## ON THE AIR

## **WEDNESDAY**

HORSE RACING	Time	TV
America's Day at the Races	9:30 a.m.	FS2
BASEBALL		
MLB, Miami at Milwaukee	10:30 a.m.	MLB
MLB, Cincinnati at L.A. Dodgers	1:30 p.m.	MLB
MLB, Chicago Cubs at Atlanta	4 p.m.	FS1
MLB, Seattle at Houston	5 p.m.	Root
MLB, regional coverage	7 p.m.	MLB
GOLF		
PGA Professional Championship	noon	Golf
LPGA Tour, HSBC World Championship	7:30 p.m.	Golf
SOCCER		
UEFA Champions League,		
Paris Saint-Germain vs. Manchester City	noon	CBSSN
CONCACAF Champions League quarterfinal,		
Columbus Crew vs. CF Monterrey	5:30 p.m.	FS2
CONCACAF Champions League,	7.20	FC1
Portland Timbers vs. América	7:30 p.m.	FS1
HOCKEY	4	NIDCCNI
NHL, St. Louis at Minnesota	4 p.m.	NBCSN
NHL, Colorado at Vegas	6:30 p.m.	NBCSN
BASKETBALL	4.20	ECDN
NBA, L.A. Lakers at Washington	4:30 p.m.	ESPN
NBA, Portland at Memphis	6 p.m.	NBCSNW
NBA, L.A. Clippers at Phoenix	7 p.m.	ESPN
TENNIS		
ATP/WTA: Madrid, Munich, Estoril	2 a.m. (Thu)	Tennis
ATP/WTA: Madrid, Munich, Estoril	3 a.m. (Thu)	Tennis
THURSDAY		
GOLF		
European Tour, Tenerife Open	6 a.m.	Golf
PGA Tour, Valspar Championship	11 a.m.	Golf
LPGA Tour, HSBC World Championship	7:30 p.m.	Golf
HORSE RACING		

9:30 a.m.

10 a.m.

11 a.m.

4 p.m.

4 p.m.

8:30 p.m.

11 a.m.

5 p.m.

5 p.m.

6 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

FS2

MLB

Root

MLB

SEC

MLB

Big Ten

Big Ten

Big Ten

**NBCSN** 

**NBCSN** 

FSPN2

Listings are the most accurate available. The Bulletin is not responsible for late changes made by TV stations.

# **SPORTS BRIEFING**

America's Day at the Races

MLB, regional coverage

MLB, Seattle at Houston

MLB, regional coverage

College, Auburn at Georgia

MLB, Colorado at Arizona (joined in progress)

Women's college, Big Ten, Rutgers vs. Ohio St.

Big Ten, Johns Hopkins vs. Penn St.

Women's college, Big Ten, Maryland vs. Michigan 2 p.m.

BASEBALL

**LACROSSE** 

**HOCKEY** 

Women's college,

NHL, Florida at Chicago

**MIXED MARTIAL ARTS** 

NHL, Calgary at Edmonton

Professional Fighters League

# SOFTBALL

Oregon stays in top 10 after splitting series with **Stanford** — Oregon dropped in the polls but remains in the top 10 after splitting four games with Stanford. The Ducks

(30-10, 8-7 Pac-12) are No. 8 with 559 points in the NFCA coaches poll and No. 10 with 322 points in the USA Softball poll after taking two of four games against the Cardinal. That's down from No. 6 with 613 points and tied for No. 7 with 365 points last week, respectively. Oregon travels to No. 12/8 Arizona State (28-11, 9-6) starting Friday at 5 p.m.

# **FOOTBALL**

Fans not allowed to attend Oregon spring game Sat**urday at Autzen** — Anthony Brown and other Ducks were looking forward to the family reunion aspect of Saturday's spring game as much as the competitive intra-squad showcase. "Especially that my parents will be able to come here and see me play in the stadium that I always grew up wanting to play in," Brown said of looking forward to quarterbacking the first-team offense for the first time at Autzen Stadium. Oregon had planned to allow 15% capacity for the game at Autzen Stadium (2 p.m., Pac-12 Networks). But two hours after Brown's post-practice media interview, the athletic department announced that fans will not be permitted due to directives from the Governor's Office tied to Lane County's move to the designation of "extreme risk." Passes previously claimed for the spring game will not be valid for admittance.

