

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2018

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MLB

Group eyes ballpark in Portland



Contributed by Portland Diamond Project

An artist's rendering of a ballpark in Northwest Portland. 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.

Oregon's rules could hamper development of Willamette River plan

By ANNA GRIFFIN
Oregon Public Broadcasting

Out at the Port of Portland's Terminal 2, the only signs of life on this particular day are two big birds of prey and Bob Sallinger, the conservation director for the Audubon Society of Portland.

He's probably the only person within a mile's radius eagle-eyed enough to identify the birds.

"This is really basically an abandoned site," Sallinger said from a perch just outside the chain-link fence that guards this Northwest Portland cargo terminal.

"It's just vacant parking lots and unused cranes and empty warehouses. So really the only activity at all over the last half an hour or so has been these two bald eagles that have been sitting on this light post in the middle of the parking lot."

The silence helps explain why representatives of the Portland Diamond Project, the group trying to bring Major League Baseball to Oregon, sounded so optimistic last month. They announced a tentative deal to develop Terminal 2, owned by the Port of Portland and all but unused in recent years, as a potential baseball stadium and mixed-use development.

"If everything happens the way we expect it to," Portland Diamond Project spokesman John McIsaac said, "we expect the first pitch to happen in 2022."

But there's at least one big logistical hurdle between that rosy prediction and making sunny summer nights watching baseball on the west bank of the Willamette River a reality.

Terminal 2 — and pretty much everything around it on this stretch of the Willamette Riverfront — is zoned for industrial use. That means it's been set aside, and legally protected, for uses such as manufacturing, shipping and construction.

The people who care about such things are already prepping for a fight.

"Industrial land is such a finite resource in the Portland area right now," said Ellen Wax, executive director of the Working Waterfront Coalition, a business group that represents the interests of big waterfront users such as Union Pacific, Advanced American Construction and Gunderson Inc. "I don't know what their strategy is for being able to justify removing this land. But it seems like a pretty high bar."

In another state, none of this might matter. But Oregon prides itself on smart, balanced growth. The law actually requires communities to keep a certain amount of industrial land tucked away. Preserving land for economic growth is No. 9 on the state's 19-point list of land use planning goals.

"These industrial businesses are really the best paying jobs for people without college degrees. We call them middle-wage jobs," said Tom Armstrong, a supervising planner with the city of Portland. "And so our ability to have this industrial base in our city provides those jobs that contributes to the

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BECAUSE OF ITS RIVERFRONT LOCATION, TERMINAL 2 ACTUALLY HAS EXTRA SPECIAL ZONING PROTECTION — SOMETHING CALLED A PRIME INDUSTRIAL OVERLAY.

BMCC softball adds seven new players for 2020 season

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

Before 2019 has even begun, Blue Mountain's 2020 softball season is already shaping up.

Timberwolves head coach Steve Richards has signed seven new recruits for next year's roster.

"They all have excellent character and academics in addition to their softball skills," Richards said of the new players in a press release. "It's one of the best classes of recruits, top to bottom, that we've seen here in a while. Everybody hits the ball well, so our games should be exciting. It will be fun to see how far they can go."



Costa



Harn



Snead



Dalke



Wiest



Hawkins

Angelina Costa (Tracy, Calif.), catcher/first baseman — "Angelina brings left-handed power to the Timberwolves' lineup," Richards said. "She's a very enthusiastic and vocal player."

Costa's Tracy High School softball team won a Division 1 sectional championship last spring.

Cierra Harn (Sparks, Nev.), catcher/infielder/outfielder — "Cierra is a very versatile player who can catch and play both the outfield and infield."

Harn's Spanish Springs High School team won this year's state championship in Nevada.

Camille Snead (Nampa, Idaho), pitcher/infielder — "Camille is another very versatile player who has solid fielding skills and should see some time pitching as well."

Snead received an honorable mention as an infielder at Nampa High School last spring.

Maddie Dalke (Medford), pitcher/

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Ducks QB Herbert says he'll return for his senior year

EUGENE (AP) — Oregon quarterback Justin Herbert says he'll return for his senior season.

Herbert announced his decision Wednesday before the Ducks (8-4) left Eugene for the Redbox Bowl in Santa Clara, California. Oregon plays Michigan State on Monday.

"As we prepare for our bowl game, I would like to ensure that there are no distractions outside of this game," Herbert said in a statement. "My commitment to my teammates, our coaches, Duck fans, and the University of Oregon has never been stronger."

Herbert has thrown for 2,985 yards this season with 28 touchdowns. He's rushed for 173 yards and two TDs.

He has thrown at least one touchdown in 27 straight games, the longest current streak

in the nation.

For his career at Oregon, Herbert has thrown for 6,904 yards and 62 touchdowns. The Ducks have averaged 39.4 points per game in his 27 career starts.

Next season he will be joined at Oregon by his brother, tight end Patrick Herbert, a four-star recruit from Eugene's Sheldon High.

"We couldn't be more excited for Justin to return for his senior season. He is a special talent on the field, but, more importantly, a special person and leader off the field," coach Mario Cristobal said in a statement. "Being a native of Oregon, Justin wanted to make sure the announcement was made here in Eugene before we left for the bowl game."



This Nov. 17, 2018, file photo, shows Oregon quarterback Justin Herbert throwing down field against Arizona State during the first quarter of an NCAA college football game in Eugene.

AP Photo/Chris Pietsch, File

SPORTS SHORTS



AP Photo/Ted S. Warren, File

Sigi Schmid, winningest MLS coach, dies at 65

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sigi Schmid, the winningest coach in MLS history, has died. He was 65.

Schmid's family said he died Tuesday at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Schmid was hospitalized three weeks ago as he awaited a heart transplant.

"Our family is deeply saddened by his passing and is taking this time to grieve the loss of a tremendous husband, father, leader and mentor," the family said in a statement Wednesday through the Seattle Sounders, one of the three MLS teams Schmid coached.

"We also recognize how much Sigi meant to so many

people across the U.S. Soccer landscape and around the world at different levels of the game. That community meant a great deal to him as well. While we mourn his loss, we appreciate privacy during this challenging time."

Schmid had an MLS-record 266 regular-season and postseason victories in 18 seasons with the LA Galaxy, Columbus Crew and Sounders. He led teams to two MLS titles, the first with the Galaxy in 2002 and the second with the Crew in 2008, and was a two-time MLS Coach of the Year. He stepped down as coach of the Galaxy in September with six games left in the regular season.