



Tri-City Herald Photo/Bob Brawdy

The U-6 Miss HomeStreet Bank (front), driven by Jimmy Shane, is the favorite this week at the HAPO Columbia Cup, which begins today on the Columbia River in the Tri-Cities.

Columbia Cup lineup will feature 10 boats

U-6 Miss HomeStreet Bank leads the points series after 2 races

By JEFF MORROW
Tri-City Herald

KENNEWICK, Wash. — This is the week. Boat race weekend.

What has always been the Tri-Cities' biggest sporting event, the HAPO Columbia Cup, begins today with qualifying and finishes Sunday afternoon with the Columbia Cup final.

In between, there will be four different classes of racing and a total of 28 boats that will hit the water.

Race director Aaron Stephens has confirmed 10 unlimited hydroplanes, another seven Grand Prix World Hydros, five more 5-liter boats and, finally, six vintage boats.

Unlimited hydroplane racers

The U-6 Miss HomeStreet Bank: owned by the city of Madison, Ind., and driven by standout driver Jimmy Shane.

The team is off to a great start by winning both races.

That Mike and Larry Hanson are back to help the team — both former crew chiefs — makes the team that much better.

In fact, the U-6 already has a 1,081-point lead ahead of the runner-up in the national high points standings — the U-12 — after just two races.

The U-6 will be the favorite this weekend.

So far, they took first in Guntersville, first in Madison and are first overall.

The U-1 Jones Racing: owned by Mike and Lori Jones, is back in the Tri-Cities, and will try to defend its Columbia Cup title.

Andrew Tate is back to drive the boat.

The team is expected to race both in Tri-Cities and Seattle.

So far they took second in Madison and are seventh in the standings.

The U-3 Go3 Racing: will make its season debut in

the Tri-Cities.

Owner Ed Cooper Jr. has the only piston-powered boat in the fleet, and he won't run it unless he finds sponsorship money.

He gets that in the Tri-Cities, thanks to Charlie Grigg, who owns Grigg's Department Store and the Ace Hardware stores in the Tri-Cities.

Once again, Grigg has spearheaded the effort to bring the U-3 to the Tri-Cities from Evansville, Ind.

Veteran Jimmy King will be the driver.

The U-7 Spirit of Detroit: owned by Dave Bartush from Michigan, and will be driven by Canadian Bert Henderson.

The team has been a pleasant surprise after the first two races, finishing on the podium both times.

So far, they took third in Guntersville, third in Madison and are third overall.

The U-11 J&D's presents Reliable Diamond Tools: features the family-operated team owned by Scott and Shannon Raney. Driver Tom Thompson from Maryland was let go by the Raney's last week, and replaced by Jamie Nilson.

The Raney's boat gets faster every year but hasn't yet cracked the upper echelon of teams.

So far, they have taken sixth place in Guntersville, fifth place in Madison and are sixth overall.

The U-12 Graham Trucking: owner Rob Graham decided after missing much of the 2018 season that he'd bring the team out for the entire 2019 circuit.

J. Michael Kelly is driving the boat, and for him it's like second nature.

So far, they took second in Guntersville, fourth in Madison and are second overall.

The U-98 Graham American Dream: Graham's second boat in the fleet, purchased from the Stacey Briseno estate after her tragic death last September.

Graham wanted to make sure the boat stayed in the fleet, and he's put rookie Corey Peabody behind the wheel.

So far, they took fifth in Guntersville, sixth in Madi-

son and are fourth overall.

The U-99.9 KISW: will be making its debut this week. Owned by Brian and Greg O'Farrell, the boat has a new hull. Brian Perkins is the driver.

The U-440 Bucket List Racing: owned by Kelly and Sharon Stocklin, and driven by Dustin Echols.

It's the smallest boat on the circuit at 28 feet.

Stocklin started it out as an experimental G Class automotive powered boat that was eventually converted into turbine power.

So far they have taken fourth place in Guntersville, seventh in Madison and are fifth overall.

