

## TRACK &amp; FIELD

## Hayward reopens for Premiere meet

The new Hayward Field will reopen to track and field competition Friday as the Oregon Ducks play host for the Hayward Premiere meet.

Reconstruction of the revered venue at the University of Oregon began in June 2018. Work was completed in June 2020.

No meets have been held at Hayward Field for the past nine months amid the pandemic. But with the start of the 2021 outdoor track and field season, Hayward's re-opening has arrived.

The Ducks will compete against more than a dozen other track and field teams at the Hayward Premiere. Oregon State, Portland, Portland State and Washington State are among the participating schools include. The meet will be livestreamed on runner-space.com.

UO is currently allowing only guests of players and coaches to attend events at Hayward Field.

The Premiere is the first of four meets the Ducks will host at Hayward before the NCAA championships return to the venue from June 9-12.

The West Coast Classic is set for April 17, followed by the Oregon Relays on April 23-24 and the Oregon Twilight on May 7.

Hayward Field is scheduled to host the U.S. Olympic trials for track and field from June 18-27, ahead of this summer's Tokyo Olympics. The 2022 World Athletics Championships are coming to Hayward in July 2022.

—The Oregonian

## MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## Garza, Howard win AP awards

Luka Garza, the 6-foot-11, 265-pound senior center for Iowa is The Associated Press men's college basketball national player of the year after finishing second last season. He was the runaway choice for the award announced Thursday, receiving 50 of 63 votes from AP Top 25 voters.

Ayo Dosunmu, who led Illinois to the Big Ten Tournament title and a No. 1 NCAA seed, was second with six votes, followed by Oklahoma State freshman Cade Cunningham with three. Gonzaga's Corey Kispert and Baylor's Jared Butler each earned two votes.

Garza ranked second nationally by averaging 24.1 points with 8.7 rebounds.

Garza finished as the career scoring leader (2,306) at Iowa, which will retire his No. 55 jersey.

Also Thursday, Michigan coach Juwan Howard was named AP men's college basketball coach of the year, receiving 35 of 63 votes from a national media panel. Gonzaga's Mark Few was second with 16 votes, and Baylor's Scott Drew and Alabama's Nate Oats each received five.

The Wolverines reached as high as No. 2 in the AP Top 25 and finished No. 4 after a 19-3 regular season.

Also Thursday, North Carolina head coach Roy Williams surprised many when he announced his retirement after 18 seasons with the Tar Heels and 33 overall as a head coach. Williams said he came to the decision because he no longer feels that "he is the right man for the job."

—Associated Press

## PREP GIRLS SOCCER

## Bend, Summit tie in rubber match

Bears, Storm draw 2-2 in 3rd meeting of season

BY BRIAN RATHBONE  
The Bulletin

Jamie Brock does not often get nervous coaching a game. But late in Thursday afternoon's match against Bend High, the Summit girls soccer coach found her hand shaking as senior Molly Beaulieu lined up for a penalty kick.

Beaulieu's kick found the back of the net to even the score at 2-2, which would prove to be the final score in the third game this season between the Storm and the Lava Bears.

The three-game series between the two rival schools ended as Thursday's game did — in a tie.

"It was nice to play a rival and it means something," Brock said. "It doesn't always end how you want, but it is not what you wouldn't want either."

Each team entered Thursday's match with a single loss. Summit beat Bend in the first match 3-0 on March 12, then the Lava Bears returned the



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

Summit's Grace Gardner (19) and Bend's Peyton Gardner (15) fight for possession of the ball during the first half Thursday.

"It was nice to play a rival and it means something. It doesn't always end how you want, but it is not what you wouldn't want either."

— Jamie Brock, Summit girls soccer coach

favor with a 6-1 win over the Storm five days later.

"We would have liked to get that last one," said Bend coach Gavin Meyers. "But Summit is a good team and it feels good to battle against them."

Summit got on the board first when sophomore Joe Porter found the back of the net. But it was not long before senior Katelyn Jolley got behind Summit's backline to score her first goal of the match for Bend.

"The first goal the ball got over the defense and I was able to run up on to it," Jolley said. "Then I had an open shot at the goal."

"It makes our intensity go up," Jolley added about how the game changed once Bend was down a goal. "It makes the adrenaline come, you get nervous, but we have to make sure we stay composed."

