

Wildfire smoke costs famed Shakespeare Festival

By **GILLIAN FLACCUS**
Associated Press

PORTLAND — The famed Oregon Shakespeare Festival that attracts tourists from around the world said Tuesday that it lost \$2 million this summer because wildfire smoke forced it to cancel more than two dozen outdoor performances.

The organization will have an indoor venue next season for smoky days as an alternate to its award-winning outdoor theater and will shift its outdoor season back a week to avoid the worst of the wildfire season, said Julie Cortez, the festival’s spokeswoman.

The event in Ashland, Oregon, had to cancel 26 out-

door performances starting in July and running through earlier this month, she said. That’s more canceled shows than in all five previous seasons combined, Cortez said.

“It’s impacting everyone in our region. Pretty much every business or organization in this area has sagged a bit this summer,” she said.

It comes as climate change extends the wildfire season and makes blazes bigger and more destructive, threatening to make air quality worse in urban areas.

The festival has always had to contend with wildfires, but this season was “above and beyond” any other, Cortez said, with smoke coming in from massive fires in Northern California, south-



Kim Budd/Oregon Shakespeare Festival via AP
This Aug. 10, 2018 photo shows the outdoor theatre with wildfire smoke on the horizon in Ashland.

ern Oregon and sometimes even Washington state. Ashland is just across the state line from California.

The Tony Award-winning

Oregon Shakespeare Festival is among the oldest and largest professional non-profit theaters in the nation. It prides itself on offering

outdoor showings of Shakespeare’s plays performed in a venue similar to what his contemporary audiences would have experienced, but it also offers other types of theater in indoor performance halls.

Next season, the festival plans to open an alternate indoor venue from July 30 to Sept. 8 — peak wildfire season. The organization will only sell in advance the number of tickets it can honor in the indoor location, Cortez said.

If the weather looks promising, the rest of the tickets for the 1,200-seat outdoor theater will go on sale shortly before the show so no one is turned away, she said.

The festival is still search-

ing for an indoor venue that will work and plans to add matinees in the indoor space.

This year, a local high school theater provided 400 seats so outdoor shows that were canceled could accommodate one-third of ticketholders, she said.

The rest could exchange tickets for another date, get a refund or “donate” their ticket cost to the festival, Cortez said.

Not included in the Oregon Shakespeare Festival’s calculations is how much revenue was lost from would-be tourists who simply stayed away, given the smoky conditions.

The nonprofit is still calculating that amount and has launched a fundraising drive.

BRIEFLY

Police arrest driver after finding dead woman in car

PORTLAND (AP) — Police say a man was arrested after officers performing a traffic stop in Southeast Portland discovered a woman’s body in the stopped vehicle.

Portland Police Bureau Sgt. Christopher Burley says officers stopped the vehicle Monday and saw a dead person inside.

He says 58-year-old Timothy Mackley was arrested on suspicion of murder and booked into the Multnomah County Detention Center.

Burley said Tuesday afternoon that the Oregon State Medical Examiner determined that the woman died of homicidal violence. The medical examiner hasn’t yet been able to positively identify the woman.

It wasn’t immediately known if Mackley had obtained a lawyer.

Three found stabbed in car

MEDFORD (AP) — Three men from North Carolina were found stabbed in a van along Oregon Highway 140 and a fourth North Carolina resident was arrested along the roadway and booked on assault charges.

The Oregon State Police said that two of the victims were treated and released and a third is in critical condition at a Portland hospital.

2018 GOVERNOR’S RACE

Campaigns reach record highs

BEND (AP) — The 2018 race for governor is the most expensive in Oregon history, and there’s still six weeks until the books will be closed.

The Bulletin newspaper in Bend reports that Gov. Kate Brown has raised about \$11.3 million. Her Republican opponent, state Rep. Knute Buehler, R-Bend, has raised about \$7.4 million, according to state campaign finance reports filed through Monday.

The record total of about \$18.7 million tops the \$17.7 million raised and spent in the 2010 governor’s race won by Democrat John Kitzhaber over Republican Chris Dudley.

Brown reported a month’s worth of campaign finances Monday. Contributions included \$250,000 from Everytown for Gun Safety, a gun control group backed by former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Brown also received \$250,000 from the Democratic Governors Association, which has now given her a total of \$353,000.

The true level of 2018 fundraising and spending won’t be known until early next month when both candidates will have to adhere to a seven-day period between the time they raise or spend money and when they have to report it.

Currently, candidates have a 30-day window. Brown’s updated figures bring her reporting through Sept. 22. Buehler’s is through Aug. 22. Both campaigns are complying with state law in the way they are currently reporting their finances.

The totals do not include money raised and spent by outside groups that are running ads against candidates.

Buehler has received a total of \$1.5 million from Nike co-founder Phil Knight, the largest donation by an individual to a candidate in Oregon history.

