

NBA/Davis, Baldwin show their stuff

Continued from 1B
to compete.”

Players also often skip the scrimmages to avoid injuries.

NBA teams seem to know Davis, who averaged 19.7 points and 8.2 rebounds for the University of Wisconsin while playing tough defense. That’s why he was OK with skipping the scrimmages. He is expected to be among the first 15 players selected.

“I think the way I carried myself throughout the year and did everything I could for my team speaks highly about my game,” he said. “I also don’t want to risk being injured or not playing as well and dropping out of where I was projected.”

He has interviewed with the Cleveland Cavaliers, Washington Wizards, Indiana Pacers, Detroit Pistons, Spurs and Thunder. There have been basketball question, along with the usual get-to-know-you queries.

“They ask me about my family,” said Davis, whose father, Mark, played in the NBA and whose twin brother Jordan remains at UW. “I speak very highly of them. I have a younger brother and sister who are twins as well. Everybody is shocked about that, having two sets of twins in the family.”

“(I) just let them know I am a respectful person. I am very friendly. It may not seem like it on the court, but I have a life outside of basketball.”

The 6-foot-10 Baldwin has been bothered by an ankle injury suffered during his senior year at Sussex Hamilton High School. It was one of the issues that plagued him during his lone season at UW-Milwaukee.

“That’s been a topic of conversation in interviews and just kind of in NBA circles,” Baldwin

2022 NBA DRAFT

When: 7 p.m. Thursday, June 23.

Where: Barclays Center, New York.

TV: ESPN.

Lottery draft order:

- 1, Orlando; 2, Oklahoma City; 3, Houston; 4, Sacramento; 5, Detroit; 6, Indiana; 7, Portland; 8, New Orleans; 9, San Antonio; 10, Washington; 11, New York; 12, Oklahoma City; 13, Charlotte; 14, Cleveland.

Bucks’ pick: First round, No. 24.

said. “I know it’s a big deal, just being healthy and available. It’s just something you’ve just got to take care of each day.”

Baldwin said he has been working out the last few months in Chicago with players represented by his agency, Priority Sports.

“I’m doing a lot physically,” he said. “There really is no limitation right now to what I can do.”

Baldwin did take part in physical testing and it was clear that the ankle has held him back. His standing vertical leap measured 23.5 inches, the second-lowest mark of those tested.

“I’m not really worried about the testing,” he said. “I’m a basketball player.”

Once projected as a lottery pick, Baldwin has slid down most mock drafts to the late first round after playing in just 11 games with the Panthers and averaging 12.1 points, 5.8 rebounds and 1.5 assists. NBA teams ask about the tough circumstances—including playing for his father, who was fired after the season. While Baldwin has been touted as an elite shooter, he shot just 26.6% on 3-point tries at UWM.

BRIEFS

Compiled from Gazette wire services

UW basketball eyes Brewers’ park

MADISON—Wisconsin’s nonconference men’s basketball schedule for the 2022-23 season hasn’t been revealed. However, a UW source confirmed Thursday the Badgers are trying to schedule a game for Nov. 11 at American Family Field in Milwaukee. The tentative opponent is Kansas State.

UW officials were in Milwaukee last fall to meet with Brewers officials.

Candelino to walk on with Badgers

MADISON—Ross Candelino thought he was headed to American University to play basketball in the Patriot League. Then as the senior guard from Ponte Vedra High School in Florida was on the court with friends recently, he received a text message from Wisconsin assistant Dean Oliver.

Oliver told the 6-foot-5 guard UW’s staff had evaluated his game, had a walk-on spot available and wondered if he wanted to visit. The family visited Madison May 13, and Candelino later announced he would join the Badgers as a preferred walk-on.

Illinois lineman commits to UW

MADISON—Paul Chryst’s staff secured its fifth commitment for the 2023 class, but its first on the defensive line. Roderick “Trey” Pierce announced Thursday he had committed to Wisconsin.

The 6-foot-3, 290-pound defensive tackle from Brother Rice High School in Chicago held scholarship offers from several Big Ten schools.

His commitment comes less than a week after another UW target, defensive tackle Tyler Gant, committed to Northwestern.

SEC coaches Fisher, Saban start spat

Texas A&M football coach Jimbo Fisher called Nick Saban a “narcissist” on Thursday after the Alabama coach accused the rival Aggies of using name, image and likeness deals to land their top-ranked recruiting classes.

Less than 24 hours after Saban said Texas A&M was essentially “buying” players, Fisher called an impromptu news conference to blast college football’s most accomplished coach and his former boss at LSU.

“It’s despicable that a reputable head coach can come out and say this when he doesn’t get his way or things don’t go his way,” Fisher said in College Station, Texas.

Saban apologized a few hours later but generally stuck to his stance. And SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey followed soon after with a public reprimand for both.