The U-1918 Oberto: just tested on Lake Washington last week in Seattle.

Larry Oberto, the son of Art Oberto, struck a deal with the Miss Madison team to run its backup boat at the Tri-Cities and Seattle.

It's a good boat too, winning a number of races and national high-points titles.

It also adds to the boat count.

Jeff Bernard will be the driver, although Columbia Cup race director Aaron Stephens said Bernard has been out of the unlimited circuit long enough that he'll have to requalify as a driver this coming weekend on the Columbia River.

Hydro racing details

Here is the HI Unlimited schedule for the coming weekend: Qualifying on Friday starts at 1:30 p.m.; heat races on Saturday are set for 1:50 p.m., 2:15, 4:20, and 4:45.

Sunday's schedule has more preliminary heats at 10:55 a.m., 11:20, 2:25 p.m., and 2:50.

The final is set for 4:30 p.m.

Vintage boats

"We have three pickle-look boats in the 1977 U-00 Atlas Van Lines, the 1982 U-00 Atlas, and the 1973 U-25 Pay N' Pak," Stephens said. "Then we have three shovel-nose boats, with the 1957 U-77 Miss Wahoo, the 1962 U-80 Blue Chip."

Seahawks: Wagner watches as he awaits contract extension

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until the middle of October. It's a big blow for Seattle and while Reed said he respects the league's decision, he doesn't agree with it.

"I'm very saddened by the news I would be suspended six games," Reed said. "Of course I disagreed with the decision based on the facts. I've grown over the years. I've had to learn to grow, to mature as a leader, as a person that has good character and for sure is going to play hard and do everything I can for my teammates. The only thing we can do is move forward. I respect the NFL's decision. We just move forward and continue to do better."

Reed declined to elaborate on the reason for the

suspension. A report from the Bellevue Police Department from 2017 recommended fourth-degree assault charges in an alleged domestic violence incident, but prosecutors declined to charge Reed. The city of Bellevue released a statement to *The Seattle Times* saying it believed there was insufficient evidence to prosecute.

Carroll said so much time had passed since the team first learned of the incident to the punishment being handed down that he was unsure if Reed would face any discipline.

"Jarran has been working at this for some time now. I appreciate the growth and maturity and transparency he's brought forth in showing us that he does understand this is a very seri-

ous issue," Carroll said. "I think our guys in general have shown that growth and maturity. You can just feel he's learned from this and is moving ahead."

Seattle signed veteran Earl Mitchell to help make up for the loss of Reed, who is coming off the best season of his career with 10½ sacks last year and is entering the final season of his rookie contract.

But Reed's contract situation is secondary to Wagner's at this point. The All-Pro middle linebacker would seem to be in line for a huge payday, but there has been no agreement. Wagner is serving as his own representative in the negotiations and fellow linebacker K.J. Wright believes the sides are getting closer to a deal.

Ex-wife pleads guilty in killing of Lorenzen Wright

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The ex-wife of slain former NBA player Lorenzen Wright pleaded guilty Thursday to facilitation of first-degree murder in his shooting death nine years ago, a surprise development in one of Memphis, Tennessee's biggest murder cases.

Sherra Wright also pleaded guilty to facilitation of a criminal attempt to commit first-degree murder in a hearing in Shelby County Criminal Court. Judge Lee Coffee sentenced her to 30 years in prison. Coffee said Sherra Wright would be eligible for parole once she served 30% of her sentence, which would be around nine years.

Sherra Wright had been scheduled to face a jury in a September trial on first-degree murder charges in the death of her ex-husband. His body was found riddled with gunshot wounds in a swampy field in suburban Memphis in July 2010. He had been missing for 10 days before his body was found.

The nine-year anniversary of the discovery of Wright's body is Sunday.

During the hearing, Sherra Wright answered questions from the judge in a soft voice. She said she has been taking medication for anxiety and depression.

She had faced a life sentence if convicted at trial. In an interview with *The Commercial Appeal*, Sherra Wright said she pleaded guilty for the sake of her children but didn't elaborate.

