TUESDAY

TENNIS	Time	TV
Ultimate Tennis Showdown, French Riviera	6 a.m.	FS2
Ultimate Tennis Showdown, French Riviera	11 a.m.	FS2
ATP, Belgrade/Parma; WTA, Strasbourg;		
Roland Garros qualifying	1:30 a.m. (We	d) Tennis
ATP, Belgrade/Parma; WTA, Strasbourg;		
Roland Garros qualifying	3 a.m. (Wed)	Tennis
BASEBALL		
College, SEC Tournament	7:30 a.m.	SEC
College, SEC Tournament	11 a.m.	SEC
College, SEC Tournament	2:30 p.m.	SEC
MLB, L.A. Dodgers at Houston	5 p.m.	FS1
College, SEC Tournament	6 p.m.	SEC
MLB, regional coverage	6:30 p.m.	MLB
MLB, Seattle at Oakland	6:30 p.m.	Root
GOLF		
Women's college, NCAA, Team Match Play QFs	9 a.m.	Golf
Women's College, NCAA, Team Match Play semis	2 p.m.	Golf
HOCKEY		
NHL playoffs, Toronto at Montreal	4:30 p.m.	NBCSN
NHL playoffs, Nashville at Carolina	5 p.m.	CNBC
BASKETBALL		
NBA, Boston at Brooklyn	4:30 p.m.	TNT
WNBA, Atlanta at Chicago	5 p.m.	CBSSN
WNBA, Connecticut at Seattle Storm	7 p.m.	CBSSN
NBA, L.A. Lakers at Phoenix	7 p.m.	TNT
WEDNESDAY		

BASEBALL	Time	TV
College, Big 12 Tournament	7 a.m.	ESPNU
College, SEC Tournament	7:30 a.m.	SEC
MLB, regional coverage	11 a.m.	MLB
College, SEC Tournament	11 a.m.	SEC
MLB, Seattle at Oakland	12:30 p.m.	ROOT
College, SEC Tournament	2:30 p.m.	SEC
MLB, L.A. Dodgers at Houston	4:30 p.m.	ESPN
College, SEC Tournament	6 p.m.	SEC
MLB, San Francisco at Arizona	7:30 p.m.	MLB
GOLF		
LPGA Tour, Bank of Hope LPGA Match Play	11 a.m.	Golf
Women's college, NCAA,		
Team Match Play National Championship	2 p.m.	Golf
European Tour, Made in HimmerLand	4 a.m. (Thu)	Golf
SOCCER		
UEFA Europa League, Villarreal vs Man United	noon	CBSSN
NWSL, Chicago at Kansas City	5 p.m.	CBSSN
BASKETBALL		
NBA, Atlanta at New York	4:30 p.m.	TNT
WNBA, Las Vegas at Phoenix	7 p.m.	CBSSN
NBA, Memphis at Utah	7 p.m.	TNT
Listings are the most accurate available.		

SPORTS BRIEFING

BASEBALL

OSU's Cooper Hjerpe named Collegiate National Player of the Week — Cooper Hjerpe's electric performance last weekend against the Arizona Wildcats didn't merely deliver a much-needed win for the Oregon State baseball team. It also earned him a national honor. The Beavers' left-handed starter has been named one of Collegiate Baseball's National Players of the Week for his dominant outing against one of the nation's most potent lineups. Hjerpe held the Wildcats in check Saturday, allowing just one run on two hits — while striking out a career-high 11 — during a 3-1 Oregon State win. The Wildcats lead the nation in runs scored (459) and rank fourth in batting average (.327), and lead the Pac-12 Conference in virtually every offensive statistical category. But Hjerpe was masterful, limiting Arizona to just two singles and a single run that came on an attempted double steal in the sixth inning.

Oregon slips slightly in polls after series loss to Stan**ford** — Oregon baseball dropped slightly in the major polls following a series loss to Stanford. The Ducks (35-13, 18-9 Pac-12) are No. 9 in the USA Today coaches poll, No. 10 in Collegiate Baseball and d1baseball.com, No. 13 in Baseball America and No. 14 in Perfect Game after dropping two of three to the Cardinal this weekend. That's down from Nos. 6-13 last week. Oregon, which is No. 17 in RPI, wraps up the regular season with a three-game series at Cal (28-24, 14-13 Pac-12) starting Thursday at 6 p.m. UO can earn a share of the Pac-12 title with

TOKYO GAMES

U.S. warns against all travel to Japan as Olympics

loom — U.S. health officials and the State Department on Monday warned Americans against travel to Japan because of a surge in coronavirus cases in the country, which is preparing to host the Olympics in just two months. The twin alerts don't ban U.S. citizens from visiting the country, but they could have an impact on insurance rates for travelers and may factor into decisions by Olympic athletes and spectators on whether to compete in or attend the games, which are due to start in July. The United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee said it still anticipates that American athletes will be able to safely compete at the Tokyo Games.