Geno Hayes, former NFL, Florida State linebacker, **dies at 33** — Geno Hayes, a former NFL linebacker who starred at Florida State, has died. He was 33. He had liver disease and had been in hospice care at his parents' home in Valdosta, Georgia. Hayes spent four seasons with the Bucs, who drafted him in the sixth round in 2008. He then played one year with Chicago and two with Jacksonville. In an interview with ESPN this year, Hayes said he was diagnosed with chronic liver disease two years ago and had been placed on a waiting list for a transplant at the Mayo Clinic and Northwestern Medicine.

# SOCCER

# Israeli referee comes out as transgender woman —

An Israeli soccer referee has come out as transgender and is living — and enforcing the rules of the game — as the only woman in the country's top-shelf league. Sapir Berman announced Tuesday she has received the support of her family, the local referees' union and Israeli and international soccer officials. She said players and fans have begun to address her as a woman. On Sunday, Berman will be the head referee for a playoff match between heavyweight teams Hapoel Haifa and Beitar Jerusalem. It will be a marquee event on Berman's lifelong road to living, as she said Tuesday, as herself. "I always saw myself as a woman, from a young age," Berman, whose birth name was "Sagi," told reporters at Ramat Gan Stadium, headquarters of the Israel Football Association.

– Bulletin wire reports



## **MEGA MILLIONS** The numbers drawn Tuesday night are:

(15)(22)(30)(41)(42)(25)(4)

The estimated jackpot is now \$297 million.

As listed at www.oregonlottery.org and individual lottery websites

# **SCOREBOARD**

### **ON DECK**

### Prep sports WEDNESDAY

Baseball: Molalla at Madras, 4:30 p.m.; Culver at

Santiam, 4:30 p.m.
Softball: Madras at Molalla, 4:30 p.m.; Sisters at Philomath, 4:30 p.m.; Western Christian at Culver, 4 p.m. Boys tennis: Redmond at The Dalles, 3 p.m.; Pendleton at Crook County, 3 p.m.; Ridgeview at Hood River Girls tennis: The Dalles at Redmond, 3 p.m.; Hood

River Valley at Ridgeview, 3 p.m. **Boys golf:** La Pine Invitational, at Crosswater, 12:30

m.

Girls golf: Summit Invitational, at Lost Tracks, noon.

Track and field: Ridgeview at Mountain View, TBD; Summit at Bend, TBD. THURSDAY Baseball: Mountain View at Bend, 4:30 p.m.: Estacada at Madras, 4:30 p.m.; Woodburn at Sisters, 4:30 p.m. Softball: Bend at Ridgeview, 4:30 p.m.: Madras at

Estacada, 4:30 p.m.; Newport at Sisters, 4:30 p.m. **Boys tennis:** Bend at Summit, 4 p.m. Girls tennis: Summit at Bend, 4 p.m.; Corbett at Sisters, 4 p.m.

## **PREPS**

## Baseball

Tuesday's Games Mountain View 7, Crook County 0 Redmond vs. Summit, late Hood River Valley 5, Ridgeview 0 Santiam Christian 9, La Pine 5

## Softball

Monday's Late Games Madras 5, Molalla 4 Cascade 6, Sisters 3

Tuesday's Games Summit vs. Redmond, late Crook County 12, Mountain View 2 Hood River Valley 12, Ridgeview 6 Santiam Christian 17, La Pine 0