The public spat is perhaps the ugliest display of the growing angst among college coaches who are wrestling with two big changes: the NIL compensation era that launched last July and its impact on recruiting, and the ease with which players can now transfer.

WIAA track to stay in La Crosse

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association has agreed to a new five-year contract to hold the state track and field meet at UW-La Crosse through 2026.

The agreement gives the WIAA the use of the stadium and Mitchell Hall, along with the Fieldhouse (starting in 2023). The stadium seats 9,556, with additional seating and standing room available.

The state meet is set for June 3-4. The postseason begins Monday with regional meets, and sectionals are set for May 26.

Lukas’ filly has a shot at Preakness

BALTIMORE—D. Wayne Lukas sat atop his pony just after 6 a.m. and stared at Secret Oath while she got a bath following her first trip to the track at Pimlico Race Course.

“The whole time she was out there she never put her ears down—they were always up,” he said. “She might be the most alert one I’ve ever had.”

Lukas believes she could be one of the best fillies he has ever had. That belief inspired him to enter Secret Oath in Saturday’s Preakness Stakes, where she could give the 86-year-old, Hall of Fame trainer a record-tying seventh victory in the second jewel of the Triple Crown.

The winner of the Derby isn’t in the way, after the owner of Rich Strike decided not to run him in the Preakness after the 80-1 upset at Churchill Downs. To become the seventh filly to win the Preakness, Secret Oath (9-to-2 odds) will have to beat favorite and Derby runner-up Epicenter (6 to 5). Other favorites are Early Voting (7 to 2) and Simplification (6 to 1).

Indy drivers eager to crank up power

INDIANAPOLIS—Colton Herta used poise and instincts to win last weekend’s rainy, white-knuckle Indy-Car Grand Prix. Today, he’ll be chasing all-out speed.

The 22-year-old Californian and 32 other drivers entered in this year’s Indianapolis 500 will get their long-awaited, three-day power boost, setting them up for qualifying weekend.

“It’s a lot more speed, it takes a lot of commitment to hold it flat going into turn one because it’s a huge difference pace-wise,” Herta said. “It’s always fun. It’s always good, and then when they turn it back down it never quite feels the same.”

When practice resumes Friday, series officials will add about 90 horsepower to each car—a number that could lead to four-lap qualifying averages in the 230 mph range. The last two pole-winners—Marco Andretti in 2020 and Scott Dixon in 2021—both topped 231.

Osaka gets French Open rematch

PARIS—Naomi Osaka will not have the luxury of easing into her return to the courts of the French Open, facing a tough foe in her very first match when the tournament begins Sunday.

Week 2 at Roland Garros, meanwhile, could be quite fascinating for Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Carlos Alcaraz—the three leading favorites for the men’s title ended up on the same side of the bracket for the clay-court Grand Slam tournament, meaning only one can reach the final.

Thursday’s draw at Roland Garros also set up two tantalizing possibilities in the fourth round for No. 1-ranked Iga Swiatek, the 2020 champion who is currently on a 28-match winning streak.

She might need to go up against 2018 champion Simona Halep at that stage or 2017 champion Jelena Ostapenko—who happens to be the last woman to defeat Swiatek.

Hornets GM Kupchak signs extension

CHARLOTTE, N.C.— Mitch Kupchak has signed a multiyear contract extension to remain the Charlotte Hornets’ general manager. His contract was set to expire this summer.

“For better or for worse, I will be here for the next couple of years,” Kupchak said Thursday. Kupchak, 67, will continue to lead the team’s search for a coach.

Wolves meet with Connelly—The Minnesota Timberwolves are talking to Denver Nuggets president Tim Connelly about their vacant president of basketball operations role.



EPA Begins Review of Wheeler Pit Superfund Site LaPrairie Township, Wisconsin

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is conducting its sixth five-year review of the Wheeler Pit Landfill Superfund site located at County Trunk Highways O and J in LaPrairie Township, Rock County, Wisconsin. The Superfund law requires regular checkups of sites that have been cleaned up – with waste managed on-site – to make sure that the cleanup continues to protect people and the environment.

EPA’s cleanup of ground water contaminated with arsenic, chromium, zinc, and barium consisted of a multilayer cap, a fence around the site, waste consolidation, long-term ground water monitoring, institutional controls, and natural processes. Wheeler Pit was deleted from the Superfund list in 2004.

More information is available at the Hedberg Public Library, 316 S. Main St., Janesville, Wisconsin, and at www.epa.gov/region5/deleted-npl/sites/wheelerpit. The review should be completed by September 2022.

The five-year-review is an opportunity for you to tell EPA about site conditions and any concerns you have. Contact:

Kirstin Safakas Community Involvement Coordinator 312-919-4621 safaks.kirstin@epa.gov	Karen Mason-Smith Remedial Project Manager 312-886-6150 mason-smith.karen@epa.gov
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You may also call U.S. EPA toll-free at
800-621-8431, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weekdays.

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