

# BMCC: Softball adds seven new players

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**first baseman** — “While only playing for three years, Maddie is developing into a fine pitcher and power hitter.”

Dalke was named second team all-conference as a junior at South Medford High School.

**Hannah Meyers (Rathdrum, Idaho), outfielder** — “Hannah brings a speed component to our lineup that we haven’t had in a while. She’s a lefty slap hitter that covers a lot of ground in the outfield.”

**Jessie Wiest (Bend), pitcher/first baseman** —

“Jessie is a solid person with some excellent softball skills. She will be a pitcher our team will rely on for many innings.”

**Josey Hawkins (LaPine), pitcher** — “Josey brings a solid bat and glove in addition to her pitching skills. She will be another pitcher we rely on next season.”

Hawkins was all-conference in both her sophomore and junior years at LaPine High School.

The Timberwolves kick off their 2019 softball season on March 1 in a 1 p.m. home game against Everett College.



Contributed by Portland Diamond Project

**An artist's rendering of a ballpark in Northwest Portland, as seen from the Willamette River. The Portland Diamond Project is trying to bring Major League Baseball to Oregon, but will have to work with the state's industrial land use rules to make the dream a reality.**

# Ballpark: Oregon's rules could hamper development of Willamette River plan

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diversity of our city. It's one of the central tenets of how we approach land use in this state.”

Industrial land grows even more precious along waterways, such as the Willamette River, because it's even harder to replace.

Because of its riverfront location, Terminal 2 actually has extra special zoning protection — something called a prime industrial overlay. City council members approved that two years ago, and it just took effect this past summer.

That doesn't mean this property can't be rezoned, just that it could be an incredibly arduous process.

Portland Diamond Project leaders are now in the process of starting negotiations with the city and the Port over precisely how to build a stadium at Terminal 2.

Planners and people more familiar with the land-use process are less optimistic, at least about the timing. Rezoning Terminal 2 would require the approval of the city planning commission, the Portland City Council and the Metro regional council. Opponents would get multiple opportunities to appeal along the way.

“Just the land use action, preparing all the papers and such to get it through the city, could be a year. Then a year to review it, then appeals, then the rest of the process,” Wax said. “I could see four to five years.”

That's four to five years before construction even starts.

But there is another, faster way. Imagine a scenario in which city and regional leaders decide everything about a stadium deal makes sense — say, the Diamond Project proves to them that a ballpark really can get built with minimal public money and that there's a team out there ready to start playing in Portland the moment a new stadium opens.

In a case like that, baseball proponents and city leaders could go directly to the Oregon Legislature. Lawmakers don't use it often, but they have the power to essentially step

in and decide local land-use issues with the legislative version of one swing of the bat.

Armstrong, the Portland planner, can't remember the last time that happened in Portland. But it occurred just a few years ago in Washington County when legislators signed off on a “grand bargain” that expanded the urban growth boundary and set urban and rural reserves in the county.

“This was a legal process that was going to take several more years, so they waved their magic wand as legislators,” said Ed Sullivan, a longtime land use attorney in the Portland region. “To me, that's a dangerous precedent because it makes it easy — if you've got a sticky issue, you just go to the Legislature instead of through our planning process. But you could do that in the baseball case.”

That prospect has the potential to create an unusual political alliance between environmentalists and industrial businesses. Industry officials, such as Ellen Wax, worry that the loss of Terminal 2 could mean fewer future jobs. Environmentalists, such as Bob Sallinger, fear rezoning Terminal 2 will mean Portland leaders will feel pressured to find replacement industrial land, and that they'll target undeveloped and ecologically significant space elsewhere, such as West Hayden Island in North Portland.

“Our fear is that in the race to get a baseball stadium, the other issues that are at play will get ignored,” Sallinger said. “We are concerned that the Legislature could step in for that and that this grand vision could override the actual implications of this decision.”

Sallinger isn't anti-baseball. He grew up a Boston Red Sox fan, which used to be just as frustrating as trying to save the planet.

Now he's a happier fan and hoping the prospect of baseball in Oregon might provoke a broader debate. He sees this conversation as an opportunity for a broader conversation about whether the land-use policies that make industrial land so precious — and a stadium so hard to build here — are outdated.

# Serena voted AP Female Athlete of the Year

By **BRIAN MAHONEY**  
Associated Press

She showed up in Paris wearing a black catsuit, a reminder that nobody can command the Grand Slam stage quite like Serena Williams.

She reached the finals at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open, proving again how well she can play no matter how little she practices.

Williams didn't win those or any other tournaments, which in every other situation might have made for a forgettable year.

In 2018, it was a remarkable one.

Her rapid return to tennis after a health scare following childbirth was a victory in itself, and for that, Williams was voted The Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year for the fifth time.