**Boys tennis** Tuesday's Matches Rend at Mountain View, late

**Girls tennis** Tuesday's Matches Bend 6, Mountain View 0 Sisters at Stayton, late

## **BASEBALL**

	ML	В		
	AMERICAN	LEAGUE		
	East Div			
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	15	9	.625	_
Tampa Bay	12	12	.500	3
Toronto	11	11	.500	3
Baltimore	10	13	.435	41/2
New York	10	13	.435	41/2
	Central D	ivision		
	W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City	14	8	.636	_
Chicago	12	9	.571	11/2
Cleveland	11	11	.500	3
Minnesota	7	15	.318	7
Detroit	7	16	.304	71/2
	West Di	vision		
	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	15	9	.625	_
Seattle	13	11	.542	2
Houston	12	11	.522	21/2
Los Angeles	11	11	.500	3
Texas	10	14	.417	5
	Mandaula La		_	

L.A. Angels 9, Texas 4 Houston 5, Seattle 2

Pittsburgh 2, Kansas City Cleveland 7. Minnesota 4 Boston 2, N.Y. Mets 1 N.Y. Yankees 5, Baltimore 1 Toronto 9, Washington 5 Tampa Bay 4, Oakland 3 Houston 2, Seattle 0 Texas 6, L.A. Angels 1

Iexas 6, L.A. Angels 1
Detroit at Chicago White Sox, late

Wednesday's Games

Minnesota (Happ 1-0) at Cleveland (Allen 1-3), 10:10 a.m.
Kansas City (Minor 2-1) at Pittsburgh (Keller 1-2), 3:35 p.m.
Boston (Pivetta 2-0) at NJY. Mets (deGrom 2-1), 3:40 p.m. N.Y. Yankees (Germán 1-2) at Baltimore (Kremer 0-1),

4:05 p.m. Washington (Fedde 1-2) at Toronto (Matz 4-0), 4:07 p.m L.A. Angels (Cobb 1-1) at Texas (Dunning 1-0), 5:05 p.m. Detroit (Mize 1-2) at Chicago White Sox (Rodón 3-0), 5:10 p.m. Seattle (Dunn 1-0) at Houston (Greinke 2-1), 5:10 p.m.

	NATIONAL			
	East Div	ision		
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	9	9	.500	_
Atlanta	11	12	.478	1/2
Philadelphia	11	12	.478	1/2
Miami	10	13	.435	11/2
Washington	8	12	.400	2
	Central D	ivision		
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	14	9	.609	_
Pittsburgh	12	11	.522	2
St. Louis	12	11	.522	2
Cincinnati	10	12	.455	31/2
Chicago	10	13	.435	4
	West Div	/ision		
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	15	8	.652	_
San Francisco	15	8	.652	_
San Diego	13	11	.542	21/2
Arizona	11	11	.500	31/2
Colorado	8	14	.364	61/2
	Monday's La	te Game	!S	

Miami 8, Milwaukee 0 San Francisco 12, Colorado 0 Cincinnati 5, L.A. Dodgers 3, 10 innings
Tuesday's Games

Pittsburgh 2, Kansas City 1 Boston 2, N.Y. Mets 1 Toronto 9, Washington 5 Atlanta 5, Chicago Cubs 0 St. Louis 5, Philadelphia 2 Milwaukee 5, Miami 4 San Diego at Arizona, late Colorado at San Francisco, late Cincinnati at L.A. Dodgers, late

Wednesday's Games Miami (Alcantara 0-2) at Milwaukee (TBD), 10:40 a.m. Cincinnati (Gray 0-1) at L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 3-2),

Kansas City (Minor 2-1) at Pittsburgh (Keller 1-2), 3:35 p.m. Boston (Pivetta 2-0) at N.Y. Mets (deGrom 2-1), 3:40 p.m. Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 1-2) at Atlanta (Ynoa 1-1), 4:20 p.m.

Philadelphia (Velasquez 0-0) at St. Louis (Oviedo 0-0), 4:45 p.m.

San Diego (Weathers 1-0) at Arizona (Widener 1-0). 6:40 p.m. Colorado (Márquez 1-1) at San Francisco (Wood 2-0), 6:45 p.m.

