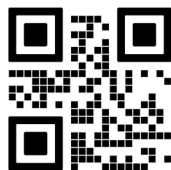


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TRACK & FIELD

Ex-Ducks to make pro debuts in NYC

Cole Hocker and Cooper Teare will make their professional track debuts Saturday in New York City.

It's only fitting that they'll open against each other.

The former Oregon stars helped lead the Ducks to the NCAA Indoor Track & Field Championship last March, concluding the meet with a 1-2 finish in the 3,000-meter finale won by Hocker.

That's the event they're entered in Saturday at The Armory for the Millrose Games, the prestigious indoor track and field meet that returns for its 114th season after having to cancel in 2021 due to the pandemic.

Hocker was coming off a freshman season that also included a win in the 1,500 at the U.S. Olympic Track & Field Trials and a sixth-place finish in Tokyo when he turned pro in September. Teare, who won the NCAA outdoor 5,000 title, competed for the Ducks during the fall cross-country and then turned pro with a senior season of track still on the table.

Former Oregon stand-out James West is also entered.

Hocker, Teare and West are just three of many former Ducks entered in the meet.

Raevyn Rogers, who won bronze in the 800 at the Tokyo Games in August, is entered in the women's 400; two-time Olympian Devon Allen makes his season debut in the men's 60 hurdles; and 2016 Olympic gold medalist English Gardner is opening her season in the 60.

Jessica Hull and Charlie Hunter, Tokyo Olympians for Australia who are members of the Nike Union Athletics Club in Portland, are entered in the women's Wanamaker Mile and men's 800, respectively.

Former Ducks Sam Prakes, Johnny Gregorek and Colby Alexander are entered in the men's Wanamaker Mile.

—(Eugene) Register-Guard

GOLF

Pair shares lead at Torrey Pines

SAN DIEGO — Will Zalatoris and Jason Day charged past Jon Rahm and Justin Thomas on Friday at Torrey Pines to share the third-round lead at the Farmers Insurance Open.

Zalatoris posted the day's best round with a 7-under 65, and two-time Farmers champion Day shot a 67. They were at 14 under heading to the final round of the tournament, which will finish Saturday to avoid a television conflict with the NFL's two conference championship games.

Rahm and Aaron Rai were 13 under, and Thomas, Sungjae Im and Cameron Tringale were another shot back. There were 24 players within five shots of the co-leaders.

Zalatoris surged from six shots back after two rounds and moved into contention for his first career PGA Tour victory.

Day, who won the Farmers title in 2018, finished his third round with four birdies on the final six holes.

Rahm rebounded from a double bogey on the 10th and another bogey on the 12th to stay firmly in contention with a 72.

—Associated Press

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Lava Bears rise up



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

Bend's Chloe LeLuge shoots over Summit's Aspen Edwards during the second quarter at Bend High on Thursday night.

Bend High beats rival Summit to stay in the hunt in the MVC

BY BRIAN RATHBONE
The Bulletin

Thursday night's rendition of the Bend High-Summit girls basketball rivalry featured two teams in dire need of victories heading into the final three weeks of the regular season.

INSIDE

• High school schedule and results in Scoreboard, B2

Summit was seeking its first Mountain Valley Conference win after a pair of close conference losses and Bend High was in the midst of a two-game losing streak.

After keeping the Storm scoreless for nearly the entire fourth quarter, the Lava Bears put an end to their losing streak with a 46-36 win over their cross-town rival to stay in the hunt in the crowded MVC.

See **Lava Bears** / B2

TENNIS | AUSTRALIAN OPEN



Hamish Blair/AP

Rafael Nadal celebrates after defeating Matteo Berrettini in their semifinal match at the Australian Open Friday in Melbourne, Australia.

Nadal, Medvedev to meet in history-making final

BY JOHN PYE
Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Rafael Nadal is within one victory of a men's record 21st Grand Slam singles title.

He'll have to beat second-seeded Daniil Medvedev in the Australian Open final on Sunday to make history. And Medvedev is chasing a piece of history of his own after beating Stefanos Tsitsipas 7-6 (5), 4-6, 6-4, 6-1 in a heated semifinal on Friday.

The U.S. Open champion is aiming to be the first man in the Open era to win his second Grand Slam title at the next major tournament.

Nadal advanced to the final in Australia for the sixth time with a 6-3, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 win in a mostly lopsided contest against seventh-seeded Matteo Berrettini in the first of the men's semifinals.