FOOTBALL

AP: Rodgers doesn't attend Packers' 1st day of OTAs

— Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers wasn't present for the first day of organized team activities Monday, according to a person familiar with the situation. These OTA sessions are voluntary, but Rodgers generally has participated in them in the past. ESPN first reported Rodgers wasn't with the team on Monday. Rodgers' decision not to participate this time comes amid reports that the reigning MVP wants out of Green Bay, where he has spent his entire NFL career. ESPN reported in the hours before the draft that the three-time MVP doesn't want to return to the Packers. Later that week, Packers CEO Mark Murphy wrote in a column posted on the Packers' website that the team "is very much aware" of Rodgers' concerns and that "this is an issue that we have been working on for several months."

- Bulletin wire reports



MEGABUCKS

The numbers drawn Monday night are: **(6)(13)(15)(19)(20)(33)**

The estimated jackpot is now \$3.2 million.

As listed at OregonLottery.org and individual lottery websites

SCOREBOARD

ON DECK

Prep Sports TUESDAY

Bovs basketball: Bend at La Pine, 7 p.m.: Crook County at Pendleton, 6:30 p.m.; Ridgeview at Hood River Valley, 6:30 p.m.; The Dalles at Redmond, 6:30 p.m.; Madras at Estacada, 7 p.m.; Newport at Sisters, 7 p.m.; Culver at Gervais, 6:30 p.m. **Girls basketball:** Pendleton at Crook County, 7 p.m.;

Hood River Valley at Ridgeview, 7 p.m.; Redmond at The Dalles, 6:30 p.m.; Estacada at Madras, 6 p.m.; Sisters at Newport, 6 p.m.; Culver at Gervais, 5 p.m. Wrestling: Sisters Invitational, 4 p.m

WEDNESDAY

Boys basketball: Mountain View at Bend, 7 p.m.; Sisters at Philomath, 7 p.m.; Central Christian at Prospect

Girls basketball: Madras at Mountain View, 7 p.m.; Philomath at Sisters, 6 p.m.; Central Christian at Prospect Charter, 5:30 p.m. Wrestling: Mazama at La Pine, 6 p.m.

PREPS

Boys basketball

Monday's Games Summit at Mountain View, late Trinity Lutheran at Madras, late nna Triad at Central Christian, late

Girls basketball

Monday's Games Madras at Summit, late Hosanna Triad at Central Christian, late

BASKETBALL

NBA playoffs FIRST ROUND (Best-of-7) Monday's Games

Milwaukee 132, Miami 98, Milwaukee leads series 2-0 Portland at Denver, late, Portland leads series 1-0 Tuesday's Games

Boston at Brooklyn, 4:30 p.m., Brooklyn leads series 1-0 L.A. Lakers at Phoenix, 7 p.m., Phoenix leads series 1-0 Dallas at L.A. Clippers, 7:30 p.m., Dallas leads series 1-0

Wednesday's Games
Washington at Phila., 4 p.m., Phila. leads series 1-0 Atlanta at New York, 4:30 p.m., Atlanta leads series 1-0 Memphis at Utah, 7 p.m., Memphis leads series 1-0

	WN	BA		
EA	STERN CO	NFEREN	ICE	
	W	L	Pct	GI
Connecticut	5	0	1.000	_
New York	5	1	.833	1,
Chicago	2	1	.667	3
Atlanta	1	2	.333	
Vashington	1	3	.250	31/
ndiana	1	4	.200	
W	ESTERN CO	ONFERE	NCE	
	W	L	Pct	GI
Seattle	3	1	.750	-
Las Vegas	2	2	.500	
Phoenix	2	2	.500	
Dallas	1	2	.333	11/
Minnesota	0	3	.000	21/
Los Angeles	0	2	.000	
	Monday	's Game		
New York 88, Dall	as 81			
	Tuesday's	s Games		

Washington at Indiana, 4 p.m. Atlanta at Chicago, 5 p.m.

