crawford each singled.

Hermion (11)82 26 — 29 22 1

JB 000 000 — 0 7 0
Theberge and Perry; Massey and Cambria

Fort Kent II, Wisdom 9

At Fort Kent, the Warriors' nine-run second inning carried them to their first season win over Wisdom. Macey Thibodeau drove in two runs with two base hits.

Emma Desjardins contributed three base hits while Sadie Desjardins, Ali-sha Guimond, Lea Pelletier and Alyssa Charette each added two.

For Wisdom, Bailey Bellefleur and Melanie Bellefleur led the team with two hits apiece.

Oceanside 10, Lincoln Acad. 2

At Newcastle on Wednesday, Ari Curtis rapped a double and three singles with two RBIs to carry the Mariners to their 11th win without a loss.

Chloe Jones contributed a double, two singles and an RBI and also pitched a complete game in the circle. Rachel Joyce singled twice with an RBI.

Katherine Laemmie stroked a triple and two singles to pace Lincoln Academy.

Bangor Christian 13, DI-S 7

At Bangor, Erin Young recorded three singles and five RBIs to help propel the Patriots by the Deer Isle-Stonington Mariners.

Winning pitcher Ashleigh Collins chipped in with a single, double, triple and four RBIs while Syd Fross added a single and double. Sarah Curioli and Abby Cross each contributed two singles. Collins struck out six and walked one.

Natalie Knowlton singled twice for the Mariners while Jessalyn Gove and Lillian Gray each singled and scored a run. Knowlton walked four and struck out eight.

DI-S 004 000 3 — 7 8 2
BC 430 330 x — 13 14 2
Knowlton and Fraser; Collins and Brown

Brewer 10, Camden Hills 5

At Coffin Field in Brewer on Wednesday, the Witches erased a three-run deficit with seven runs in the third inning en route to the win.

Emily Lord and Olivia Cattan each had three hits, while Jordan Goodrich (double, two RBIs), Crystal Dore (home run), M.J. Sellars and Sydney Hewes contributed two hits apiece. Libby Hewes contributed a double and two RBIs.

Camden Hills was led by Nicole Brown (three hits) and Maddie Wickenden (two hits).

Camden Hills 003 000 1 — 5 8 2

Brewer 007 003 x — 10 16 6

Long and Bowman; Chapman and Sellars

Baseball

GSA 3, Ellsworth 2

At Blue Hill, George Stevens Academy scored a run in each of the first three innings and held on to defeat Ellsworth. Taylor Schildroth singled twice and had an RBI to pace the offense.

For the Eagles, Nick Bagley had a double while Brad Smith singled and drove in a run.

ELL 000 100 1 — 2 3 1
GSA 111 000 — 3 5 2

Bagley and Barnes; Simons, Schildroth (4) and Chipman

Old Town 3, MDI 1

At Old Town, Kaleb Gifford needed just 74 pitches for the complete-game win against the MDI Trojans. Gifford gave up three hits while striking out nine.

Ethan Stoddard and Jake Ketch recorded singles in the sixth inning. Austin Sheehan drilled a double to the fence to drive them in for the Coyotes' lead.

For MDI, Aiden Fournier had a double to drive in the lone run. Matt Perconti had two strikeouts, scattered six hits and walked two in the loss.

Fort Kent II, Wisdom 1

At Fort Kent, the Warriors defeated Wisdom behind the bat and the arm of Trevor Carter. Carter took the mound in the third inning, allowed no earned

runs and struck out three during his three innings of work. Carter racked up two RBIs on one hit for the winners.

A two-run single by Josh Soucy and a steal of home by Jake Daigle in the first inning fueled the offensive attack.

The Pioneers scored early in the first inning on hits by Matt and Josh Chamberland, scoring Garrett Watt. Chance Gervais pitched 1 2/3 innings, walked two, struck out two and allowed five runs to take the loss.

Hermion 9, John Bapst 5

At UMaine in Orono, the Hermion Hawks took advantage of 12 walks and three errors by John Bapst en route to the win. Matt Leach went 2 for 3 and had two RBIs. Nick Guerrette also had two RBIs and singled.

For John Bapst, Nick Lakeman tripled and had two RBIs while Harrison Dieuveau added two hits.