"I'm just going to say because of my children, I have made this decision, and because of them I'm not going to go into many more details right now, but I'm just

going to say everything is not what it seems," she was quoted as telling the paper.

Lorenzen Wright's family members agreed to the plea deal, prosecutor Paul Hagerman said.

"This is obviously a violent offense, an offense that has torn apart a family, an offense that's been highlighted throughout Memphis and the media and everything else," Hagerman said after the hearing.

Sherra Wright and co-defendant Billy Turner were charged in December 2017 with first-degree murder. Turner's trial remains scheduled for Sept. 16. He has already pleaded guilty to a gun charge related to Lorenzen Wright's shooting.

Hagerman would not say whether Sherra Wright would testify during Turner's trial.

Turner, a landscaper in the Memphis suburb of Collierville, and Sherra Wright attended the same church. Witnesses said Sherra Wright masterminded a plan to have two men kill Lorenzen Wright at his home in Atlanta, but that attempt failed, according to an affidavit.

She and Turner then conspired to kill him in Memphis, and they dumped one of the guns used in the shooting in a Mississippi lake, authorities have said. A gun that was allegedly used in the killing was found in the lake weeks before charges were filed in the case.

After Sherra Wright entered her plea, the judge allowed Lorenzen Wright's mother, Deborah Marion, to address the court. Marion spoke directly to Sherra Wright, telling her she wants

to see her grandchildren. Marion said she has not been able to visit them.

"I just hate what happened to my child, but he left some nice-looking kids for their grandma," Marion said.

Outside the courtroom, Marion said family members would be attending parole hearings. Marion said she would like to see Sherra Wright serve the full 30-year prison sentence.

"My son is serving life," Marion said.

Defense attorney Juni Ganguli told reporters outside of the courtroom that Sherra Wright's defense at trial would have been that her ex-husband beat her for years and she was tired of it. He said the defense would have been "scorched earth."

"The beatings were consistent, and it led to her face being disfigured," Ganguli said. "She feared that Mr. Wright would never leave her alone, and she recruited Billy Turner to kill Mr. Wright."

Sherra Wright received \$1 million from her ex-husband's life insurance policy. She agreed to a settlement in 2014 in a court dispute over how she spent the insurance money meant to benefit their six children. Defense attorney Laurie Hall said she did not think the life insurance money was a motivation for Wright's killing.

Wright's death shook his hometown of Memphis, where he was a fan favorite thanks to his charity work with youth and his father's involvement as a coach in summer leagues. Former NBA players and friends including Anfernee "Penny" Hardaway and Elliot Perry attended a memorial service for Wright in the days after his body was found.

Trail Blazers sign All-Star Pau Gasol

PORTLAND (AP) — The Portland Trail Blazers have added six-time All-Star Pau Gasol to their roster.

President of basketball operations Neil Olshey announced Gasol's signing Thursday.

"Pau is a future Hall of Famer that brings inval-



Gasol

uable championship experience and an elite skill set and basketball IQ to our roster,"

Olshey said in a statement.

The 39-year-old Gasol has averaged 17.0 points,

9.2 rebounds and 3.2 assists over an 18-year career that has included stints with Memphis, the Lakers, Chicago, San Antonio and Milwaukee. He won two NBA titles with the Lakers.

Gasol has averaged 15.4 points, 9.2 rebounds and, 3.2 assists in the playoffs.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

All Times PDT	W	L	Pct	GB
East				
New York	66	36	.647	—
Tampa Bay	58	47	.552	9½
Boston	57	47	.548	10
Toronto	39	65	.375	28
Baltimore	32	69	.317	33½
Central				
Minnesota	61	40	.604	—
Cleveland	59	42	.584	2
Chicago	45	54	.455	15
Kansas City	39	64	.379	23
Detroit	30	67	.309	29
West				
Houston	66	38	.635	—
Oakland	58	45	.563	7½
Los Angeles	54	49	.524	11½
Texas	51	51	.500	14
Seattle	42	63	.400	24½

