

From the mayor’s desk: by Meadow Martell



I wasn’t sure what to write about this week. Then just when I was feeling overconfident that we would get through the summer

season without a wildfire or much smoke, the Rum Creek Fire expanded, and the wind conspired to slam the Illinois Valley. My heart aches for the land, the Rogue River, and the people who have had to evacuate. It was just a little over a year ago that I spent a week rafting this beautiful, pristine area.

For several days now, we have had high smoke alerts into the unhealthy and very unhealthy categories. DEQ expects the poor air quality advisory to last until at least Wednesday, Aug. 31. You can download a mobile app available for smart phones. Search for OregonAir in your app store. You can also get

Oregon smoke information at <https://www.oregonsmoke.org/>.

Smoke can irritate the eyes and lungs and worsen some medical conditions. People most at risk include infants and young children, people with heart or lung disease, older adults and pregnant people.

There are things you can do to protect yourself and your family. These things might seem obvious, but they are worth stating:

- Stay inside if possible. Keep windows and doors closed. If it’s too hot, run air conditioning on recirculate or consider moving to a cooler location.
- Avoid strenuous outdoor

activity.

- Use high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters in indoor ventilation systems or portable air purifiers.
- Avoid places with the highest levels.
- When air quality improves to moderate or healthy (yellow or green on the Air Quality Index), open windows and doors to air out homes and businesses.
- Dust and surgical masks don’t protect from the harmful particles in smoke. Select a NIOSH-approved respirator with a N, R, or P alongside the number 95, 99 or 100.

Smoke hurts animals too.

Keep your pets indoors as much as possible, and keep your windows shut. Let dogs and cats outside only for brief bathroom breaks if air quality alerts are in effect. Avoid intense outdoor exercise during periods of poor air quality. Wait until the smoke has settle to exercise your pets. I know this isn’t easy. I have a very active border collie. We play a lot of fetch it games inside with soft toys.

In the future, I hope the Illinois Valley can have another cooling center besides the library that is open to us during its business hours.

Ducks embark on 1st season under Lanning with yet unnamed QB

By
Anne M. Peterson
AP Sports Writer

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) — Oregon first-year coach Dan Lanning isn’t dropping any clues about his starting quarterback this season.

“If I felt like it gave us a competitive advantage to tell you, I would,” Lanning said. “I don’t.”

Fall camp has been a battle behind closed doors between transfer Bo Nix and redshirt freshmen Ty Thompson and Jay Butterfield. Nix, a fourth-year junior, is widely considered the favorite to start for the No. 11 Ducks, who have undergone quite a makeover in the offseason.

Former coach Mario Cristobal has moved on, quarterback Anthony Brown is now with the Baltimore Ravens, and defensive end Kayvon Thibodeaux was the

fifth overall pick in the NFL draft by the New York Giants.

Nix transferred to Oregon from Auburn, where he was a three-year starter. The former five-star recruit started the first 34 games of his career before a season-ending ankle injury last November.

Nix threw for 2,294 yards with 11 touchdowns and three interceptions last season. He also ran for four touchdowns.

Thompson played in three games last season as a true freshman behind starter Anthony Brown. He passed for 87 total yards with two touchdowns and one interception.

“Oregon quarterbacks, just like any quarterback, the most important thing you can do is be right with the football, take care of the football because possessions and limiting turnovers is the most important thing,” Thompson said. “Making

good decisions, putting the ball in the right spot.”

Lanning, known as a defensive specialist, is nonetheless clear about what he wants from a QB.

“Ultimately, you want to be able operate the system. You have to have a great understanding of the system that we want to run. But for me at quarterback, it’s about a guy that can get the ball to an open receiver and a guy that doesn’t turn it over,” Lanning said. “I think all those guys have good command of the offense.”

OREGON TRAIL

Lanning came to Oregon after Mario Cristobal went home to Miami. Cristobal went 35-13 as head coach of the Ducks, winning the Pac-12 championship twice during his tenure.

Lanning, 35, came from Georgia, where he was defensive coordinator and linebackers coach for the last three seasons. The Bulldogs

had the top-ranked defense in the nation last season when they won the national championship.

As for his goals, Lanning tipped his hat to Oregon’s old “Win The Day” mantra from former coach Chip Kelly’s tenure.

“Our goal right now is to win today. I know that’s an old phrase that’s been said here a lot but it’s really true. We’re looking for investments. Each day, we’re putting money in the bank. We want to be able to capitalize on those investments down the road,” he said. “That’s where it starts. Focusing on Oregon.”

