



Weekly Sports Planner

COLLEGE

Tuesday, Jan. 6

Pittsburg State basketball at Missouri Southern, women 5:30 p.m., men 7:30

Thursday, Jan. 8

Newman basketball at Pittsburg State, women 5:30 p.m., men 7:30

HIGH SCHOOL

Tuesday, Jan. 6

Pittsburg basketball at Parsons, girls 6 p.m., boys 7:30

Fort Scott basketball at Frontenac, girls 6 p.m., boys 7:30

Baxter Springs basketball at Girard, girls 6 p.m., boys 7:30

Southeast basketball at Yates Center, girls 6 p.m., boys 7:30

Erie basketball at Northeast, girls 6 p.m., boys 7:30

Thursday, Jan. 8

Baxter Springs basketball at St. Mary's Colgan, girls 6 p.m., boys 7:30

Southeast basketball at Columbus, girls 6 p.m., boys 7:30

Girard and Anderson County girls and boys wrestling at Fort Scott, 5 p.m.

Frontenac boys wrestling at Joplin, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 9

Pittsburg basketball at Chanute, girls 6 p.m., boys 7:30

Humboldt basketball at St. Mary's Colgan, girls 6 p.m., boys 7:30

Frontenac basketball at Galena, girls 6 p.m., boys 7:30

Girard basketball at Columbus, girls 6 p.m., boys 7:30

St. Paul basketball at Northeast, girls 6 p.m., boys 7:30

Pittsburg boys wrestling at Topeka Seaman Tournament

Girard girls wrestling at Bonner Springs Tournament, noon

Frontenac girls wrestling at Monett, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 10

Pittsburg girls wrestling at Topeka Seaman Tournament

Girard boys wrestling at Louisburg Tournament

Frontenac boys wrestling at Monroe, Iowa, 9 a.m.

Prentice Gudgen High School Indoor Track and Field Invitational, at Pittsburg State, noon

Note: Games listed based on schedules provided by the schools.

LEGALS

(Published in The Morning Sun on January 6th, 2026)

Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals

Notice of Public Hearing

The Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Pittsburg, KS, will hold a Public Hearing on January 26, 2026 at 05:30 pm, in the Municipal Court Room of the Law Enforcement Center, 201 N Pine, to consider amending the Zoning Ordinance, changing certain areas from CP-0: Planned Commercial Office to R-1C: Single-Family Residential.

The property is described as:

Lots Numbered Four (4), Five (5), Six (6), and Seven (7), all in Kenny subdivision, an addition to the City of Pittsburg, Crawford County, Kansas, according to the recorded Plat thereof.

Dated this January 6, 2026.

Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals

ATTEST:

Dexter Neisler
Zoning Administrator

Citizens with disabilities needing accommodations in order to attend this Public Hearing should contact the City Zoning Administrator's Office at 620-230-5517 no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Strong ground games propel No. 1 Indiana, No. 5 Oregon

By Michael Marot
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Fernando Mendoza spent all season stealing headlines and collecting awards.

Indiana running backs Roman Hemby and Kaelon Black were content doing the dirty work in the shadows of their Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback, propelling the top-ranked Hoosiers into college football's version of the Final Four.

Now, less than a week after dominating Alabama on the ground, the Hoosiers dynamic duo hopes to replicate that performance against No. 5 Oregon in Friday night's Peach Bowl.

"You see the guys we have up front, they work really hard and they make my job and Kaelon's job really easy," Hemby said Monday. "We just try to outphysical our opponents. We really want to make it a four-quarter fight to where we kind of impose our will and, at some point in the game, we feel like we could potentially break the defense or make that play that helps us win."

The surprise, to some, has been just how much the Football Bowl Subdivision's third-highest scoring offense, 41.6 points per game, actually has relied on the running game.

While Mendoza and the passing attack certainly have driven this season's narrative, Indiana's ground game

sometimes went unnoticed.

The Hoosiers rush for 220.7 yards per game — 10th nationally and No. 1 among the teams still fighting for a national championship. They've topped the 300-yard mark six times and had two more with more than 200 including the 215 it logged in last week's 38-3 rout over No. 9 Alabama.

It's also a big reason the undefeated Hoosiers have the nation's top third-down conversion percentage at 56.5%. Perhaps more important — Indiana has only one fumble all season.

"It just comes from wanting to be better," Black said, referring to the backfield's internal motivation. "Being around a great group of guys, a great group of teammates, you just have the want to be better in your life and also on the football field. And now that we're in this position, we have no choice but to be better."

Still, Hemby and Black are hardly household names.

Hemby played four seasons at Maryland, averaging 4.9 yards per carry while rushing for 2,347 yards. This year, he's at 5.2 yards and topped the 1,000-yard mark for the first time with an 8-yard game against the Crimson Tide. He earned a third team all-Big Ten selection from the media but not the coaches.

Black was solid, not spectacular, in four seasons at James Madison but blossomed

after following coach Curt Cignetti to Bloomington. This season, he has 157 carries, 898 yards and eight TDs — all career bests with the top-seeded Hoosiers (14-0). Yet he was left off the all-conference list.

The two backs already understand the challenge Oregon (13-1) poses. In their first meeting, Indiana ran 27 times for a paltry 111 yards or 3.0 yards per carry, their third-lowest single game average all season. And on tape, they think Oregon looks even better now.

So does linebacker Bryce Boettcher, who acknowledged having some mental mistakes in Round 1 but played a key role in Oregon's 23-0 shutout over No. 4 Texas Tech in the Orange Bowl.

On the other hand, the Ducks recognize how difficult it will be to replicate that effort especially with Indiana's secret weapon — Mendoza's ability to buy time and scramble for first downs — and against an offensive line that has proven to be one of the nation's best.

