

SPORTS

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Ducks hoping to have players back

Oregon coach Dan Lanning is optimistic the Ducks will have running back Byron Cardwell Jr. and linebacker Justin Flowe back on the field for this week's game at Washington State.

Cardwell and Flowe each went through pre-game warmups and were in full uniform for last week's win over BYU, but did not play due to unspecified injuries.

"They were both able to practice today," Lanning said Monday night. "I wouldn't sit here and say they're both 100% yet, but I'm hopeful that both of them can help us this next weekend."

No. 15 Oregon (2-1) relied on Bucky Irving, Noah Whittington, Jordan James and Sean Dollars at running back last week, while Jackson LaDuke made his second consecutive start in place of Flowe.

The timing of offensive lineman Steven Jones' return is less clear. He wasn't at practice last Tuesday or Wednesday and wore a walking boot on his left foot while patrolling the sideline against BYU.

"Hopeful that we can get him back," Lanning said. "I don't know that I have a direct timeline on him right now."

Ryan Walk returned to the startling lineup against BYU and Marcus Harper II and Jackson Powers-Johnson each played significant reps at guard the past two games as well.

— *The Oregonian*

BASEBALL

Dodgers' Maury Wills dies at 89

LOS ANGELES — Maury Wills, who intimidated pitchers with his base-stealing prowess as a shortstop for the Los Angeles Dodgers on three World Series championship teams, has died. He was 89.

Wills died Monday night at home in Sedona, Arizona, the team said Tuesday after being informed by family members. No cause of death was given.

Wills played on World Series title teams in 1959, '63 and '65 during his first eight seasons with the Dodgers. He also played for Pittsburgh and Montreal before returning to the Dodgers from 1969-72, when he retired.

During his 14-year career, Wills batted .281 with 2,134 hits and 586 stolen bases in 1,942 games.

Wills broke Ty Cobb's single-season record for stolen bases with his 97th swipe on Sept. 23, 1962. That season he became the first player to steal more than 100 bases.

The Dodgers honored Wills with a moment of silence before the opener of their doubleheader against the Arizona Diamondbacks on Tuesday and showed his career highlights on the stadium video boards. The team will wear a patch in memory of Wills for the rest of this season.

Wills had a stint as a manager, guiding the Seattle Mariners from 1980-81, going 26-56 with a winning percentage of .317.

He was the National League Most Valuable Player in 1962, the same year he was MVP of the All-Star Game played in his hometown of Washington, D.C.

— *Associated Press*

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

EMERGING THREAT



Amanda Loman/AP

Tre'Shaun Harrison is looking like a No. 1 receiving option for the Beavers

BY NICK DASCHER • *The Oregonian*

Not since 2019 has Oregon State had a dedicated No. 1 receiver. But one is about to emerge in senior Tre'Shaun Harrison.

Harrison caught eight passes for 133 yards and a touchdown during the first half of Saturday's 68-28 win over Montana State. The kickstart to Harrison's season came the previous week during the fourth quarter, when he led the Beavers with three big receptions — including a circus-like 17-yard touchdown play — in rallying OSU past Fresno State.

Isaiah Hodgins was a security blanket for Oregon State's quarterbacks in 2018 and 2019. Harrison isn't there yet, but he is beginning to look the part. It hasn't come without overcoming some issues. The senior transfer from Florida State had some early season drops, and a couple personal foul penalties.

Oregon State head coach Jonathan Smith says he appreciates Harrison's rebound. "It didn't exactly go right for the first couple of games. He kept battling and there was a belief in him. It showed on Saturday."

See **Harrison** / A7

Gary Kazanjian/AP

Oregon State wide receiver Tre'Shaun Harrison runs past Fresno State defensive back Cam Lockridge during the second half in Fresno, California, on Sept. 10.

MLB

Ty France, Mariners profit from improved swing

BY RYAN DIVISH

The Seattle Times

ANAHEIM, Calif. — As a large group of media stood waiting for him in front of a navy backdrop arrayed with Mariners logos, Ty France, ever the team comedian, looked at the group and remarked, "Oh, this is way too many people."

Knowing France likes the give and take, he was told, "Well, if you wouldn't have played well then nobody would be waiting to talk to you."

Without hesitation, France smirked and replied, "I've been doing a really good job of that lately."

Never afraid of self-deprecation, the humor was easier for France following a game Monday where the Mariners won 9-1 and he drove in four of those runs with an RBI double in his first at-bat and a



Alex Gallardo/AP

Seattle Mariners' Ty France hits a three-run home run against the Los Angeles Angels during the seventh inning of a baseball game in Anaheim, California, on Monday.

three-run homer in his fourth at-bat while being on base for Carlos Santana's game-changing grand slam.

"It felt good," France said. "There were a couple of mi-

nor adjustments we made set-up-wise and swing-wise, and it kind of paid off."

The changes likely wouldn't be noticeable if you weren't looking for them. But assis-

stant hitting coach Jarret DeHart was studying video of France's at-bats earlier in the season and of late.

He noticed a few differences.

"He saw I was a little too narrow with my legs and it was causing me to kind of like drop my back shoulder," France said. "My front half was going, but my upper half was staying back. I had to sync that up, and then it was just kind of working on the direction with my hands."

France took the changes into the indoor cages and could feel the difference while hitting off the high-velocity pitching machine.

"I was backspinning fastballs off the machine," France said. "I just kind of realized, 'OK, I'm in a better spot.'"

See **France** / A7

WNBA

With Griner in jail, top players skip Russia in offseason

BY DOUG FEINBERG

AP Basketball Writer

SYDNEY — Brittney Griner's highly publicized legal woes in Russia and the country's invasion of Ukraine has the top WNBA players opting to take their talents elsewhere this offseason.

For the past few decades, Russia has been the preferred offseason destination for WNBA players to compete because of the high salaries that can exceed \$1 million — nearly quadruple the base salary of top WNBA players — and the resources and amenities teams offered them.

That all has come to an abrupt end.

"Honestly my time in Russia has been wonderful, but especially with BG still wrongfully detained there, nobody's going to go there until she's home," said Breanna Stewart, a Griner teammate on the Russian team that paid the duo millions. "I think that, you know, now, people want to go overseas and if the money is not much different, they want to be in a better place."

Griner was arrested in February, then detained and later convicted on drug possession charges amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Griner was sentenced last month to nine years in prison.

Now, Stewart and other WNBA All-Stars, including Jonquel Jones and Courtney Vandersloot — who also have made millions of dollars playing in Russia — are going elsewhere this winter. All three played for Ekaterinburg, the same Russian team as Griner.

That club won five EuroLeague titles in the past eight seasons and has been dominant for nearly two decades with former greats DeLisha Milton Jones and Diana Taurasi playing there.

Nearly a dozen WNBA players competed in Russia last winter and none of them are heading back this year.

After the World Cup tournament, Stewart is going to Turkey to play for Fenerbahçe. Top players can make a few hundred thousand dollars playing in Turkey, much less than their Russian salaries. Playing in Turkey also allows Stewart to be closer to her wife's family in Spain.

"You want to have a better lifestyle, a better off-the-court experience, and just continue to appreciate other countries," Stewart said.

See **Offseason** / A6

Lindsey Wasson/AP

Seattle Storm forward Breanna Stewart (30) reacts after hitting a three-point basket during the first half of Game 4 in the semifinals against the Las Vegas Aces Sept. 6 in Seattle. "Honestly my time in Russia has been wonderful, but especially with (Brittney Griner) still wrongfully detained there, nobody's going to go there until she's home," Stewart says.