	MI	.B		
	AMERICAN East Di		E	
	W	L	Pct	GB
Bay	30	19	.612	_
•	29	19	.604	1/2
rk	28	19	.596	1
	23	23	.500	51/2
re	17	29	.370	111/2

BASEBALL

Central Division GB Chicago Cleveland 26 24 19 20 .578 .545 11/2 .489 .391 .370 22 18 17 23 28 29 Kansas City Minnesota West Division GB

21 27

.583

.553

Monday's Games Tampa Bay 14, Toronto 8, 11 innings Cleveland at Detroit, late Baltimore at Minnesota, late St. Louis at Chicago White Sox, late

Oakland

Houston

Texas Seattle

Seattle at Oakland, late

Tuesday's Games Toronto (Matz 5-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Kluber 4-2), 4:05 p.m. Atlanta (Morton 2-2) at Boston (Richards 4-2), 4:10 p.m. Cleveland (Civale 6-1) at Detroit (Skubal 1-6), 4:10 p.m. Kansas City (Keller 3-4) at Tampa Bay (Hill 3-1), 4:10 p.m. Baltimore (Kremer 0-4) at Minnesota (Berríos 4-2)

28 20

21

20 27

4:40 p.m. L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 6-3) at Houston (Greinke 4-1), 5:10 p.m. St. Louis (Flaherty 8-0) at Chicago White Sox (Giolito 3-4),

Texas (Yang 0-1) at L.A. Angels (Heaney 1-3), 6:38 p.m.

Seattle (Gilbert 0-2	2) at Oaklar	nd (Irvin 3	ś-5), 6:40 p.	m.
ı	NATIONAL East Div			
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	21	20	.512	_
Atlanta	23	24	.489	1
Miami	23	24	.489	1
Philadelphia	23	25	.479	11/2
Washington	20	23	.465	2
	Central D	ivision		
	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	26	20	.565	_
Chicago	24	22	.522	2
Milwaukee	23	23	.500	3
Cincinnati	20	25	.444	51/2
Pittsburgh	18	28	.391	8
	West Di			
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Diego	30	17	.638	_
Los Angeles	29	18	.617	1
San Francisco	28	19	.596	2
Colorado	19	29	.396	111/2
Arizona	18	30	.375	121/2
	Monday's	Games		
Colorado 3, N.Y. N				
Miami 9, Philadel	ohia 6			
San Diego at Milw				
St. Louis at Chicag				
	Tuesday's	Games		

Chicago Cubs (Arrieta 4-4) at Pittsburgh (Ponce 0-0), Philadelphia (Velasquez 1-0) at Miami (Alcantara 2-3), 3:40 p.m. Cincinnati (Mahle 2-2) at Washington (Scherzer 4-2),

4:05 p.m. Atlanta (Morton 2-2) at Boston (Richards 4-2), 4:10 p.m. Colorado (González 2-2) at N.Y. Mets (deGrom 3-2). 4:10 p.m. San Diego (Musgrove 4-4) at Milwaukee (Burnes 2-3),

L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 6-3) at Houston (Greinke 4-1), 5:10 p.m. St. Louis (Flaherty 8-0) at Chicago White Sox (Giolito 3-4),

San Francisco (Gausman 4-0) at Arizona (Martin 0-1), 6:40 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL playoffs FIRST ROUND (Best-of-7)

Monday's Games N.Y. Islanders 3, Pittsburgh 2, N.Y. leads series 3-2 Montreal 2, Toronto 1, Toronto leads series 2-1 Florida 4, Tampa Bay 1, Tampa Bay leads series 3-2 Edmonton at Winnipeg, late, Winnipeg leads series 3-0 Minnesota at Vegas, late, Vegas leads series 3-1

Tuesday's Games Toronto at Montreal, 4:30 p.m., Toronto leads series 2-1 Nashville at Carolina, 5 p.m., series tied 2-2