## **BASKETBALL**

	NB	A		
EAST	ERN CO	NFERENC	Œ	
	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Brooklyn	42	20	.677	_
Phila.	40	21	.656	11/2
Milwaukee	38	23	.623	31/2
New York	34	28	.548	8
Atlanta	34	28	.548	8
Boston	32	30	.516	10
Miami	32	30	.516	10
Charlotte	30	31	.492	11½
Indiana	29	32	.475	121/2
Washington	27	34	.443	141/2
Chicago	26	35	.426	151/2
Toronto	26	36	.419	16
Cleveland	21	40	.344	201/2
Detroit	19	43	.306	23
Orlando	18	43	.295	231/2
WEST	ERN CO			
	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Utah	44	17	.721	_
Phoenix	43	18	.705	1
L.A. Clippers	43	20	.683	2
Denver	40	21	.656	4
L.A. Lakers	36	25	.590	8
Dallas	33	27	.550	101/2
Portland	33	28	.541	11
Memphis	31	29	.517	121/2
San Antonio	31	29	.517	121/2
Golden State	31	30	.508	13
New Orleans	27	34	.443	17
Sacramento	25	36	.410	19
Oklahoma City	21	41	.339	231/2
Minnesota	18	44	.290	261/2
Houston	15	46	.246	29
x-clinched playoff sp				
Mon	day's La	te Game	5	

Denver 120, Memphis 96 Sacramento 113, Dallas 106 Tuesday's Games Portland 133, Indiana 112 Milwaukee 114, Charlotte 104 Oklahoma City 119, Boston 115

Minnesota at Houston, late Dallas at Golden State, late Wednesday's Games Atlanta at Phila., 4 p.m. Orlando at Cleveland, 4 p.m. Charlotte at Boston, 4:30 p.m

Brooklyn 116, Toronto 103

L.A. Lakers at Washington, 4:30 p.m San Antonio at Miami, 5 p.m. New Orleans at Denver, 6 p.m. Portland at Memphis, 6 p.m.

# Trail Blazers 133, Pacers 112 PORTLAND (133)

mah 2-2 2-2 6, A.Holiday 1-7 2-2 4, McConnell 4-8 0-0 9

34 39 40 20 — 133 Portland Indiana 3-Point Goals—Portland 20-35 (Simons 9-10, Lillard 4-8, Covington 3-5, McCollum 2-4, Giles III 1-2, Elleby 0-2, Little 0-2), Indiana 10-30 (Brissett 4-7, Martin 2-2, J.Holiday 1-3, Sumner 1-3, Brogdon 1-7, A.Holiday 0-2, LeVert 0-2, McDermott 0-2). **Fouled Out**—None Rebounds—Portland 57 (Kanter 14), Indiana 38 (Brissett 10). Assists—Portland 26 (Lillard 6), Indiana 25 (McConnell 6). Total Fouls—Portland 19, Indiana 17. A-0 (20.000)

			MLS				
	EA	STERN	CON	FERE	NCE		
		W	L	T	Pts	GF	GΑ
	Montreal	1	0	1	4	6	4
	Atlanta	1	0	1	4	3	1
	New England	1	0	1	4	3	2
	NY City FC	1	1	0	3	6	2 2 4
	Inter Miami CF	1	1	0	3	4	4
	D.C. United	1	1	0	3	2	2
	Nashville	0	0	2	2	4	4
	Orlando City	0	0	2	2	1	1
	Columbus <sup>*</sup>	0	0	1	1	0	0
	Phila.	0	1	1	1	1	2
	Toronto FC	0	1	1	1	4	6 5 7
	Chicago Cincinnati	0	1	1	1	3	5
		0	1	1	1	2	7
	New York	0	2	0	0	3	5
	WE	STERN					
		W	L	Т	Pts	GF	GΑ
	LA Galaxy	2	0	0	6	6	4
	Seattle	1	0	1	4	5	1
	LA FC	1	0	1	4	3	1
	Sporting KC	1	0	1	4	3	2
	Vancouver	1	0	1	4	3	2 2 3
	San Jose	1	1	0	3	4	3
	Real SL	1	0	0	3	2	1
	Austin	1	1	0	3	3	3
ı	Houston	1	1	Λ	2	2	2