Hermion 010 104 3 — 9 4 1
JB 001 210 1 — 5 10 3

Nash, Applebee (5), and Greenier; Newcomb, Harman (6) and B. Southwick



BDN FILE

University of Maine's Kevin Little (center) drives the lane past Army's Kyle Wilson during a game at Cross Insurance Center in Bangor in December.

UMaine

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that have led to players transferring.

"One of the things we've talked with the guys about is certainly the way they're being coached and that's never come up," he said of the possibility he is too tough on the players.

Walsh said the challenge continues to be finding the right student-athletes who want to embrace UMaine athletically, academically and emotionally.

"Fit is really important for us, maybe more important for us than it is at some other places," said Walsh, who believes Little and Eke, along with Vann and Harewood, had the right makeup.

"I'm not going to sit here and tell you that I wouldn't have recruited these kids,

because I feel like they were a good fit and they fit our culture," he said.

Walsh has stressed the importance of having all of his players buy into the program philosophy if they are to succeed as a team. He did not criticize the departing players in that regard, but indicated those who remain, or are coming to UMaine, are committed.

"I am looking forward, really excited, to coaching a group that is fully invested and all-in," he said.

Walsh admitted that he has been re-evaluating his coaching approach because of some shortcomings he demonstrated last season.

"Self-evaluation is really important all time," Walsh said.

"There was something missing as far as my ability to get this team to respond the right way when things got tough," he added.

UMaine will have some



DAVID BUTLER II | USA TODAY FILE

Connecticut Huskies forward Steven Enoch (left) defends against Maine Black Bears forward Devine Eke in the second half at Harry A. Gampel Pavilion in November. UConn defeated the Maine Black Bears 100-56.

holes to fill with the departure of six regulars, including four transfers and two seniors.

The transfers combined to score 1,056 points last season, which represented more than 46 percent of the team's offense. It also accounted for nearly 38 percent of the total minutes played.

When factoring in the departure of seniors Till Gloger and Shaun Lawton, the Black Bears will have to replace 67 percent of their offensive output from 2015-2016.

"We have other guys that can have a huge impact, already in the program, that we feel really comfortable with," Walsh said.

Little, a 6-foot guard from Wyandanch, New York, was the Black Bears' second leading scorer last season, averaging 14.7 points per game. He also ranked second on the team in assists

(2.6 per game), steals (1.2 spg) and free-throw percentage (.804).

Little played in 23 games, including 20 starts, but his season was cut short by a foot injury. He was an America East All-Rookie Team pick in 2015.

Eke is a 6-7 interior player from Plainfield, New Jersey. He appeared in all 30 games, making 22 starts, and finished fourth on the team scoring 9.5 points per contest and led the way in rebounding (6.8 per game).

Eke's .612 field-goal percentage led the ballclub as did his 1.6 blocked shots average.

Following the morning announcement of the transfers, Walsh announced later in the day the signings of 5-10 guard Marcus Floyd from Sunrise Christian Academy and 6-6 guard Ilker Er, who spent the past season at San Jacinto (Texas) Junior College.

UMaine signs 2 players in wake of defections

BY PETE WARNER
BDN STAFF

ORONO — On the same day that it revealed two more players were transferring to other schools, **MEN'S BASKETBALL** the University of Maine announced the pending arrival of two new student-athletes.

Marcus Floyd of Wilmington, Delaware, and Ilker Er of Istanbul, Turkey, have committed to play for coach Bob Walsh's Black Bears starting in the fall.

Junior guard Kevin Little and sophomore forward Devine Eke on Tuesday offi-

cially joined Issac Vann, Lavar Harewood and walk-on Walter King as UMaine players transferring out of the program.

Floyd is a 5-foot-10 guard who comes to UMaine from Sunrise Christian Academy, a prep school in Kansas. He previously played two seasons at Trenton Catholic Academy in Hamilton, New Jersey.

"He's a chip-on-the-shoulder type kid," Walsh said. "He just plays with something to prove ... he's a competitor, a big-time competitor."

Floyd averaged 14.7 points per game for Trenton Catholic in the state tournament and helped lead his team to

runner-up finish in the Non-Public B South Final as a senior. He spent his first two years of high school at the Phelps School in Malvern, Pennsylvania.

He reportedly also attracted interest from the likes of Texas State, Idaho State, Iona and Louisiana-Monroe.

"Offensively, he is almost impossible to keep out of the paint. I think his toughness and competitiveness sets him apart from other guards," said Sunrise Christian coach Kyle Bankhead.