"They're smart, fast and physical," Boettcher said, describing Indiana's linemen. "In the run game, they play physical and they do their job. They don't have a lot of unblocked hats. I know in the screen game, they get out and they're elite at kind of retracing and blocking for the receiver in the screen game, which was present in our last game."

Oregon's offense

looks remarkably similar to the Hoosiers.

While the Ducks rank second in scoring among the final four teams, 38.0 points per game, and as Mendoza and Dante Moore continue their presumed competition to be the No. 1 NFL draft pick in April, Oregon enters Friday with the second-best ground game in the remaining field at 206.1 yards with Noah Whittington and Jordon Davison leading the way.

The Hoosiers had the upper hand in the 30-20 victory in October, holding the Ducks to 81 yards rushing, their lowest regular-season total, on 30 carries. Indiana knows the rematch could prove more difficult.

But for two offenses that have thrived through the air with star quarterbacks and a deep stable of prominent receivers, the path to Miami and the Jan. 19 national championship will likely be determined on the ground.

"It's one of those things where we had to keep working toward it to get where we want to be and, obviously, we're still not where we want to be," Hemby said when asked about the improvement in Indiana's ground game this season. "I don't know if we've changed people's minds, we're not really in the business of trying to do that. Hopefully we did. But at the end of the day if we're winning games, we'll take it however we can."

BRONCOS

CONTINUED FROM 1B

NFC EAST

The defending Super Bowl champion Eagles became the first team to win this division in consecutive seasons in two decades. They missed a chance to be the No. 2 seed when they rested starters and lost 24-17 to Washington.

NFC NORTH

The Bears clinched their first division championship since 2018. They lost 19-16 to Detroit but secured the No. 2 seed because the Eagles lost.

The Packers were locked into the No. 7 seed after Week 17.

NFC SOUTH

The Panthers backed

into a division title but are ahead of schedule in their rebuilding process.

NFC WEST

The Seahawks earned the No. 1 seed for the fourth time in team history. They reached the Super Bowl the first three, winning once.

The Rams beat the

Arizona Cardinals 37-20 to secure the No. 5 seed and a rematch at Carolina. The Panthers beat them 31-28 on Nov. 30.

After falling to secure a bye, the 49ers dropped to the No. 6 seed and will face Philadelphia in a rematch of the NFC championship game following the 2022 season.

PSU

CONTINUED FROM 1B

at the NSU Event Center in Tahlequah, Okla.

The Gorillas (9-5, 3-1 MIAA) trailed 42-30 at halftime and 56-43 just over five minutes into the second half. English helped ignite the comeback as he scored 16 points after halftime, and Hayden Shanks made the back end of a two-shot free throw with 0.9 seconds left to tie the game at 89-89 and force overtime.

Connor Rogers put the Gorillas ahead to stay, 94-93, with a three-point play with 3:25 left in overtime. Ethan Sage sank two free throws two minutes later for a three-point lead, but Nehemiah Weber answered with

two charities to make it 96-95 with one minute left.

David Cobin made one free throw with 23 seconds left for a two-point lead, and after Rogers blocked a layup by J.R. Reed, English made one free throw for a three-point lead with six seconds left. NSU had a chance to tie, but Weber's guarded 3-pointer from the top of the circle bounced off the rim.

English, a freshman guard, made 12-of-22 field goals, 2-of-4 treys and 5-of-6 free throws for his 31 points. Rogers made 7-of-12 shots with two 3-pointers while scoring 17 points, and Shanks and Sage both contributed 12 points and eight rebounds. It was a season-high point total for Shanks.

Cobin and Darrell Washington each netted nine points off the bench as the PSU bench outscored the RiverHawks' reserves 23-6. The Gorillas had fewer turnovers (18-14) but cashed in on NSU mistakes with a 23-11 margin in points off turnovers.

Xavier Glenn and Ethan Blackmon tallied 24 points apiece for the RiverHawks (8-5, 1-3), and Reed finished with 18. Blackmon also snared 12 rebounds.

This was the second straight overtime game for the RiverHawks, who nipped Missouri Southern 119-117 at home on Dec. 21.

The Gorillas play at Missouri Southern at 7:30 Tuesday night. The game features the MIAA's top-2 scorers

with the Lions' 6-foot-3 senior guard Jaden Taylor averaging 22.2 points and the Gorillas' 5-11 junior Rogers at 20.4.

PITTSBURG STATE (98) — Mason English 31, Connor Rogers 17, Ethan Sage 13, Hayden Shanks 12, Donald Coats 2, David Cobin 9, Darrell Washington 9, Landon Short 5, Evan Jackson 0.

NORTHEASTERN STATE (95)

— Xavier Glenn 24, Ethan Blackmon 24, A.J. Reed 18, Nehemiah Weber 12, Taven Washington 11, Harry Heilson 3, Dylan Tea 2, Jaxson Vandegarde 1.

Halftime—NSU 42, PSU 30. Regulation—89-89. 3-point goals—English 2, Rogers 2, Sage, Shanks, Short, Glenn, Reed, Washington 3. Rebounds—PSU 36 (Sage, Shanks 8), PSU 41 (Blackmon 12). Assists—PSU 14 (Rogers 4), PSU 12 (Washington 3). Steals—PSU 12 (Rogers, Sage 3), PSU 7 (Blackmon, Tea 2). Blocked shots—PSU 5 (Rogers, Washington 2), PSU 1 (Reed 1). Fouled out—Sage.

Total fouls—PSU 21, PSU 18. Turnovers—PSU 14, PSU 18. A—429.

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