Sporting KC at Real SL, 11 a.m. Columbus at Montreal, noon LA FC at Houston, 12:30 p.m. Atlanta at New England, 4 p.m. Cincinnati at Orlando City, 4:30 p.m. NY City FC at Phila., 4:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games Miami at Nashville, 10 a.m. LA Galaxy at Seattle, 6 p.m. Colorado at Vancouver, 7 p.m

NHL							
EAST	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	49	32	13	4	68	171	144
Pittsburgh	50	32	15	3	67	170	138
N.Y. Islanders	49	29	15	5	63	136	114
Boston	48	28	14	6	62	139	119
N.Y. Rangers	50	26	18	6	58	167	132
Philadelphia	49	22	20	7	51	140	177
New Jersey	49	15	27	7	37	127	174
Buffalo	50	13	30	7	33	122	174
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	G/
x-Carolina	49	32	10	7	71	161	119
x-Florida	51	32	14	5	69	166	141
x-Tampa Bay	49	33	14	2	68	167	129
Nashville	51	27	22	2	56	141	146
Dallas	49	21	16	12	54	140	129
Chicago	49	22	22	5	49	139	158
Detroit	51	17	25	9	43	115	159
Columbus	51	16	25	10	42	122	170

L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 7 p.m. Utah at Sacramento, 7 p.m.

## Tuesday's Box Score

# Covington 6-12 0-0 15, Powell 0-6 0-0 0, Nurkic 4-10 3-5 11, Lillard 6-14 7-7 23, McCollum 9-13 0-0 20, Anthony 5-6 2-2 13, Hollis-Jefferson 1-2 0-0 2, Jones Jr. 0-0 0-0 0, Leaf 1-1 0-0 2, Giles III 2-5 0-0 5, Elleby 1-3 0-0 2, Little 0-5 1-2 1, Kanter 6-14 0-0 12, Blevins 0-2 0-0 0, Simons 9-13 0-0 27. Totals 50-106 13-16 133.

9-13 0-0 27. **IOTAIS 30-106 13-16 133. INDIANA (112)**Brissett 5-11 4-6 18, Sumner 1-6 1-2 4, Sampson 3-5 0-0 6, Brogdon 5-14 7-7 18, LeVert 7-14 2-2 16, Martin 3-4 1-2 9, McDermott 6-9 1-3 13, J.Holiday 2-4 0-0 5, Bri Stanley 1-2 2-2 4. **Totals 40-86 22-28 112.** 

35 27 16 34 — 112

## **SOCCER** MIC

Portland Colorado FC Dallas Minnesota United NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie. Saturday's Games Chicago at New York, 10 a.m.

Portland at FC Dallas, 5 p.m. Austin at Minnesota, 5 p.m. D.C. United at San Jose, 8 p.m

# **HOCKEY**

NHL							
EAST	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	49	32	13	4	68	171	144
Pittsburgh	50	32	15	3	67	170	138
N.Y. Islanders	49	29	15	5	63	136	114
Boston	48	28	14	6	62	139	119
N.Y. Rangers	50	26	18	6	58	167	132
Philadelphia	49	22	20	7	51	140	177
New Jersey	49	15	27	7	37	127	174
Buffalo ´	50	13	30	7	33	122	174
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Carolina	49	32	10	7	71	161	119
x-Florida	51	32	14	5	69	166	141
x-Tampa Bay	49	33	14	2	68	167	129
Nashville	51	27	22	2	56	141	146
Dallas	49	21	16	12	54	140	129
Chicago	49	22	22	5	49	139	158
Detroit	51	17	25	9	43	115	159
Columbus	51	16	25	10	42	122	170

x-Vegas x-Colorado

Monday's Late Games Edmonton 6, Winnipeg 1

Los Angeles 4, Anaheim San Jose 6, Arizona 4 Tuesday's Games

N.Y. Rangers 3, Buffalo 1 Boston 3, Pittsburgh 1 Washington 1, N.Y. Islanders 0 Columbus 1, Detroit 0, SO New Jersey 6, Philadelphia 4 Tampa Bay 7, Chicago 4 Florida 7, Nashville 4 Carolina 5, Dallas 1