"I absolutely loved coaching Marcus and think he can be a high level defender as he learns the defensive system under coach Walsh," he added.

Er, a 6-6 wing/forward, played at San Jacinto Junior College in Texas, where he averaged 10.0 points and 7.5 rebounds for a team that went 22-10 in one of the top junior college leagues in the country.

"He really has a great reputation as a shooter," Walsh said.

"He's also a tough, mature young man with a team-first mindset who will fit in great with our program," he said.

Er, who previously played for Arlington Country Day in Florida, received scholarship offers from Louisiana State and Rhode Island when he was in high school.

leave him with a 27th-place finish.

He had four top-10s and two top-fives in nine truck races a year ago. He missed four races due to a compression fracture in his lower back suffered in a wreck at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

He is also a regular on the K and N Pro Series East circuit and is currently eighth in points with two top-five finishes in five races.

Sports A.M.

Stamkos hopes to return to series

Tampa Bay Lightning captain Steven Stamkos continues to progress from surgery to remove a blood clot and indicated there is a slim chance he can return during the Eastern Conference finals against the Pittsburgh Penguins.

Stamkos, who scored 36 goals during the regular season, has been sidelined since he underwent surgery to remove the clot near his right collarbone on April 4. He is unlikely to play in Friday's pivotal Game 4.

The Lightning trail the Penguins 2-1 in the best-of-seven series.

Magic lands Vogel as coach

Frank Vogel has reached a deal in principle to become the new coach of the Orlando Magic, the Orlando Sentinel reported Thursday.

Vogel will replace Scott Skiles, who resigned as coach last week after one season on the job.

Vogel, 42, wasn't retained by the Indiana Pacers after spending the previous five-plus season as coach of the franchise. He went 250-181 in the regular season and made five playoff appearances.

The Memphis Grizzlies were highly interested in

Vogel's services. The Houston Rockets and New York Knicks also had interest.

'Wolves Towns leads All-Rookie Team

Rookie of the Year Karl-Anthony Towns of the Minnesota Timberwolves and Kristaps Porzingis of the New York Knicks were unanimous selections on the NBA All-Rookie Team, the NBA announced.

Joining Towns and Porzingis on the first team are Devin Booker of the Phoenix Suns, Nikola Jokic of the Denver Nuggets and Jahliil Okafor of the Philadelphia 76ers.

The second team consists of Miami's Justise Winslow, the Los Angeles Lakers' D'Angelo Russell, Denver's Emmanuel Mudiay, Indiana's Myles Turner and Sacramento's Willie Cauley-Stein.

Duke adds C Bolden to 2016 class

Duke added to one of the top recruiting classes in the country on Thursday when center Marques Bolden selected the Blue Devils over Kentucky.

The 6-foot-11 Bolden announced his choice during a news conference at his high school in DeSoto, Texas. He is ranked No. 11 in the country overall by Rivals.

— FROM OUR REPORTS

UMaine Capsules

Softball

NCAA Tournament

Athens Regional

MAINE vs. No. 16 GEORGIA

Time, site: Friday, 3:30 p.m., University of Georgia softball stadium

Records: Maine 28-19, Georgia 40-17

Series, last meeting: first meeting

Key players: Maine — C Janelle Bouchard (.395-5 home runs, 39 runs batted in, 38 runs), LF Rachel Harvey (.352-5-23), 2B Meghan Royle (.339-3-15), SS Felicia Lennon (.336-4-32), CF Rachel Carlson (.336-0-16), RF Erika Leonard (.329-2-21, 19 stolen bases), 3B Alyssa Derrick (.300-8-41); **Georgia** — RF Sydni Emanuel (.466-0-15, 13 stolen bases), LF Cortni Emanuel (.445-0-19, 30 SBs), CF Samantha LaZear (.394-0-3), 3B Alyssa DiCarlo (.368-11-56), 1B Tina Iosefa (.361-20-79), DP Maeve McGuire (.345-8-32), 2B Alex Hugo (.327-9-45)

Pitching matchups: Maine: LH Erin Bogdanovich (10-4, 2.87 earned-run average), RH Molly Flowers (11-10, 2.58, 142 strikeouts in 108 a... innings); **Georgia:** RH Chelsea Wilkinson (23-7, 2.04, 180 strikeouts in 182 innings), RH Brittany Gray (11-8, 3.14, 5 saves)