Williams received 93 points in balloting by U.S. editors and news directors announced Wednesday, while gymnast Simone Biles was second with 68. Notre Dame basketball player Arike Ogunbowale was third, while Olympic snowboarder Chloe Kim and swimmer Katie Ledecky, the 2017 winner, rounded out the top five.

All of those players won a title or titles in 2018, while Williams had to settle for just coming close a couple of times.

Now 37 and a new mother facing some players who weren't even born when she turned pro in 1995, Williams isn't the same person who ruthlessly ran her way to 23 Grand Slam singles titles — the last of which came at the 2017 Australian Open when she was pregnant.

“I'm still waiting to get to be the Serena that I was, and I don't know if I'll ever be that, physically, emotionally, mentally. But I'm on my way,” Williams said on the eve of the U.S. Open final. “I feel like I still have a ways to go. Once I get there, I'll be able to play even hopefully better.”

The Male Athlete of the Year will be announced Thursday.

The women's award has been won more only by



AP Photo/Seth Wenig, File

**In this Sept. 6, 2018, file photo, Serena Williams celebrates after defeating Anastasija Sevastova, of Latvia, during the semifinals of the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York.**

Babe Didrikson Zaharias, whose six wins included one for track and five for golf.

Williams' previous times winning the AP honor, in 2002, 2009, 2013 and 2015, were because of her dominance.

This one was about her perseverance.

Williams developed blood clots after giving birth to daughter Alexis Olympia Ohanian Jr. on Sept. 1, 2017, and four surgeries would follow. She returned to the WTA Tour in March and played in just a pair of events before the French Open, where she competed in a skin-tight, full-length black catsuit.

She said the outfit — worn partly for health reasons because of the clots — made her feel like a superhero, but her game was rarely in superstar shape. She had to withdraw in Paris because of a right pectoral injury and didn't play again until Wimbledon, where she lost to Angelique Kerber in the final.

Williams came up short again in New York, where

her loss to Naomi Osaka in the final will be remembered best for her outburst toward chair umpire Carlos Ramos, who had penalized Williams for receiving coaching and later penalized her an entire game for calling him a “thief” while arguing.

That loss leaves her one major title shy of Margaret Court's record as she starts play next year in a WTA Tour that will look different in part because of new rules coming about after issues involving Williams. Players returning to the tour may use a “special ranking” for up to three years from the birth of a child, and the exemption can be used for seedings at big events. Also, the tour says players can wear leggings or compression shorts at its tournaments without a skirt over them.

Williams insists she is still driven to play and win as much if not more than before she was a mother. That drive is the focus of a Nike ad showing her in action.

“Getting this far, crazy,” it says. “Stopping now,

crazier.”

Williams won't. “I'm still on the way up,” she said. “There's still much more that I plan on doing.”

The rest of the top five: Simone Biles, gymnastics. The American won four golds and six medals overall in the world championships in Qatar, giving her 20 in her career to tie Russia's Svetlana Khorkina for the most by a female gymnast.

Ariwke Ogunbowale, women's basketball. She hit one jumper to knock off previously unbeaten Connecticut in the Final Four, then a 3-pointer in the championship game to lift Notre Dame over Mississippi State.

Chloe Kim, snowboarding. At 17, the Californian won the halfpipe Olympic gold medal in South Korea, where her parents were from before they immigrated to the United States.

Katie Ledecky, swimming. The 21-year-old U.S. Olympian tuned up for the 2020 Games in Tokyo by winning five medals in the city at the Pan Pacific Championships.

## SCOREBOARD

### LOCAL SLATE

**Thursday, Dec. 27**  
**Boys Basketball**  
Heppner vs. Tri-Cities Prep (at Irrigon), 1:30 p.m.

Mac-Hi vs. Liberty Christian (at Irrigon), 4:30 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran at Irrigon, 7:30 p.m.

Pendleton at Bend, 7:45 p.m.

**Girls Basketball**  
Heppner vs. Mac-Hi (at Irrigon), noon

Pendleton vs. La Salle Prep (at Bend), 4:15 p.m.

Liberty Christian at Irrigon, 6 p.m.

**Friday, Dec. 28**  
**Boys Basketball**  
Ione vs. Nixyaawii (at Echo), 1:30 p.m.

Heppner vs. Liberty Christian (at Irrigon), 3 p.m.

Pine Eagle at Echo, 4:30 p.m.

Mac-Hi vs. Trinity Lutheran (at Irrigon), 4:30 p.m.

Weston-McEwen vs. Prairie City (at Pendleton Convention Center), 4:30 p.m.

Pilot Rock at Regis, 7:30 p.m.

Riverside at Columbia-Burbank (WA), 7:30 p.m.

Tri-Cities Prep at Irrigon, 7:30 p.m.

Pendleton at Oregon Hoopfest (Bend) 7:30 p.m.