Wednesday's Games Vancouver at Ottawa, 2:30 p.m. St. Louis at Minnesota, 4 p.m. Toronto at Montreal, 5 p.m. Edmonton at Winnipeg, 6 p.m. Colorado at Vegas, 6:30 p.m. Anaheim at Los Angeles, 7 p.m Arizona at San Jose, 7:30 p.m.

# **DEALS**

## **Transactions** BASEBALL Major League Baseball

American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Optioned OF Ryan McKenna to alternate training site. Recalled INF Pat Valaika from alternate training site. Optioned RHP Jay Flaa to alternate training site

CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Recalled OF Luis Gonzalez and RHP Alex McRae from alternate training site. Placed

OF Luis Robert on the 10-day IL. KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Signed RHP Mike Shawaryn to a minor league contract. Optioned RHP Jake Newberry to alternate training site. Recalled 1B Rvan McBroom from

the alternate training site.

NEW YORK YANKEES — Recalled RHP Michael King from alternate training site. Optioned RHP Deivi Garcia to alternate training site. Acquired LHP Wandy Peralta and a player to be named later from San Francisco in exchange for OF Mike Tauchman. Recalled SS Tyler Wade from alternate training site.

SEATTLE MARINERS — Claimed INF Jack Mayfield off waivers from Los Angeles Angels and optioned to alternate training site. Transferred INF Shed Long Jr. from the 10-day IL to 60-day IL. National League

CHICAGO CUBS — Activated RHP Ryan Tepera.
CINCINNATI REDS — Optioned OF Mark Payton to alternate training site.

NEW YORK METS — Recalled SS Jose Peraza from al-

ternate training site. PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Activated OF Ka'ai Tom. Optioned INF Rodolfo Castro. SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Recalled OF Skye Bolt from

alternate training site.
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Placed C Yadier Molina on the 10-day IL. Recalled C Ali Sanchez from alter ing site.

## BASKETBALL National Basketball Association ORLANDO MAGIC — Signed F Moritz Wagner to a contract for remainder of the season.

FOOTBALL National Football League BUFFALO BILLS — Re-signed OL Ike Boettger. CHICAGO BEARS — Exercised LB Roquan Smith's fifth-

year option.

LAS VEGAS RAIDERS — Signed TE Carson Williams.

MIAMI DOLPHINS — Traded G Ereck Flowers to Washington.
PITTSBURGH STEELERS — Exercised DB Minkah Fitzpatrick's fifth-year option. SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Waived DL Josiah Coatney.

WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM — Exercised DT Da'Ron Payne's fifth-year option. Acquired G Ereck Flow-ers and the 258th pick in the 2021 NFL draft from Miami in exchange for the 244th pick in the 2021 NFL draft.

SOCCER

National Women's Soccer League
NJ/NY GOTHAM FC — Acquired F Allie Long from OL Reign in exchange for \$80,000 in allocation money and

# **Derby**

# Continued from A5

"There's not a lot of gray stallions and there's not a lot of gray mares," National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame communications director Brien Bouyea said. "A lot of the traditional breeding, I don't think anybody has anything against gray horses when it comes to breeding. There just haven't been a lot of stallions out there that have carried that genetic along."

Essential Quality could be on the leading edge of the next generation of speedy grays thanks to his sire, Tapit, who has fathered some strong horses so far and expected to produce more. Fellow Derby runner Soup and Sandwich also has Tapit

lineage on his mother's side. "Tapit is one of the most successful sires in the world right now and has been for a while and is getting some extremely talented mares sent to him, so likely those foals are going to race at higher levels," MacLeod said.