SOCCER

-			MLS				
4	EAST	ΓERN	CONI	FERE	NCE		
2		W	L	Т	Pts	GF	GA
2	New England	4	1	2	14	10	7
	Orlando City	3	0	3	12	7	2 5
В	Phila.	3	2		11	6	5
-	Nashville	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	0	4	10	7	4 5
2	Atlanta	2	1	3 2 2 2 2	9	7	5
2	NY City FC	2	2	2	8	11	6 9
2	CF Montréal	2	3	2	8	9	9
2	Columbus	2	2 3 2 3	2	8	5	5
	Inter Miami CF	2			8	8	10
	New York	2	4	0	6	8	9
	D.C. United		5	0	6	5	11
	Toronto FC	1	3	2	5	7	10
	Chicago	1	4	1	4	4	10
	Cincinnati	1	3	1	4	6	14
	WES		CON				
١.		W	L	Т	Pts	GF	GΑ
	Seattle	5	0	2	17	14	3
	Sporting KC	4	2	1	13	12	8
	LA Galaxy	4	2 2 2 3	0	12	10	11
),	Houston	3	2	2	11	9	9
	Colorado	3	2	1	10	9	8
),	Portland	3		0	9	9	8
.	San Jose	3	4	0	9	11	11
),	Real SL	2	1	2	8	8	6
	LA FC	3 3 3 2 2 2 2	2	2	8	7	7
	Vancouver	2	4	1	7	6	9
	Austin FC	2	4	0	6	5	8
	Minnesota United	2	4	0	6	5	10
	FC Dallas	. 1	2	3	6	8	8
	NOTE: Three points				oint fo	r tie.	
B		iund:	av's G	amac			

Sunday's Games Atlanta 1, Seattle 1, tie

		NWS	SL.			
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Louisville	1	0	1	4	2	0
Orlando	1	0	1	4	3	2
Reign FC	1	0	1	4	2	1
Gotham FC	1	0	1	4	1	0
Portland	1	1	0	3	6	2
Kansas City	0	0	2	2	2	2
Houston '	0	1	1	1	2	
North Carolina	0	1	1	1	1	2
Washington	0	1	1	1	1	3
Chicago	Λ	1	1	1	0	5

Reign FC 2, Portland 1 Kansas City 2, Houston 2, tie Wednesday's Games

SOFTBALL

NORMAN (OKLA.) REGIONAL Sunday's Game Oklahoma 24, Wichita State 0, Oklahoma advances TUSCALOOSA (ALA.) REGIONAL Sunday's Game Alabama 5, Clemson 0, Alabama advances

SEATTLE REGIONAL Sunday's Games Washington 2, Michigan 0 Washington 10, Michigan 5, Washington advances LEXINGTON (KY.) REGIONAL Sunday's Game

Kentucky 7, Notre Dame 0 Kentucky 4, Notre Dame 0, Kentucky advances KNOXVILLE (TENN.) REGIONAL Sunday's Game

James Madison 8, Liberty 5, James Madison advances
TUCSON (ARIZ.) REGIONAL Sunday's Game

COLUMBIA (MO.) REGIONAL Sunday's Game Missouri 5, Iowa State 0, Missouri advances **FAYETTEVILLE (ARK.) REGIONAL** Sunday's Game Arkansas 7, Stanford 3, Arkansas advances

Sunday's Games Oklahoma S. 10, Mississippi St. 2, Oklahoma St. advances

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7 5 Flo	6	11	9 8 8
5 5 Ge 8 10	5 10	5 8	8
8 9 5 11 Vir 7 10	11		6 6 5
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4 3 UC 2 8 0 11 9 9 — 9 8 9 8 11 11 8 6 7 7	3 8 11 9 8 8 11 6 7 9 8	14 12 10 9 9 11 8 7 6 5	ts 17 13 12 11 10 9 8

1, Seattle D.C. Unit e 1, Austi	ed 0						
.,,,,,		NWS	iL.				
	W	L	Т	Pts	GF	GA	
e	1	0	1	4	2	0	
	1	0	1	4	3	2	
_	1	0	1	4	2	1	
FC	1	0	1	4	1	0	
1	1	1	0	3	6	2	
City	0	0	2	2	2	2 2 3 2	
) Î	0	1	1	1	2	3	
arolina	0	1	1	1	1	2	
jton	0	1	1	1	1	3	
	0	1	1	1	0	5	l

Portland at Orlando, 4 p.m. Houston at Washington, 4:30 p.m. Chicago at Kansas City, 5 p.n

NCAA Regionals

Arizona 12, Mississippi 6, Arizona advances

STILLWATER (OKLA.) REGIONAL

BATON ROUGE (LA.) REGIONAL Sunday's Games Louisiana-Lafayette 2, LSÚ 0 LSU 8, Louisiana-Lafayette 5, LSU advances
AUSTIN (TEXAS) REGIONAL Sunday's Games gon 3, Texas 2, 8 innings as 1, Oregon 0, Texas advances TALLAHASSEE (FLA.) REGIONAL Sunday's Game rida State 2, UCF 0, Florida State advances ATHENS (GA.) REGIONAL