See Soccer / B4

## WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL | FINAL FOUR



Stephen Spillman/AP file

Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer speaks with guard Kiana Williams during a game against Oklahoma State in the second round of the women's NCAA Tournament in San Antonio on March 23.

## Stanford's VanDerveer, South Carolina's Staley prepare for rematch

BY DOUG FEINBERG  
AP Basketball Writer

SAN ANTONIO — Dawn Staley remembers talking to her Olympic coach Tara VanDerveer before she took the job at Temple two decades ago.

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• Arizona's McDonald, UConn's Bueckers lead teams in Final Four, B5

she was still playing in the WNBA and wouldn't have the time to do both well.

Twenty-one years later and Staley admits she still has a bit of a chip on her shoulder about that conversation and has used it as motivation both at Temple and now South Carolina.

"I don't look down on her because she put that chip on my shoulder," Staley said. "I just needed that, the past 21 years. I thank her for making the chip a little bit bigger."

The two friends meet Friday night in the Final Four when VanDerveer and Stanford take on Staley's Gamecocks.

VanDerveer said she has the utmost respect for her former Olympic point guard.

"As a player, she saw the game so well she really has great instincts, a great understanding of the game," VanDerveer said Thursday. "She's a great leader of her team."

VanDerveer knew when she was coaching Staley in the 1996 Atlanta Games that she would be successful in whatever occupation she chose.

See Final Four / B5

## MLB | OPENING DAY

## Snow, stars, fans and a virus postponement

BY BEN WALKER  
AP Baseball Writer

Miguel Cabrera took a trot, eventually, in the snow at Comerica Park. Mookie Betts started the champion Los Angeles Dodgers with a hit at Coors Field. And the Bleacher Creatures did their thing at Yankee Stadium.

All-Stars on the diamond for opening day, fans in the socially distanced stands eager to cheer them.

"Just having those smells hit you, walking in and having that experience back, it's invigorating," Tonia Smith of Sussex, Wisconsin, said Thursday before Milwaukee hosted Minnesota.

Along with the hits, runs and errors, there was a stark reminder of what baseball went through last year.

The New York Mets' game in Washington — a prime pitching matchup between Jacob deGrom and Max Scherzer — was postponed because of COVID-19 concerns. Nationals general manager Mike Rizzo later said three players had tested positive for the virus and a fourth was considered a "likely positive."

"It's one of those things that brings it to light that we're not through it yet," Atlanta manager Brian Snitker said. "We're still fighting this. We have to tend to business and not let up. It's just a reminder that this thing is still out there and real."

Major League Baseball had 45 games postponed because of the coronavirus last season during the shortened, 60-game schedule, when fans weren't allowed. No games were lost in spring training this year, but that streak didn't last long.

At Fenway Park, the opener

between the Boston Red Sox and Baltimore was called because rain was in the forecast. They'll start up Friday instead.

"One day, two days, three days — I really don't care, to be honest with you," Red Sox manager Alex Cora said. "I know there are a lot of guys that are excited, but I think it's for the best. Tomorrow will be a better day weather-wise."

There were flurries in Cincinnati, where St. Louis newcomer Nolan Arenado singled during a six-run burst in the first inning during an 11-6 win. It was 36 degrees at Wrigley Field as heralded rookie Ke'Bryan Hayes homered to help Pittsburgh beat the Chicago Cubs 5-3.

And the field looked better suited for snowballs than baseballs in Detroit where it was 32 degrees when Cabrera connected for his 488th career home run. The flakes



Shafkat Anwar/AP

A family poses for a photo outside of Wrigley Field on opening day ahead of a game between the Chicago Cubs and the Pittsburgh Pirates on Thursday in Chicago. From New York to Seattle and everywhere in between, fans are back at the ballpark after they were shut out during the regular season last year because of the coronavirus pandemic.

were coming down so hard, Cabrera couldn't tell if the ball left the park, and he slid into second base, just in case.

"It was almost kind of laughable for everybody that we were playing baseball in an environment like that," new Tigers manager A.J. Hinch said after a 3-2 win over Cleveland. "It would come and go, then it got kind of warm when the sun came out. It's always fun on opening day to take those mental snapshots and enjoy the moment."

A quick note for weather watchers: Yes, MLB has tried in the past to open the season with all games in warmer climates and cities with domes. Fact is, it doesn't work out that easily. Teams don't always enjoy starting out on the road.

Clayton Kershaw and the champion Dodgers were in Denver, where it was a picture-perfect 70 degrees.

See MLB / B4