

NBA

Blazers to allow 10% fan capacity

The Portland Trail Blazers have received permission from the state to allow 10% fan capacity at the Moda Center for their four remaining regular-season home games.

Fans will be allowed to return to the Moda Center for the first time in nearly 14 months when the Blazers face the Los Angeles Lakers on Friday night.

According to a source, tickets will be offered to season-ticket holders based on tenure, along with players' family members and sponsors. Some tickets also will be available to the general public.

The total number of tickets available would be about 1,900. Moda holds 19,393 for basketball games. Capacity could increase to as much as 20% (3,800 fans) for home play-off games, a source said.

The news came the same day that Portland Trail Blazers stars Damian Lillard and CJ McCollum had expressed annoyance that the team seemingly would not be allowed to have fans this season because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lillard tweeted out a rhetorical question Tuesday, asking, "So, we gone be the only damn team in the whole league with no fans?"

Then McCollum chimed in with: "Wonder why we got a better record on the road."

The Blazers (36-29) are 16-16 at the Moda Center and 20-13 on the road.

Of the 30 NBA teams, 27 have already had fans at games. Oklahoma City has opted out of possibly allowing fans. The Bulls will be allowing fans this week.

—The Oregonian

COLLEGE GOLF

UO, OSU men's golf earn NCAA bids

The Oregon and Oregon State men's golf teams earned NCAA regional bids Wednesday.

The Ducks earned their 14th consecutive NCAA regional bid and will play in the Cle Elum (Wash.) Regional on May 17-19 at Tumble Creek Golf & Country Club.

The Beavers will be playing in the Albuquerque (N.M.) Regional on May 17-19 at the Championship Course. Oregon State earned its second straight regional bid — the 2020 postseason was canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic — and is seeking its first national tournament appearance since 2010.

The top five teams and the low individual not on a qualifying team at each of the six regionals will advance to the NCAA Championships, which run May 28-June 2 at Grayhawk Golf Club in Scottsdale, Ariz.

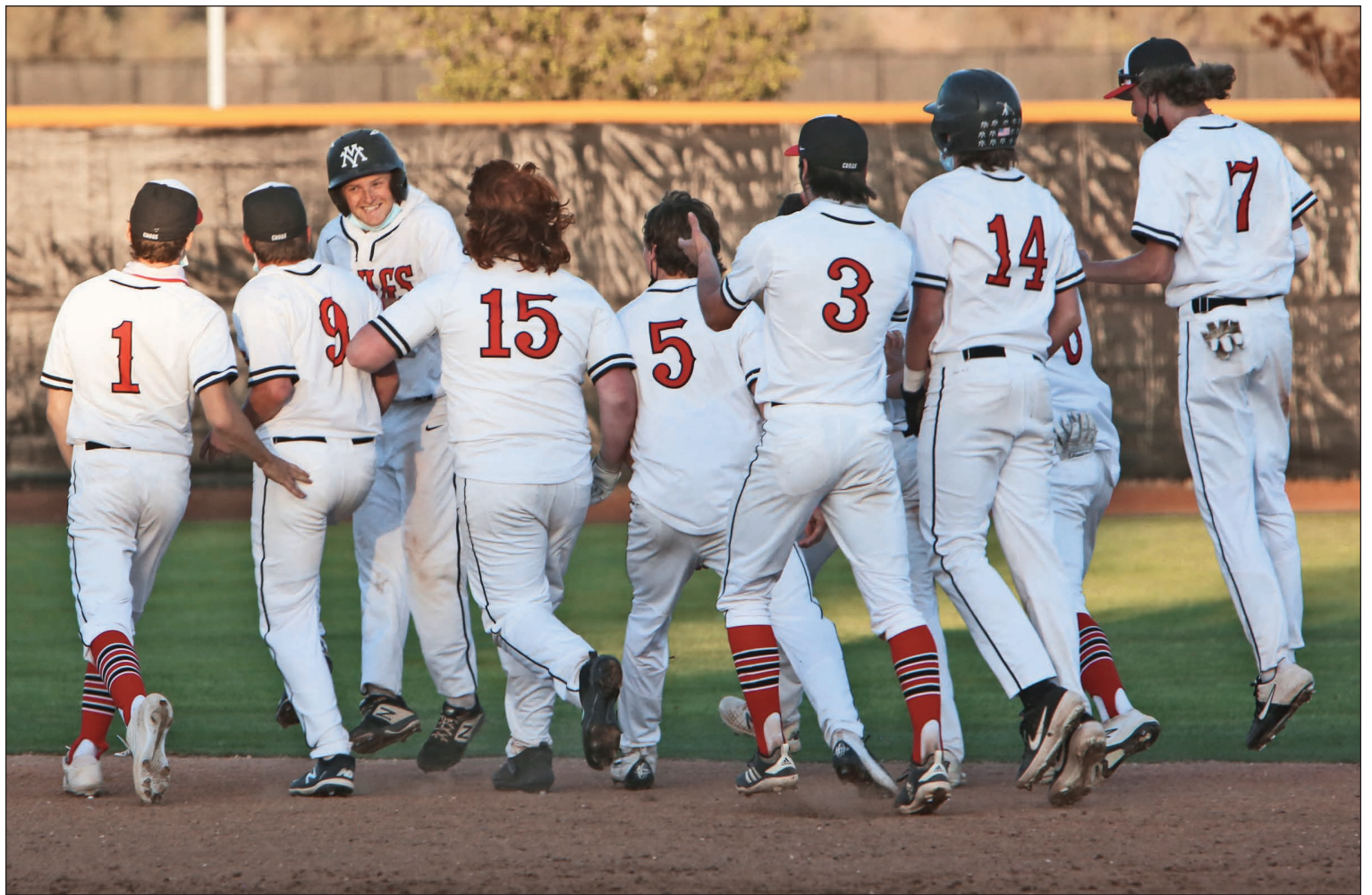
"We're excited to make it to NAAs again," Oregon coach Casey Martin said in a news release. "I love the location of the regional we were placed at. We are familiar with the course and will work hard to be ready."