Sunday's Game orgia 10, Duke 9, Georgia advances TEMPE (ARIZ.) REGIONAL Saturday's Game jinia Tech 11, BYU 3, Virginia Tech advances GAINESVILLE (FLA.) REGIONAL Sunday's Game

ida 8. South Florida 1. Florida advances LOS ANGELES REGIONAL Sunday's Game A 2, Minnesota 1, UCLA advances

DEALS

Transactions BASEBALL Major League Baseball

American League
BOSTON RED SOX — Optioned INF/OF Michael Chato Worcester (Triple-A East). DETROIT TIGERS — Optioned CF JaCoby Jones to To-ledo (Triple-A East). Recalled CF Victor Reyes from Toledo. Placed C Wilson Ramos on the 10-day IL. Activated LHP

Derek Holland from the 10-day IL. KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Optioned RHP Jake New-berry to Omaha (Triple-A East). Placed 3B Hunter Dozier

on the 10-day IL. on the 10-day IL.

SEATTLE MARINERS — Purchased the contract of INF
Ty Kelly from Long Island (Atlantic League). Assigned
INF Ty Kelly to Tacoma (Triple-A West). Claimed 2B Travis Blankenhorn off waivers from Los Angeles Dodgers.
Optioned 2B Travis Blankenhorn to Tacoma. Activated INF/DH Ty France from the 10-day IL. Placed INF/OF Sam Haggerty on the 10-day IL.

National League
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Optioned CF Daulton
Varsho to Reno (Triple-A West). Activated C Carson Kelly

from the 10-day IL.
CHICAGO CUBS — Purchased the contract of SSTyler CHICAGU CUBS — FURCHASED THE CONTRACTOR'S TYPER
Ladendorf from High Point (Atlantic League). Assigned
SS Tyler Ladendorf to Iowa (Triple-A East).
CINCINNATI REDS — Sent RHP Carson Fulmer outright to Louisville (Triple-A East).
COLORADO ROCKIES — Claimed 2B Rio Ruiz off waiv-

ers from Baltimore. Designated INF/OF Bret Boswell ers from Baltimore. Designated INF/OF Bret Boswell for assignment. MIAMI MARLINS — Optioned C Chad Wallach to Jacksonville (Triple-A East). Returned and activated C Jorge Alfaro from the 10-day IL. Sent CF Starling Marte

to Jacksonville on a rehab assignment. MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Optioned RHP Alec Bet-tinger to Nashville (Triple-A East). Activated 2B Jace Pe-terson from the 10-day IL. Recalled 1B Keston Hiura from

Nashville. Designated 2B Jace Peterson for assignment. NEW YORK METS — Selected the contract of SS Or-lando Calixte from York (Triple-A East). SAN DIEGO PADRES — Recalled OF Brian O'Grady from El Paso (Triple-A West). Placed OF Trent Grisham

on the 10-day IL. FOOTBALL National Football League
ATLANTA FALCONS — Signed WR Tajae Sharpe.
CAROLINA PANTHERS — Signed DT Caraun Reid.
Waived LB Chris Orr.
DALLAS COWBOYS — Signed WR Johnnie Dixon.

DENVER BRONCOS — Signed P Max Duffy.
DETROIT LIONS — Signed PT Darrin Paulo.
GREEN BAY PACKERS — Released CB KeiVarae Russel.

GREEN BAY PACKENS—Released CD Network Industrial Residence Industrial Release Bortles.
HOUSTON TEXANS—Waived QB Ryan Finely.
LAS VEGAS RAIDERS—Signed QL Patrick Omameh.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS—Claimed C Cohl Cabral off of waivers from Houston.

WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM — Named Zaheer

Benjamin VP of business intelligence and analytics.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

NHL — Suspended Edmonton F Josh Archibald one game for clipping Winnipeg D Logan Stanley during a May 23 game in Winnipeg. COLLEGE

FLORIDA — Named Tony Amato women's soccer

Oakland A's

Continued from A5

Tampa E

Boston

New Yor

Toronto

He's the ex-mob lawyer who became a wildly popular mayor who won reelection over and over with more than 80% of the vote. Oscar left office after his 12-year term limit expired in 2011. Carolyn took over and is now on her third term. Be sure, Team Goodman dreams big, knows where the money is buried and has a nose for opportunity.

Mayor Goodman — the wife — plays a mean poker game, too. We know because she went public immediately after the As announced they had permission from MLB to seek possible relocation cities. Goodman said, "Las Vegas is excited." Also, the mayor claimed she had been in contact with A's representatives as early as 2019.

