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Kathy Aney/East Oregonian, File

Calf roper Trevor Brazile, of Decatur, Texas, competes Sept. 11, 2019, at the Pendleton Round-Up. The seven-time winner of the Round-Up's all-around crown plans to remain retired and not defend the title.

End of an era

Brazile will not defend Pendleton all-around title

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Trevor Brazile likes to go to rodeos that get his blood pumping. Put the Pendleton Round-Up on that list.

The Texas cowboy has been a regular at Pendleton since 1997, and his last trip to Pendleton in 2019 resulted in his seventh all-around title.

Fans better have enjoyed the show, because Brazile will not be making a run for an eighth title this fall.

Brazile, who has 26 world titles to his credit, said July 30, 2021, that he would not be competing for an eighth all-around title, leaving the door open for the likes of Stetson Wright, Tuf Cooper and others.

"It will be the hardest one not to go to," Brazile said of the Pendleton Round-Up. "Since I've not gone to any others, it doesn't make sense to go now."

Brazile, who announced his semi-retirement in December 2018, has not competed at all this year. He limited his rodeos to a few favorites in 2019, and only decided to compete at the Pendleton Round-Up in 2019 after he found out he was being inducted into the Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon Hall of Fame.

The King of Cowboys is at peace with his decision to retire.

"There are times I miss it, but I



Kathy Aney/East Oregonian, File

Trevor Brazile takes a victory lap Sept. 14, 2019, after winning All-Around Champion Cowboy at the Pendleton Round-Up for the seventh time.

think I got my fill," Brazile said. "I don't have any withdrawals."

Retirement from competing does not mean Brazile, 44, gets to kick back every day and binge watch television.

"I ride 10 to 12 horses a day," he said. "I have been training a lot

of young horses. I rope every day. Not much has changed. I just don't compete."

Brazile tended to borrow horses from other cowboys on the road, but he did have a few quality horses of his own. He has sold some of his stock.

"It wasn't terrible liquidating," he said. "It would be worse for me to go to the barn and see them not doing what they were trained to do."

Brazile has been a member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association since 1995, and the long rodeo season can take its toll on the best of cowboys. Brazile said it has been nice to take the long drives out of his schedule.

"My body feels better," he said. "I'm not sitting in a truck for 12-hour drives. It has been a lot of fun to be home."

Brazile and his wife Shada have three children — Treston, 13, Style, 11, and Swayzi who is 5.

Treston and Style both play basketball, and Treston also plays football and baseball.

Brazile said his son is starting to take an interest in roping, but it is not something he pushes.

"He didn't have anything to do with it for a while," Brazile said. "I'm leaving it to him."

Over his lengthy career, Brazile qualified for the National Finals Rodeo 31 times between tie-down roping and team roping, and the National Finals Steer Roping 23 times.

He won 26 world titles between all-around, tie-down, team roping and steer roping (AA 2002-04, 2006-15, 2018; TD 2007, 2009-10; TR 2010; SR 2006-07, 2011, 2013-15, 2019-20).

He's won more titles and earned more money in his career than any other cowboy, with more than \$7 million.

Most of his accomplishments are lost on his kids except one — being a dad.

"The kids were all pretty young," he said of his career. "They just like going to see friends and going to the water parks and rodeos."

EOU SOCCER

2 Mac-Hi soccer players headed to EOU

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

MILTON-FREEWATER — Eastern Oregon University men's soccer coach Jesse Watson pulled in quite a haul this summer, signing 16 players to his team.

Of the group, five are transfer students and 11 are true freshmen, including Hector Castillo and Rolando Castillo of McLoughlin High School.

Hector Castillo, a 6-foot, 155-pound defender, was a first-team all-Greater Oregon League pick in 2020, and a second-team pick in 2019. He also competed and lettered in basketball, football and track for the Pioneers.

In the classroom, he was named a scholar-athlete twice in soccer and basketball, and once in football. He plans to major in business at Eastern.

"We are going to be in a lot of trouble with him gone," Mac-Hi coach Jose Garcia said. "He did a lot of work for us in the back. He led our defenders, and when we needed to attack, he made that happen. I'm hoping he does well there. It's totally different, but once he adapts, he can be an asset to that team."

The 5-10, 160-pound Rolando Castillo (Hector's cousin) was an all-GOL midfielder for the Pioneers, but he can also play defense. He was a multiple letter winner in soccer and plans to major in physical activity and health.

"When we would have good strikers playing against us, we would move him back to defense," Garcia said. "He was one of our leading scorers last year. He's a hard worker and he has gotten a lot better than when I got him as a sophomore."

Garcia said both players received scholarships at EOU.

"They are getting a big chunk of money, which is a plus," Garcia said. "Get an education and play the game you love."

Garcia has known Watson for years, and said the former Pioneers will be put to work.

"Jesse is a very tough and demanding coach," Garcia said. "He demands more than you can give. He pushes his players to be successful, and he cares about his players."

SPORTS SHORT

Carmelo joins LeBron's Lakers to seek ring

LOS ANGELES — Carmelo Anthony and LeBron James have dreamed about teaming up in the NBA since they entered the league together 18 years ago.

They're finally getting the chance on the remarkably mature new roster of the Los Angeles Lakers.

The 37-year-old Anthony agreed to a one-year deal with the Lakers on Tuesday, Aug. 3, agent Aaron Mintz confirmed to The Associated Press.

The 10th-leading scorer in NBA history will join James, the third-leading scorer, along-

side eight-time All-Star Anthony Davis and former MVP Russell Westbrook for what should be a fascinating season in Los Angeles.

If the Lakers don't win another NBA title, they'll at least be strong candidates for gold medals in London: They'll have one-third of the 2012 U.S. Olympic team's roster in purple and gold, with fellow Olympian Kobe Bryant from above the Staples Center floor.

Anthony, a 10-time All-Star, essentially told the world about

the deal earlier on social media by posting a video with his nickname, "Melo," and the Lakers logo. Free agent deals can't become official until Friday, but Anthony can't wait to get started on what might be his last, best chance to win an NBA title.

Anthony and James have been friends since high school, and they were part of the star-studded 2003 draft class. James went first overall to the Cleveland Cavaliers out of high school, while Anthony was the third pick by the Denver Nuggets after leading Syracuse to its first NCAA title.



Jack Dempsey/The Associated Press, File

Portland forward Carmelo Anthony points to a teammate during a game against the Denver Nuggets on May 22, 2021.