The Ducks are coming off a fifth-place finish at the Pac-12 Championships. Oregon finished the season with four top-five finishes, including back-to-back runner-ups at the Bandon Dunes Championship and Duck Invitational in March.

This is the fifth time the Beavers have advanced to postseason play under coach Jon Reehorn.

—The Register-Guard

PREP BASEBALL | MOUNTAIN VIEW 3, SUMMIT 2 (12 INNINGS)

Mountain View wins thriller

Photos by Dean Guernsey/Bulletin

The Mountain View Cougars rally around Chase Terry, third from left, after he drove in the winning run to defeat Summit 3-2 in 12 innings at Mountain View High School Tuesday night.

Terry gets the winning hit for Cougars in 12-inning victory over rival Storm

BY BRIAN RATHBONE • The Bulletin

While walking away from the baseball field Tuesday night, a pair of Summit players were stopped by a fan wearing a Mountain View baseball cap.

"We love playing you guys," the fan told the players.

And why would he not?

Two weeks after Summit rallied to beat Mountain View — the Cougars' only loss of the season entering Tuesday's game — the two teams on the opposite sides of Bend were once again in a battle on the baseball diamond.

This time, however, it was Mountain View who rallied from a two-run deficit to secure a 3-2 victory in a 12-inning marathon, putting an end to the Storm's six-game winning streak.

"It was a grind, it was a battle," said Mountain View coach Ryan Johnson after the victory. "It is a lot of heart, and we told the guys that one of you is going to come up with a situation, expect it to be you, and be ready for it. Finally got it done at the end."

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Mountain View's Aaron Platner slings a pitch against Summit on Tuesday night at Mountain View High School.

PRO GOLF

Super league resurfaces as McIlroy puts stock in legacy

BY DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Rory McIlroy returned to the site of his first PGA Tour victory and made it clear Wednesday that he is more interested in creating his place in history than chasing Saudi-backed money in a proposed super league.

Justin Thomas wasn't far behind in that line of thinking.

The topic occupying most of the chatter at Quail Hollow Club ahead of the Wells Fargo Championship is renewed efforts by a "Super League Golf" to attract top players for a concept of team golf played around the world for massive riches.

The Daily Telegraph in London reported the league is prepared to offer fees ranging from \$30 million to \$50 million to marquee players, including Dustin Johnson and Justin Rose, to join a new circuit that would begin playing as early as September 2022.

"He has listened to their presentation, like all the other top players. No commitment whatsoever," Johnson's manager, David Winkle, said in a text.

The Telegraph said Phil Mickelson, who at age 50 is No. 115 in the world ranking, is being offered twice that much as the "de facto



Matt Slocum/AP

Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, waits to putt on the 18th green during the second round of the Masters golf tournament on April 9 in Augusta, Georgia.

leader of the rebels."

McIlroy, who turned 32 on Tuesday, was the first player to publicly oppose the new league more than a year ago. He has been elected chairman of the Player Advisory Council, meaning he will be the first foreign-born player to join the PGA Tour's board of directors.

McIlroy referenced the failed attempt to create a European Super League in football, in which 12 clubs were founding members. The backlash was so strong that nine clubs — including all six from England — announced they would withdraw.

See **Golf** / A7

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

NCAA aims for less contact in preseason practices

BY RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

The NCAA football oversight committee is preparing to recommend changes to preseason camp that will include fewer fully padded practices and the elimination of some old-school collision drills.

The latest move to scale back contact in practice comes in response to a five-year study involving six major college football teams that found more head impact exposure and concussions happened in preseason practice than during games.

The committee's initial proposal called for at least nine of a team's 25 preseason practices to be run with players wearing helmets but no other pads, and no more than eight fully-padded, full-contact practices. That proposal went out to NCAA membership for feedback two weeks ago.

The committee is scheduled to meet again Thursday. West Virginia athletic director Shane Lyons, the chairman of the committee, said the plan is to hand over a final recommendation for a new preseason model for the Division I Council to consider at its May 19 meeting.

If passed, the new model would go into effect this year.

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