Medvedev had a more tempestuous and challenging run to back-to-back Australian Open finals. He had to deal with a hostile crowd in his second-round win over Australian Nick Kyrgios, had to save a match point and rally from two sets down to beat Felix Auger-Aliassime in a nearly five-hour quarterfinal win. Then he had to regain his composure after an angry outburst in the second set of the semifinals.

The Russian yelled at chair umpire Jaume Campistol in the changeover after serving a double-fault to concede a late break, getting a code violation for a visible obscenity when he made a gesture with his arm to the pro-Tsitsipas crowd, and then demanded that his opponent be cautioned for receiving coaching from his father — in Greek — from the stands.

Medvedev returned after Tsitsipas converted his third set point to level the match and he again urged the umpire to give the French Open runner-up a code violation.

He then took a five-minute break, took control late in the third set and then reeled off the last five games after Tsitsipas was eventually cautioned for coaching.

Nadal's run to a 29th Grand Slam final has been comparatively serene.

He arrived in Australia not knowing how long he would last after months off the tour dealing with a serious foot injury and then a bout of COVID-19. He skipped Wimbledon after losing in the French Open semifinals to Novak Djokovic, and didn't play at all after August.

"For me it's amazing ... (to) just compete and play tennis at the high level again, facing the most important players of the world," Nadal said.

Last month, he wasn't even sure he'd be able to return to the tour. But he won a tune-up tournament in Melbourne and has taken six straight matches at the first Grand Slam event of the year.

See **Tennis** / B2

NFL PLAYOFFS | SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

Kicker Robbie Gould shining in 'Goulden' years

BY JOSH DUBOW

AP Pro Football Writer

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — When the San Francisco 49ers placed the franchise tag on Robbie Gould three years ago, the kicker had a decision to make.

He could re-sign or hang up his cleats after a long, successful career and head back home to the Chicago area to be with his wife and three kids.

Gould opted to keep playing, and it was for moments just like Saturday night when his 45-yard kick in a cold, snowy Green Bay delivered the Niners a 13-10 victory that left them two wins shy of Gould's ultimate goal.

"I want to win a Super Bowl," he said. "If it wasn't for that, I wouldn't be playing football. I could care less to play foot-

ball, and I don't mean that in a bad way. My kids are at an age — they're 8, 6 and 3. I've spent the last six years away from my kids and they mean the world to me. You know, at some point, Dad's going to come home and be Dad for them."

The 39-year-old's experience paid dividends in Green Bay. He was able to tap into his network of former kickers to get some advice from Lawrence Tynes, who kicked a playoff winner at Lambeau Field in the 2007 NFC title game for the New York Giants.

He took advantage of an extra-point try early in the fourth quarter to get a better sense of the footing on the field, and knew it would be soft so he'd have to be "lighter on my feet" for the approach.

Then he did what he's done

every other time he's tried a playoff kick — split the up-rights. Gould has made all 20 postseason field-goal attempts, the most ever without a miss. He's also perfect on 32 extra-point tries as he has helped both the Bears (2006 season) and the 49ers (2019) make it to the Super Bowl.

"I think the big thing for me is, I never try to get too high and I never try to get too low when I miss," Gould said. "So I think kicks like Saturday night's kick gives me more confidence. I think our operation has really come into form over the last couple of weeks."

Gould's clutch performance was part of a rare good day from San Francisco's special teams. Jimmie Ward blocked a field goal attempt by Mason Crosby late in the first half,



Matt Ludtke/AP

San Francisco 49ers' Robbie Gould makes the game-winning field goal in the waning seconds of an NFC divisional playoff game against the Green Bay Packers Jan. 22 in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Deebo Samuel set up a score with a 45-yard kickoff return and Jordan Willis blocked a punt that Talanoa Hufanga returned for the Niners' only touchdown on the day. Gould then won it with his foot.

The Niners will have a tough task this week against the Rams, who have one of the league's better special teams units. Brandon Powell has provided a big spark in the return

game since joining Los Angeles midway through the season, Johnny Hekker has been one of the better punters for years and Matt Gay was the NFC's Pro Bowl kicker.

Gay made 32 of 34 field goal attempts in the regular season, including four of five from at least 50 yards. He is five for six in the playoffs but was short on a 47-yarder in the fourth quarter last week.