Brown’s biggest single contribution is

\$500,000 from EMILY’s List, a national group that backs pro-choice Democratic candidates. She has received a total of \$370,000 from Team Oregon, a political action committee created to promote her re-election and to build Democratic majorities in the Legislature. Defend Oregon Values, a political action committee created by House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland, and other top Democrats to promote a Democratic agenda in Salem, has contributed \$693,000 to Brown. She received a new contribution of \$100,000 from the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, AFL-CIO.

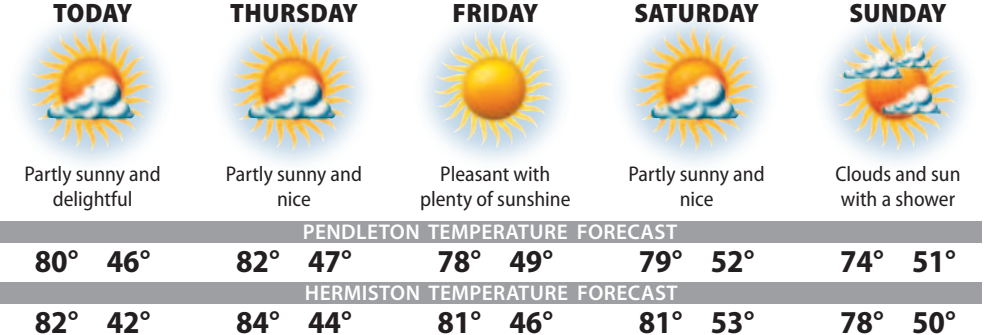
The money to Brown from Everytown for Gun Safety is the second time in two years that Bloomberg has aided Brown. He directly contributed \$250,000 to her 2016 campaign to finish out the term of Kitzhaber, who resigned in 2015 and was replaced by Brown, the secretary of state at the time.

Both campaigns have spent heavily on television. Brown’s latest filing shows she has purchased a total of \$1.8 million in broadcast time through Buying Time LLC, a campaign consulting firm in Washington. Buehler has purchased \$2.3 million in broadcast time through Strategic Media Services of Arlington, Virginia.

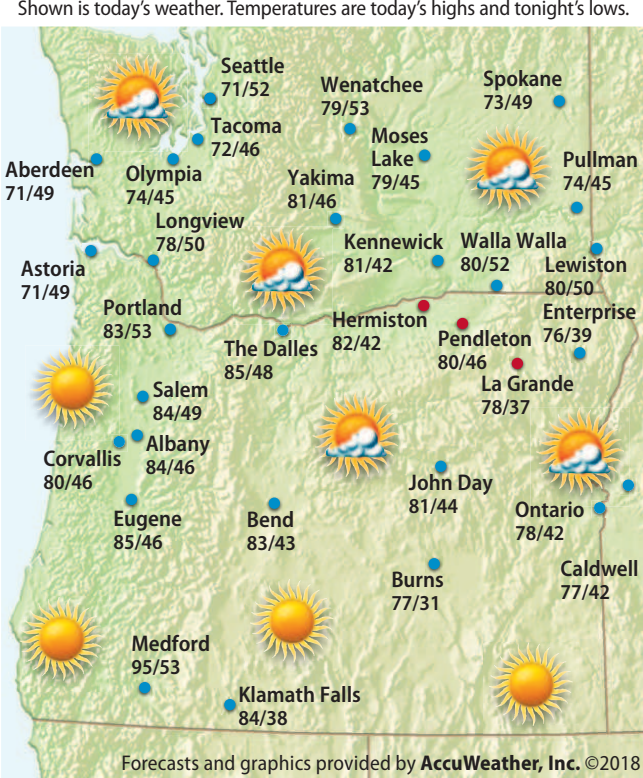
The Oregonian newspaper has reported that national Republicans say Buehler has received a total of \$750,000 from the Republican Governors Association, an amount as yet to show up on Buehler’s campaign filings.

The Republican governors’ group contributed \$2.5 million to Dudley’s campaign in 2010, with much of the money coming in the last six weeks of the close race with Kitzhaber. The group contributed only \$125,000 to Bud Pierce’s 2016 governor’s campaign against Brown.