REMEMBERING SPENCER

The Ducks are still reeling from the loss of tight end Spencer Webb, who died after striking his head during an offseason outing at a popular swimming spot in Eugene.

Webb, who had a large

following on TikTok, was expected to compete for a starting role this season. In his career with the Ducks, he had 31 receptions for 296 yards and four touchdowns.

“Spencer was a really unselfish guy, and he always cared about the team. Everybody saw that,” said linebacker Justin Flowe. “It really hurt when Spencer passed. When he passed, everybody just wanted to make everything about the team and just the culture and everything, it just we made it even more just for Spencer, because we really loved him.”

RECAPING

Early on last season, the Ducks climbed into the national championship conversation with a 35-28 victory over then-No. 3 Ohio State. But they stumbled at the finish — a 38-7 drubbing by Utah in the second-to-last game of the regular season, and a second loss to the Utes in the Pac-12 Championship

game.

After Cristobal left, assistant Bryan McClendon served as interim coach to lead the Ducks into the Alamo Bowl. Oregon lost 47-32 to Oklahoma State finishing the season 10-4 and ranked No. 22 in the final AP Top 25.

SEASON AHEAD

There’s intrigue for the Ducks right at the start when they play Lanning’s old team, Georgia, at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta on Sept. 3.

Oregon plays No. 25 BYU on Sept 17 before embarking on the Pac-12 season. They host No. 7 Utah — the team that beat them in the Pac-12 championship game last season — on Nov. 19.

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Save the date

Sept. 2

****FREE Pressure Canner** gauges checked Friday, Sept. 2 from 1-4 p.m. at the Nelsen’s Family Farm - Sweet Cron Farms in Kerby at 22995 Redwood Hwy. Pick-up your produce and get your gauge checked!

*****“The Stories of the Stars”** Friday, Sept. 2, 8:30-9:30 p.m. Siskiyou Field Institute, 1241 Illinois River Rd. Selma, OR

All ages are invited to share the stories of the stars with Ranger Saddle and Ranger CJ. Come learn about the tales behind the constellations and zodiac signs, and explore their beauty in dark skies. This program is FREE and family-friendly! Presented in partnership by the Oregon Caves National

Monument & Preserve, and the Siskiyou Field Institute.

Please Bring: Lawn Chair or Blanket to lay on, Warm Clothes, Water, Curiosity, & Flashlight

Event Information: <https://fb.me/e/1XjD6qJax>

Sept. 3 -5

I.V. Lions Club Labor Day Festival at Jubilee Park: Check out the schedule on A-9.

Sept. 11

Illinois Valley Historic Laurel Cemetery will be having its board meeting Sunday September 11, 2022, at 1 pm in the cemetery chapel. Everyone is welcome.

Oct. 14

Mark your calendar now! The

CJ Farmers’ Market and Southern Oregon Guild presents the 7th Annual Upcycle Art and Furniture Contest with Trash Fashion show! First place \$500 plus more cash prizes for all ages! Reuse and repurpose found objects to make a piece of art, sturdy piece of furniture or clothing item! Bring your finished piece to display at the Cave Junction Farmers’ Market Friday, Oct. 14 at 3:30 p.m.. Judging and awards will be given at 5 p.m. Questions? Contact cjfarmersmarketinfo@gmail.com

Tuesdays

****Food Pantry Tuesdays**

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Cave Junction Adventist/Community Services Food Distribution, 265 S. Old Stage Rd. Volunteers are needed to help

stock, date check, sort food, pack boxes and handout food boxes, etc. to volunteer please email cavejunctionacs@gmail.com.

Contributions can by made out to the CJ Seventh-day Adventist Church and identify that they are in support of the Community Service by writing “CJACS” in the memo section of your check. Mail to: Cave Junction Seventh-day Adventist Church PO Box 330, Cave Junction, OR 97523

Saturdays

****Take your bottles and cans to IVCaDo’s Cans for Kids** behind the Chevron Station 10 - 2.

Volunteer Opportunities

****Adopt-A-Senior Volunteers** wanted to assist senior and

disabled residents in their home with light duty activities and to drive residents to doctor or grocery store. Gift cards are provided for volunteers. Background check and references required call 541-592-9781 or email ivwellnessresources@gmail.com.

**** HIV Alliance** offers services in Cave Junction every Tuesday from noon – 3 p.m. at Immanuel United Methodist Church (across from Shop Smart). Services include: Free and confidential HIV and Hep C testing, Needle Exchange and drop box (all syringes welcome), and overdose response and Naloxone training.

Mia Hamm

Former U.S. Women’s National Soccer Team Player

Kicked her way to the top.

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Illinois Valley News

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4 P.M. FRIDAYS

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