



Rip City Rally returns to Hermiston for seventh year

East Oregonian

HERMISTON — The Portland Trail Blazers are making the rounds across the state of Oregon for the seventh year in a row next month.

On Wednesday, Sept. 11, the Blazers and Moda representatives will bring their Rip City Rally to Hermiston with an entire day's worth of events in store. The events, which include school assemblies, youth basketball P.E. take-overs, career panels and on-court youth basketball activities, will focus on promoting a healthy and active lifestyle for local children.

The Rip City Fair, on-court youth basketball showcase and gift presentations with city officials will take place at the

Hermiston Community Center Parking lot from 4 to 6 p.m. All fans are invited to the free community event, and will get the opportunity to interact and play basketball with Blazers personalities, take photos alongside the 1977 NBA Championship trophy, and win prizes, including game tickets.

The statewide tour runs from Sept. 9-13. The crew will also make stops in Baker City (Sept. 9), La Grande (Sept. 10), The Dalles (Sept. 12), and Sandy (Sept. 13).

For more information regarding the tour, fans can visit trailblazers.com/rally for updates and information along the rally. The tour's progress can be checked on social media using the hashtag #RipCityRally.

Poll: Mustangs No. 4

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Walker found out Wednesday that Harper will not field a team of its own. The Hornets will be co-opting with Huntington, and playing the Locomotives' schedule. He is on the hunt to fill the void.

Echo will host Joseph in a league game Sept. 20, and will play at South Wasco County on Oct. 4.

In the 1A poll, four-time reigning state champion Dufur is ranked No. 1, picking up 14 of 19 first-place votes.

The Rangers, who have won 33 consecutive games, can become just the second team to

win five consecutive titles, matching Regis (1973-77).

Rounding out the top 10 are St. Paul, Hosanna Christian, Crane, Camas Valley, Adrian/Jordan Valley, Wallowa, Falls City/Kings Valley Charter, Lowell and Imbler.

Local football fans can catch a glimpse of Dufur and Adrian/Jordan Valley on Sept. 6. They will play each other in the second game of a doubleheader at Kennison Field in Hermiston.

The first game will feature Ione/Arlington vs. Powder Valley at 4 p.m.

Ione/Arlington will host Dufur on Oct. 4.

Pac-12 statement; transfer QBs; USC's start

By RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

The first full slate of the college football season brings with it another referendum game for the Pac-12, highlighting a schedule light on marquee matchups.

No. 11 Oregon against No. 16 Auburn in Arlington, Texas, on Saturday is the only game of Week 1 with two ranked teams. It's a big opportunity for the Ducks and the Pac-12, which has not sent a team to the College Football Playoff since 2016.

Last season, Washington came all the way across the country to face Auburn in Atlanta on opening weekend, and the Huskies were handed a loss that helped keep the eventual Pac-12 champions out of the playoff.

The Ducks will try to set a

new narrative.

After a Week 0 warmup, the season goes full throttle Thursday. Defending champion and No. 1 Clemson helps launch the ACC Network with a home game against Georgia Tech that doesn't figure to be all that competitive. No. 2 Alabama opens its season on Saturday against Duke. The Crimson Tide lost preseason All-America linebacker Dylan Moses to a knee injury this week, which could be a bigger issue for Alabama later in the season.

Things to know as the season starts with a long Labor Day weekend filled with football:

GAME OF THE WEEK

Oregon vs. Auburn
The Ducks are a trendy pick to win the Pac-12 after

going 9-4 last season. They have a highly touted prospect at quarterback in Justin Herbert and one of the best offensive lines in the country. Guard Shane Lemieux was a first-team AP preseason All-American and tackle Calvin Throckmorton was selected to the second team.

Auburn counters with one of the top defensive lines, led by preseason All-America tackle Derrick Brown.

Tigers coach Gus Malzahn, perpetually on the hot seat with a finicky fanbase, is going with freshman and former five-star recruit Bo Nix at quarterback.

HEISMAN WATCH

A big game against Auburn would help Herbert make an early statement in the Heisman race. A couple of transfer quarterbacks

get the opportunity to make good first impressions with their new teams against far less daunting competition.

No. 5 Ohio State opens against FAU at home on Saturday with former Georgia quarterback Justin Fields running the show. Fields had some promising moments has a backup last season for the Bulldogs, but saw little action when games were in doubt. New Buckeyes coach Ryan Day should be able to ease Fields in against the Owls.

Former Alabama quarterback Jalen Hurts gets his first start with No. 4 Oklahoma on Sunday against Houston. Hurts replaces Heisman winner Kyler Murray, who replaced Heisman winner Baker Mayfield. Can Sooners coach Lincoln Riley make it three straight?

Volleyball: They lack height but they have talent

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going 2-4 against non-East opponents.

"It was a great way for us to try a couple of different rotations and to see what we need to work on before the season starts," Larson said. "We have six sophomores and seven freshmen. We have a pretty good mix, and everyone is close, which is nice."

Sophomore Keeley Morrison (Medical Lake, Washington) is the tallest player for BMCC at 5 feet, 11 inches. As a middle, she had 83 kills and 20 blocks last season. She also missed a few matches with injuries, but assures she is 100% to start the season. Though she grew up not far from Spokane, Morrison has

family roots at BMCC.

Her dad, Boo, played baseball for the Wolves, and her cousins Karlie and Riley Geringer played basketball.