Game notes: The Bulldogs are 20-7 at home. They come into the tournament having lost seven of their last 10 games. But those 10 games came against No. 4 Auburn, No. 6 Alabama and the University of Mississippi, all of which are in regionals. Iosefa's 79 RBIs lead the nation. The Emanuel sisters are the table setters at the top of the order. Georgia is hitting .354 and has 58 homers in 57 games. Hugo has walked 45 times. Maine is hitting .320 and outscored its three opponents in the America East Tournament 24-5. The Black Bears are going to have to play exceptional team defense. They can't afford to give the Bulldogs any extra outs. Bogdanovich is going to have to be sharp and keep the Georgia hitters off-balance. Maine can't be awed by the surroundings. Maine has won eight of its last nine.

Baseball

MAINE vs. BINGHAMTON

Time, site: noon Friday (2), noon Saturday; Vestal, New York

Records: Maine 18-31 (7-13 America East), Binghamton 25-22 (17-4)

Series, last meeting: Maine leads 32-27, Binghamton 2-0 on 3/27/16

Key players: Maine — 3B Danny Casals (.305, 3 home runs, 15 runs batted in, 12 stolen bases), LF Colin Ridley (.299-6-36), SS Jeremy Pena (.278-1-14, 10 SB), RF Tyler Schwanz (.274-5-23, 7 SB), 1B Brendan Geary (.260-2-15, 7 SB); **Binghamton** — 2B Reed Gamache (.323-9-36), 6 home runs, 43 runs batted in, 7 stolen bases, 1B Brendan Skidmore (.364-9-36), LF Eddie Posavec (10-2-20), CF C.J. Krowiak (.313-0-24, 14 SB)

Pitching matchups: Maine — RH Logan Fuller (4-2, 2.48 earned run average, 67 strikeouts), RH John Arel (2-8, 4.19, 63 K), RH Chris Murphy (0-3, 6.81 48 K); **Binghamton** — RH Jake Cryts (6-4, 4.96 ERA, 29 K), RH Mike Bunal (7-3, 3.89, 72 K), RH Nick Wegmann (1-0, 3.64, 22 K)

Game notes: This series is likely to determine little or nothing in terms of the conference standings, although both squads will try to get their pitching line up for next week's America East tournament. UMaine probably won't use its starters for more than three or four innings and expects to get Justin Courtney some work after a shoulder ailment. The Black Bears have lost two in a row and four of seven. The Bearcats have clinched the top seed for the postseason and have won 10 of 12 overall, despite dropping Sunday's series finale at Albany. Binghamton surprisingly ranks last in AE team ERA (5.05), but is second in batting (.297) and first in fielding (.980). UMaine, which continues to struggle offensively at .249, likely will finish sixth and face a first-round playoff game on May 25. Binghamton will receive a bye.

Softball

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big stadium with a lot of fans. But at the end of the day, it's softball," she said.

Catcher Janelle Bouchard, the AE Player of the Year and the team's only senior, said it will be important to keep the pitchers relaxed.

"We can't make it bigger

than it is and put too much pressure on them. We've got to keep them loose," said Bouchard.

Bouchard expects an intense battle with Georgia.

"They're scrappy and we're scrappy. It's a great matchup," said Bouchard. "We're hot right now. We scored 14 runs in the [America East] championship game.

"We want to put Maine on the map and this is a great opportunity for us to do that," she added.

Theriault

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ing their first appearance in NASCAR, but I'll be turning my first laps at the Charlotte Motor Speedway. After so much success in Daytona, I look forward to putting the No. 2 Klixel8 Ford up front in Charlotte."

Steve Jordan, CEO and

co-founder of Klixel8, said in the release that the Klixel8 team is "thrilled to be partnering with driver Austin Theriault and Brad Keselowski Racing in this week-end's truck series race. Klixel8 is a Maine company and Austin Theriault is a very talented Maine driver."

NASCAR Racing generates spectacular sports imagery, Jordan added.

"Klixel8 enhances that imagery to allow race fans greater access to information about the driver, the car and sponsors by simply hovering and clicking on areas in an interactive image," he said.

On Feb. 19, Theriault led a race-hgh 31 laps in the NextEra Energy Resources 250 Truck Series race only to have a late-race accident