Wednesday's Games

Tampa Bay 3, Boston 2
Philadelphia 4, Detroit 0
Houston 4, Oakland 2
Arizona 5, Baltimore 2
Seattle 5, Texas 3
Cleveland 4, Toronto 0
Kansas City 2, Atlanta 0
Miami 2, Chicago White Sox 0
N.Y. Yankees 10, Minnesota 7
L.A. Angels 3, L.A. Dodgers 2

Thursday's Games

Boston 19, N.Y. Yankees 3
Minnesota at Chicago White Sox, late
Cleveland at Kansas City, late
Baltimore at L.A. Angels, late
Texas at Oakland, late
Detroit at Seattle, late

Friday's Games

Tampa Bay (Yarborough 8-3) at Toronto (Waguespack 1-0), 4:07 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Paxton 5-5) at Boston (Cinshner 9-5), 4:10 p.m.
Minnesota (Pineda 6-5) at Chicago White Sox (Cease 1-2), 5:10 p.m.
Cleveland (Plesac 4-3) at Kansas City (Junis 6-8), 5:15 p.m.
Houston (Urquidy 1-0) at St. Louis (Flaherty 4-6), 5:15 p.m.
Baltimore (Wojciechowski 1-3) at L.A. Angels (Canning 3-5), 7:07 p.m.
Texas (Lynn 12-6) at Oakland (Mengden 5-1), 7:07 p.m.
Detroit (Norris 2-8) at Seattle (Kikuchi 4-7), 7:10 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Tampa Bay at Toronto, 12:07 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Boston, 1:05 p.m.
Detroit at Seattle, 1:10 p.m.
Minnesota at Chicago White Sox, 4:10 p.m.
Cleveland at Kansas City, 4:15 p.m.
Houston at St. Louis, 4:15 p.m.
Baltimore at L.A. Angels, 6:07 p.m.
Texas at Oakland, 6:07 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

All Times PDT	W	L	Pct	GB
East				
Atlanta	60	43	.583	—
Washington	55	47	.539	4½
Philadelphia	54	48	.529	5½
New York	47	55	.461	12½
Miami	38	62	.380	20½
Central				
St. Louis	60	43	.583	—
Chicago	55	47	.539	4½
Pittsburgh	46	56	.451	9
Los Angeles	67	37	.644	—
Arizona	52	51	.505	14½
San Francisco	52	51	.505	14½
San Diego	48	54	.471	18
Colorado	48	55	.466	18½

Wednesday's Games

Washington 3, Colorado 2, 1st game
Philadelphia 4, Detroit 0
Milwaukee 5, Cincinnati 4
Arizona 5, Baltimore 2
Chicago Cubs 4, San Francisco 1
St. Louis 14, Pittsburgh 8
Washington 2, Colorado 0, 2nd game
San Diego 7, N.Y. Mets 2
Kansas City 2, Atlanta 0
Miami 2, Chicago White Sox 0
L.A. Angels 3, L.A. Dodgers 2

Thursday's Games

N.Y. Mets 4, San Diego 0
St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 3
Colorado 8, Washington 7

Friday's Games

Colorado (Marquez 9-5) at Cincinnati (Castillo 9-3), 3:40 p.m.
Atlanta (Soroka 10-2) at Philadelphia (Arrieta 8-7), 4:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Ryu 11-2) at Washington (Sanchez 6-6), 4:05 p.m.
Arizona (Greinke 10-4) at Miami (Alcantara 4-9), 4:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Agrazal 2-0) at N.Y. Mets (Wheeler 6-6), 4:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 7-8) at Milwaukee (Gonzalez 2-1), 5:10 p.m.
Houston (Urquidy 1-0) at St. Louis (Flaherty 4-6), 5:15 p.m.
San Francisco (Samardzija 7-8) at San Diego (Lucchesi 7-5), 7:10 p.m.