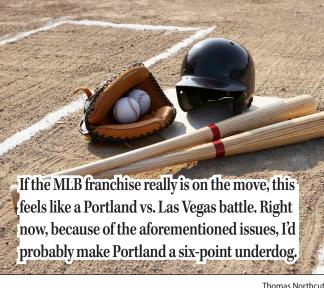
That last part may be technically true. But we all know nuance is served up as a speciality on The Strip. The A's have been engaged in a number of failed stadium proposals in Oakland, patience with local politicians is wearing thin, and the organization would be foolish to not stay in touch with a variety of possible relocation cities all along. Officials with the Oakland A's have also been in touch with Portland for some time, turns out.

Are the A's actually serious about moving?

Meaning, is this a bluff? That's become the question to ask. Because it may very well prove that we're all being used here. Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf said she's committing to keeping the A's. The city council is expected to review another stadium proposal in July. But the A's are apparently discouraged enough with the landscape to stop pri-vately talking and begin taking

Las Vegas will likely offer to build the A's a new stadium. It will throw financial incentives at the baseball club, find inves-

sight-seeing road trips.



tors willing to partner on the real estate, and attempt to add the A's to its growing stable of professional sports offerings. Goodman will be the project manager, because at this point she's essentially the entire A's to Las Vegas pitch.

Portland has some disadvantages it needs to shore up. Ones I've written about that need more careful examination. Our downtown needs a massive and immediate clean-up effort. Our city and state politicians also need to study the "Goodman Effect" in Vegas and ask whether we'd be interested in adding a multibillion-dollar entity to our region. The A's to Portland would bring massive construction, real estate development, housing, infrastructure, jobs and tax revenue.

If the MLB franchise really is on the move, this feels like a Portland vs. Las Vegas battle. Right now, because of the aforementioned issues, I'd probably make Portland a six-point underdog. But that's something our city could easily overcome with adjustments. It would require going all-in along with the smart, wellfunded effort already underway. We'd also need a distinct and noticeable pivot from city and state leadership.

The Portland Diamond

Project has some preferred stadium sites, owns ballpark renderings, and already has an estimated \$2 billion-plus in financial commitments. The group has solid momentum and has positioned itself as either a relocation or expansion candidate. (The more I think about it, maybe the line should only be Portland +3?) Team Goodman's "Pleasure Island" pitch will be difficult to resist at first glance, but if I'm the Oakland A's I'm tired of being treated like a second-class franchise.

The A's have to ask themselves where they'd rank among the entertainment offerings if they moved to Las Vegas. Not in front of the NHL's Golden Knights or the NFL's Raiders. They'd again be second-tier. Probably just after the Knights/Raiders and somewhere just above the Blue Man Group and UNLV athletics. Also, they'd be playing games when it's 114 degrees outside.

In Oregon, the A's would be the summer headliner.

MLB's regular season works nicely in contrast to the Trail Blazers' (October to April) NBA regular-season. Baseball isn't likely to cannibalize the success of the Timbers and Thorns, either. There's a finite amount of local corpo-

rate sponsorship dollars but we're essentially the most underserved sports market in the country.

there's a difference between event "attendees" in Las Vegas and "fans" in Portland at play here. The A's might draw a crowd in Vegas. But they'd get a fan base in Portland. I'm not sure the fact finding visit will capture how much untapped enthusiasm there is in Oregon for another major league sport.

Also, the potential TV rights contract for market No. 21 (PDX) would be stand to be more lucrative than No. 39 (LAS). Currently, six MLB clubs claim Las Vegas in their broadcast "territory" rights. That will be a headache to unravel. Only the Seattle Mariners — three hours away by car — currently claim Port-

I have to think families from Eugene, Corvallis, Bend and other parts of the state would make regular outings to downtown Portland to catch a weekend A's series. They'd stay in hotels, visit restaurants and help revitalize the city. But I'm getting ahead of myself now. We'll remain underdogs until the city is cleaned up and the politicians actively support MLB to PDX.

The news here is that the A's are coming to Portland to kick the tires. They'll visit with the Portland Diamond Project partners and probably get an aerial tour of the city. There's no more strategic way to see Portland right now. The wonderful potential of our city, now a sleeping giant, has to be part of the pitch.

The As are going to visit Las Vegas this week. I hope they have a nice trip, see a show, and think about whether they'd matter much amid the noise. It's a growing city with great night life and memorable pool parties. But no way is Las Vegas the best place for the A's franchise. Not as long as Portland is in play.