Grays could be even more prominent on the Triple Crown circuit in the coming years had it not been for the death of North American all-time money-earner Arrogate last June at age 7.

A 2-year-old filly sired by Arrogate recently sold for \$1 million, and Bouyea said

# **Essential Quality is 2-1 favorite**

Essential Quality is the 2-1 morning line favorite and will start from the No. 14 post for Saturday's 147th Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs.

The \$3 million, 11/4-mile marquee race for 3-year-colts is back on the first Saturday of May after being delayed to Labor Day weekend last fall because of the coronavirus pandemic. The race is expected to be viewed in-person by 45,000 spectators.

Rock Your World is the 5-1 second choice from the No. 15 slot with Known Agenda the 6-1 third choice despite drawing the rail in the 20-horse field. Hot Rod Charlie drew 8-1 odds as the fourth choice from the No. 9 slot.

some in the industry are eager to buy more of the champion horse's babies based on pedigree.

While the gray gene that affects a horse's color is dominant, meaning it only takes a copy from either the sire or dam for the foal to be gray, there's no link between a horse's appearance and running ability.

"All that needs to happen is you have to have a couple of really, really fast grays and then they get (bred) and then at least half

of their foals are gray," Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine professor of pathology and genetics Dr. D. Phillip Sponenberg said. "There's few of them. And it just takes a really, really stellar one to change that, and a stellar one hasn't come around."

Essential Quality could be stellar, and his next task is trying to win the Derby as the favorite. Trainer Brad Cox isn't worried what Essential Quality's coat looks like, other than he's draped in red roses Saturday night.

"He can't change his color," Cox said. "Tapit's a world-class sire that is due a Kentucky Derby winner, and I'm hopeful that Essential Quality can be his first. It's a talking point for some people, not me. It just doesn't really go into the equation of what we're trying. It doesn't limit his ability being gray at all."

It actually helps NBC announcer Larry Collmus distinguish between horses, especially in a crowded field of 20. Collmus expects to refer to at least Soup and Sandwich as "the gray" because of how light colored he is and knows he and Essential Quality will stand out in the race.

"You get a completely different picture," he said. "I think people just get a kick out of seeing gray horses because they're somewhat rare."

# 49ers

# Continued from A5

He has been impressed with Jones, Fields and Lance through the evaluation process that included pro days that Shanahan attended in person, as well as Zoom interviews where the QBs tried to show

their mastery of the offense on iPads. While Fields and Lance offer much more in the running game and have the athleticism of some of the current successful young quarterbacks such as Patrick Mahomes and Josh Allen, Shanahan has always maintained that the ability to win from the pocket is paramount.

"There's lots of different ways you can do it. I don't look at it as trends in the league," he said. "I look at it as there are some spe-

cial players or special people. I don't care when Drew Brees comes out, whether it's 30 years from now, 30 years ago or today, Drew is going to be pretty good. So is Philip Rivers. So are all these guys."

Shanahan said it would be great to find a passer such as Brees with the mobility of Lamar Jackson, but that every QB will be used differently and there's no clear-cut answer to which one is best.

"That's what so exciting about this year," he said. "I do see five guys. But no one's ever a slam dunk."

The Niners made this trade because they wanted an upgrade over Jimmy Garoppolo, who has been a capable quarterback when healthy but has also missed 23 games because of injuries the past three seasons.

Shanahan and Lynch were adamant at the time of the trade that the plan was for Garoppolo to remain the starter in 2021. That stance has appeared to soften with Shanahan saying he "can't guarantee that anybody in the world will be alive Sunday, so I can't guarantee who will be on our roster on Sunday."

Garoppolo is owed \$24.1 million this season but none of that salary is guaranteed, making it easy for the Niners to get out of the deal if they want. Garoppolo does have a no-trade clause, which gives him say in where he plays next if San Francisco chooses to go a different direction.

"He's taking part in our virtual meetings, plans on being at the workouts," Lynch said. "Jimmy's been completely professional, as he always has been with us."