Forecast for Pendleton Area



OREGON FORECAST



ALMANAC

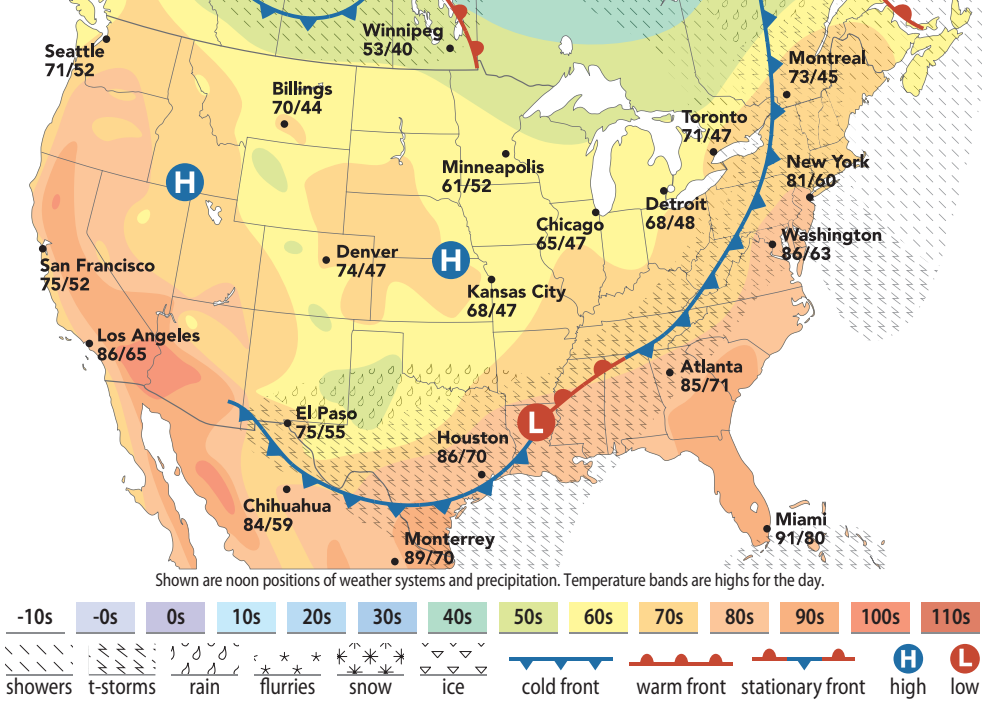
PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.		
EMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	75°	39°
Normals	74°	47°
Records	99° (1952)	21° (1926)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"	
Month to date	0.00"	
Normal month to date	0.44"	
Year to date	6.52"	
Last year to date	12.28"	
Normal year to date	8.82"	
HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.		
EMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	78°	37°
Normals	75°	45°
Records	95° (1952)	26° (1934)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"	
Month to date	Trace	
Normal month to date	0.35"	
Year to date	5.15"	
Last year to date	7.01"	
Normal year to date	6.47"	
WINDS (in mph)		
	Today	Thu.
Boardman	WNW 3-6	NE 3-6
Pendleton	NW 4-8	N 4-8
SUN AND MOON		
Sunrise today	6:47 a.m.	
Sunset tonight	6:45 p.m.	
Moonrise today	7:58 p.m.	
Moonset today	8:14 a.m.	

NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)

High 104° in Needles, Calif. Low 11° in Stanley, Idaho

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



By **PARIS ACHEN**
Capital Bureau

The governor’s race between Democratic incumbent Kate Brown and GOP candidate Rep. Knute Buehler remains close, according to a new poll by Clout Research.

The phone poll of 679 likely voters between Sept. 20 and 23 shows that 41.7 percent would choose Brown, while 40.8 percent would vote for Buehler. The results have a 3.76 percent margin of error, according to Clout, a national opinion research firm based in Columbus, Ohio. The poll was commissioned by Leona Consulting Co., an Oregon-based conservative political and public affairs firm.

The new poll is a follow-up to a poll of Oregon residents (not likely voters) released Aug. 1. That survey, also conducted by Clout and commissioned by Leona, showed that in a head-to-head contest between Brown and Buehler, he would win with 43 percent, Brown would receive 42 percent and the other 15 percent of respondents were undecided.

“The results haven’t changed much at all,” said Lindsay Berschauer of Leona. It’s “still considered a toss-up and still within the margin of error.”

“Both Brown and Buehler win the support of about four of every five voters in their respective parties, but independent and non-aligned voters tilt heavily toward Buehler,” said Fritz Wenzel, founder of Clout Research. “He wins 48 percent support among independents, compared to just

23 percent of indies who support Brown — a remarkable show of strength for the challenger that mitigates the voter registration advantage that Democrats enjoy in Oregon.”

Another survey of 770 registered voters July 16-17 by Gravis Marketing, a non-partisan research firm that has been repeatedly scrutinized by FiveThirtyEight, the *Washington Post* and others for inaccurate results, showed Brown and Buehler tied at 45 percent.

Clout receives a “C” grade from Nate Silver’s FiveThirtyEight and calls races correctly only about 50 percent of the time, according to that organization’s pollster ratings.

Clout Research accurately projected Dennis Richardson’s victory in his election as Oregon secretary of state against Democrat Brad Avakian in 2016. Its polling showed Richardson winning with 41 percent of the vote, while Avakian received 35.7 percent.

Richardson won the race with 47.4 percent to Avakian’s 43.2 percent.

But in another poll in 2016, Clout projected a tie between GOP candidate Bud Pierce and Brown in that year’s race for governor. In fact, Brown won comfortably with more than 50 percent of the vote, while Pierce garnered 43 percent.

In recent times, Democrats generally have won Oregon gubernatorial races by single-digit percentage points. In 2014, then-Gov. John Kitzhaber won with 49.8 percent of the vote and Richardson received 44.1 percent.

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