The Wolves also bring back 5 foot, 6 inch sophomore outside hitter Mariah Moulton, who led Grant Union to a state title in 2017. She walked on last year, and later earned a scholarship.

Moulton led the Wolves in kills last season with 189, and was second in digs with 182.

College ball is a far cry from high school, according Moulton, who was the Wapiti League Player of the Year and the 2A state Player of the Year her senior year at Grant Union.

"It takes time to adjust," she said. "There are a lot of taller girls, you have to work

on being quick. Ball placement is key. In high school, I was short, but I could jump. A lot of (the taller girls) can't jump."

Morrison and Moulton are the team captains this season.

Moulton had 44 kills, 48 digs and five aces at the Friendlies, while Morrison had 32 kills and six blocks.

Also returning is sophomore outside hitter Emily Beebe (Oregon City), who had 50 kills and seven blocks last season.

"She plays a big part on our outside," Larson said.

Leading the offense on the floor is sophomore setter Abby Ives (Eagle, Idaho), a transfer from Grays Harbor, which does not have a program this season because it

lost its coach.

"She is a good communicator on the floor," Larson said.

"We connect really well," Moulton added.

Also transferring in is Lesley Santoyo from Hermiston, who attended Gonzaga last year. Santoyo, a setter, did not play volleyball for the Zags.

"She really missed playing and she called me," Larson said. "We have a lot of really good talent that is local, which is good for the fans and the players' parents."

Other local players include freshmen Hailey Weaver of Weston-McEwen and Masie Hancock of Riverside.

The Wolves open the NWAC East regular season Sept. 19, hosting Spokane.

SCOREBOARD

EDITOR'S NOTE:

MLB STANDINGS ARE UNAVAILABLE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

All Times PDT
AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	3	0	0	1.000	63	23
Buffalo	3	0	0	1.000	75	50
Miami	2	1	0	.667	70	50
N.Y. Jets	1	2	0	.333	57	69

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Tennessee	1	2	0	.333	50	50
Houston	1	2	0	.333	56	85
Indianapolis	0	3	0	.000	51	72
Jacksonville	0	3	0	.000	17	75

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	3	0	0	1.000	65	41
Baltimore	3	0	0	1.000	81	28
Cleveland	2	1	0	.667	63	41
Cincinnati	1	2	0	.333	63	76

West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Oakland	3	0	0	1.000	69	50
Kansas City	1	2	0	.333	62	61
Denver	1	3	0	.250	49	66
L.A. Chargers	0	3	0	.000	45	59

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	3	0	0	1.000	88	58
Dallas	2	1	0	.667	57	27
Washington	1	2	0	.333	42	60
Philadelphia	1	2	0	.333	49	63

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Tampa Bay	2	1	0	.667	57	56
New Orleans	2	1	0	.667	72	64
Carolina	1	2	0	.333	40	50
Atlanta	0	4	0	.000	54	89

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Minnesota	3	0	0	1.000	79	53
Green Bay	1	2	0	.333	62	74
Chicago	1	2	0	.333	53	72
Detroit	0	3	0	.000	46	85

Arizona	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Arizona	1	2	0	.333	52	66

Thursday's Games

Indianapolis at Cincinnati, 4 p.m.
Minnesota at Buffalo, 4 p.m.
Atlanta at Jacksonville, 4 p.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Jets, 4 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Carolina, 4 p.m.
Baltimore at Washington, 4:30 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at New England, 4:30 p.m.
Detroit at Cleveland, 4:30 p.m.
Kansas City at Green Bay, 5 p.m.
Miami at New Orleans, 5 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Dallas, 5 p.m.
Tennessee at Chicago, 5 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Houston, 5 p.m.
Arizona at Denver, 6 p.m.
Oakland at Seattle, 7 p.m.
L.A. Chargers at San Francisco, 7 p.m.

TENNIS

U.S. OPEN RESULTS

Wednesday
At USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center
New York
Purse: \$57,238,700
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor
NEW YORK (AP) — Results Wednesday from the U.S. Open at USTA Billie Jean

King National Tennis Center (seedings in parentheses):

Men's Singles
Second Round
Grigor Dimitrov, Bulgaria, def. Borna Coric (12), Croatia, walkover.
Kei Nishikori (7), Japan, def. Bradley Klahn, United States, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, 7-5.
Roger Federer (3), Switzerland def. Damir Dzumhur, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 3-6, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.
Cristian Garin (31), Chile, vs. Alex de Minaur, Australia, 0-1, susp.
Novak Djokovic (1), Serbia def. Juan Ignacio Londero, Argentina, 6-4, 7-6 (3), 6-1.

Women's Singles
Second Round
Karolina Pliskova (3), Czech Republic, def. Mariam Bolkvadze, Georgia, 6-1, 6-4.
Elina Svitolina (5), Ukraine def. Venus Williams, United States, 6-4, 6-4.
Madison Keys (10), United States def. Lin Zhu, China, 6-4, 6-1
Kristina Mladenovic, France, vs. Fiona Ferro, France, 0-0, susp.
Alison van Uytvanck, Belgium, vs. Qiang Wang (18), China, 1-0, susp.
Maria Sakkari (30), Greece, vs. Shuai Peng, China, 1-1, susp.
Ashleigh Barty (2), Australia def. Lauren Davis, United States, 6-2, 7-6 (2).

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