**Girls Basketball**  
Ione vs. Nixyaawii (at Echo), noon

Heppner vs. Nyssa (at Irrigon), noon

Mac-Hi vs. Liberty Christian (at Irrigon), 3 p.m.

Pine Eagle at Echo, 3 p.m.

Weston-McEwen vs. Prairie City (at Pendleton Convention Center), 3 p.m.

Pendleton at Summit, 5:45 p.m.

Tri-Cities Prep at Irrigon, 6 p.m.

Pilot Rock at Regis, 6 p.m.

Riverside at Columbia-Burbank (WA), 6 p.m.

**Girls Wrestling**  
Hermiston at Hanford, 9 a.m.

**Saturday, Dec. 29**  
**Boys Basketball**  
Ione vs. Pine Eagle (at Echo), 1:30 p.m.

Nixyaawii at Echo, 4:30 p.m.

White Salmon (WA) at Riverside, 4:30 p.m.

Weston-McEwen at Les Schwab Invitational (at Pendleton Convention Center), 7 p.m.

Pilot Rock at Regis Holiday Tournament

Pendleton at Oregon Hoopfest (Bend)

**Girls Basketball**  
Pendleton vs. Hockinson, WA (at Mt. View High School), 11:30 a.m.

Ione vs. Pine Eagle (at Echo), noon

Weston-McEwen vs. Condon/Wheeler (at Pendleton Convention Center), noon

Nixyaawii at Echo, 3 p.m.

White Salmon (WA) at Riverside, 3 p.m.

Pilot Rock at Regis Holiday Tournament

**NFL**  
**AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	10	5	0	.667	398	322
Miami	7	8	0	.467	302	391
Buffalo	5	10	0	.333	227	357
N.Y. Jets	4	11	0	.267	330	403

### South

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
x-Houston	10	5	0	.667	382	313
Indianapolis	9	6	0	.600	400	327
Tennessee	9	6	0	.600	293	270
Cleveland	5	10	0	.333	242	296

### North

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
Baltimore	9	6	0	.600	363	263
Pittsburgh	8	6	1	.567	412	347
Cleveland	7	7	1	.500	335	366
Cincinnati	6	9	0	.400	355	439

### West

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
x-Kansas City	11	4	0	.733	530	418
x-L.A. Chargers	11	4	0	.733	405	320
Denver	6	9	0	.400	320	326
Oakland	4	11	0	.267	287	432

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

#### East

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
y-Dallas	9	6	0	.600	303	289
Philadelphia	8	7	0	.533	343	348
Washington	7	8	0	.467	281	335
N.Y. Giants	5	10	0	.333	334	376

#### South

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
y-New Orleans	13	2	0	.867	490	320
Atlanta	6	9	0	.400	380	391
Carolina	6	9	0	.400	343	368
Tampa Bay	5	10	0	.333	364	430

#### North

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
y-Chicago	11	4	0	.733	397	273
Minnesota	8	6	1	.567	350	317
Green Bay	6	8	1	.433	376	369
Detroit	5	10	0	.333	293	360

#### West

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
y-L.A. Rams	12	3	0	.800	479	352
x-Seattle	9	6	0	.600	401	323
San Francisco	4	11	0	.267	310	387
Arizona	3	12	0	.200	201	398

x-clinched playoff spot&#t

y-clinched division&#t

### Sunday's Games

Miami at Buffalo, 10 a.m.

Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 10 a.m.

Jacksonville at Houston, 10 a.m.

Dallas at N.Y. Giants, 10 a.m.

Detroit at Green Bay, 10 a.m.

N.Y. Jets at New England, 10 a.m.

Carolina at New Orleans, 10 a.m.

Arizona at Seattle, 1:25 p.m.

L.A. Chargers at Denver, 1:25 p.m.

Oakland at Kansas City, 1:25 p.m.

San Francisco at L.A. Rams, 1:25 p.m.

Philadelphia at Washington, 1:25 p.m.

Chicago at Minnesota, 1:25 p.m.

Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 1:25 p.m.

Cleveland at Baltimore, 1:25 p.m.

Indianapolis at Tennessee, 5:20 p.m.

### NBA

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	26	10	.722	—
Philadelphia	22	13	.629	3½
Boston	20	13	.606	4½
Brooklyn	17	19	.472	9
New York	9	26	.257	16½

#### Southeast

W	L	Pct	GB	
Charlotte	16	17	.485	—
Miami	16	17	.485	—
Orlando	14	19	.424	2

### Washington

W	L	T	Pct	GB
Washington	13	22	.371	4
Atlanta	9	24	.273	7

### Central

W	L	Pct	GB	
Milwaukee	23	10	.697	—
Indiana	23	12	.657	1
Detroit	16	16	.500	6½
Chicago	9	26	.257	15
Cleveland	8	27	.229	16

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

#### Southwest