Saturday's Games

L.A. Dodgers at Washington, 1:05 p.m.
Arizona at Miami, 3:10 p.m.
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 4:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, 4:10 p.m.
Colorado at Cincinnati, 4:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Mets, 4:10 p.m.
Houston at St. Louis, 4:15 p.m.
San Francisco at San Diego, 5:40 p.m.

CYCLING

TOUR DE FRANCE RESULTS

Thursday
18th Stage
At Saint-Michel-De-Maurienne, France

A 129.2-mile ride from Embrun to Saint-Michel-De-Maurienne, the first leg in the Alps

1. Nairo Quintana, Colombia, Movistar Team, 5:34:15.
2. Romain Bardet, France, AG2R La Mondiale, 1:35.
3. Alexey Lutsenko, Kazakhstan, Astana Pro Team, 2:28.
4. Lennard Kamna, Germany, Team Sunweb, 2:58.
5. Damiano Caruso, Italy, Bahrain-Merida, 3:00.
6. Tiesj Benoot, Belgium, Lotto Soudal, 4:46.
7. Michael Woods, Canada, EF Education First, same time.

Overall Standings (After 18 stages)

1. Julian Alaphilippe, France, Deceuninck-QuickStep, 75:18:49.
2. Egan Bernal, Colombia, Ineos, 1:30.
3. Geraint Thomas, Britain, Ineos, 1:35.
4. Steven Kruijswijk, Netherlands, Jumbo-Visma, 1:47.
5. Thibaut Pinot, France, Groupama-FDJ, 1:50.
6. Emanuel Buchmann, Germany, Bora-Hansgrohe, 2:14.
7. Nairo Quintana, Colombia, Movistar, 3:54.
8. Mikel Landa, Spain, Movistar, 4:54.
9. Rigoberto Uran, Colombia, EF Education First, 5:33.
10. Alejandro Valverde, Spain, Movistar, 5:58.
11. Richie Porte, Australia, Trek-Segafredo, 6:30.
12. Warren Barguil, France, Arkea-Samsic, 7:47.
13. Guillaume Martin, France, Wanty-Gobert, 15:11.
14. Fabio Aru, Italy, UAE Team Emirates, 16:21.
15. Roman Kreuziger, Czech Republic, Dimension Data, 17:00.
16. David Gaudu, France, Groupama-FDJ, 18:37.
17. Xandro Meurisse, Belgium, Wanty-Gobert, 22:43.
18. Romain Bardet, France, AG2R La Mondiale, 23:39.
19. Dan Martin, Ireland, UAE Team Emirates, 34:23.
20. Sebastian Reichenbach, Switzerland, Groupama-FDJ, 35:52.

Also

50. Ben King, United States, Dimension Data, 22:40.
57. Joey Rosskopf, United States, CCC, same time.
63. Chad Haga, United States, Sunweb, 25:46.
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1. Julian Alaphilippe, France, Deceuninck-QuickStep, 75:18:49.
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3. Geraint Thomas, Britain, Ineos, 1:35.
4. Steven Kruijswijk, Netherlands, Jumbo-Visma, 1:47.
5. Thibaut Pinot, France, Groupama-FDJ, 1:50.
6. Emanuel Buchmann, Germany, Bora-Hansgrohe, 2:14.
7. Nairo Quintana, Colombia, Movistar, 3:54.
8. Mikel Landa, Spain, Movistar, 4:54.
9. Rigoberto Uran, Colombia, EF Education First, 5:33.
10. Alejandro Valverde, Spain, Movistar, 5:58.
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14. Fabio Aru, Italy, UAE Team Emirates, 16:21.
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17. Xandro Meurisse, Belgium, Wanty-Gobert, 22:43.
18. Romain Bardet, France, AG2R La Mondiale, 23:39.
19. Dan Martin, Ireland, UAE Team Emirates, 34:23.
20. Sebastian Reichenbach, Switzerland, Groupama-FDJ, 35:52.
Also
69. Ben King, United States, Dimension Data, 1:52:41.
83. Joey Rosskopf, United States, CCC, 2:11:32.
133. Chad Haga, United States, Sunweb, 3:12:04.