

Future Super Bowl sites chosen

■ **NFL:** Decision leaves New Orleans, this year's host, out of the running until 2005

By Mary Foster
The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The Super Bowl took on a distinct southern flavor Thursday as Miami, Atlanta and Tampa walked away with the NFL's title game for 1999-2001.

NFL owners agreed that Miami will be the site of the 1999 game. Atlanta will have the 2000 game, and Tampa, which had essentially been promised a Super Bowl by commissioner Paul Tagliabue after agreeing to build a new stadium, will get the 2001 game.

"I think Tampa made the owners aware that the city had made a great commitment to the NFL," Tagliabue said after the decision to award a third Super Bowl.

Originally the owners planned to name only the hosts for the 1999 and 2000 games, but added the third to accommodate both Atlanta and Tampa.

"Atlanta has shown it can host the Super Bowl," said Mayor Bill Campbell. "We've shown we can handle big events and that our people know how to make visitors feel at home. Look at what we've done in the last decade ending with the Olympics and the World Series this year."

Atlanta was host to a Super Bowl in 1994.

Miami felt it also had proven itself.

"The show is going to the pros," said Nicki Grossman, vice chairman of the South Florida Super Bowl Task Force. "We know how to put on a Super Bowl, and we plan to make it great."

Miami and Tampa had been considered the favorites going in. Arizona was the only other candidate. The proximity to last year's game, which was in Phoenix, was probably the main factor in not selecting Arizona, Tagliabue said.

Tagliabue recommended Tampa as a site before the votes Thursday. But Atlanta offered strong com-

petition to both Miami and Tampa.

"It was never a sure thing in my mind until the vote was over," said Eddie Jones, vice president of the Miami Dolphins.

With the commitment Tagliabue had made to Tampa in the wake of their approval of a new stadium, the owners evidently felt they could not deny them a game.

"It was an accommodation," said Bryan Glazer, son of Tampa Bay Buc owner Malcolm Glazer. "The 30 NFL teams are a partnership, and we all work together. Atlanta would not have been able to host another Super Bowl game until the year 2005 because of the convention business. The ownership wanted to accommodate both Tampa and Atlanta, and the best way to do that was this way."

Tampa's new stadium is being funded by a half-cent sales tax increase that voters approved in a Sept. 3 referendum. Former Tampa mayor William Poe filed suit before the referendum, contending public money should not be used to fund private enterprise.

The Tampa stadium is expected to be completed in September 1998, 16 months before the Super Bowl in January 2000. The NFL says a stadium must be operating 18 months before the game.

The awarding of the 2001 game left some other cities wondering about when they would next host a Super Bowl.

The 1999 game originally was supposed to go to San Francisco, but uncertainty about the stadium's future forced the NFL to look elsewhere. Tagliabue pledged a game to San Francisco 18 months after the completion of a new stadium. Carmen Policy, president of the 49ers, said he hopes the stadium would be completed in time for the 2000 season.

It also appeared to squeeze New Orleans, host of January's game, out until at least the year 2005. That's the next time the city will have enough hotel rooms and convention space to accommodate the league.

San Diego will host the game in 1998.

Volleyball: Ducks concentrating on not making mistakes against UW, WSU

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The previous night in Seattle, the Ducks were dropped 15-3, 15-2 and 15-8 by Washington. Oregon hit .054 for the match, and middle blockers Dani Cordova and Alli White were the biggest contributors, each tallying eight kills and three blocks.

Washington, now 8-3 in the conference and 18-4 overall, visits Mac Court Saturday night. The Huskies are led by Eugene native, Angela Bransom, who has 383 kills.

But it is Washington's blockers that will be the biggest threat. Makare Desilets has 109 blocks this season and averages 1.73 blocks per game, putting her atop the conference standings. She had 17 kills against the Ducks earlier this season.

Leslie Tuiasosopo has 115 blocks and is fifth in the conference with a 1.47 blocks per game average.

Oregon head coach Cathy Nelson recognizes the problem the Huskies' size represents.

"Washington is huge," she said. "Their outsides and middles are very, very large. That's where the problem is — their big size. They're not necessarily a quick offense, but they get up high and bang it down your throat."

Nelson also said the most difficult part in preparing for this weekend's matches is the difference in the two teams.

"Washington State is one of the best teams in the league," she said. "They are very athletic. They're not necessarily huge, but they have a quick attack."

"So the teams represent two completely different problems for us. That will make the weekend difficult. They are playing some great volleyball."

But the one thing the Ducks have learned with their recent success is that it easier to concentrate on their own play than the other teams' play.

"For the first time since I've been here, the team feels like they're in control of the match," Nelson said. "Last year, we were physically outmatched in all of our Pac-10

matches, and they felt like if the other teams played well, they were going to lose. This year, finally realizing that if we control our match and if we play well, we can win. The other team doesn't have to play bad for us to win."

Team co-captain Amy Barnes said the team knows what it takes to pick up the victories.

"We have been focusing so much in practice on limiting our errors and keeping the ball in play and let the other team make the mistakes," she said. "In the last three matches, we have done that pretty well. The games that we lose are when we make the errors ourselves. We know that now. It is really helping us with confidence and everything else that goes along with the game."

"Washington and Washington State are excellent schools in the Pac-10. They have some great players on their teams. But if we can just go in and play how Oregon plays, it doesn't matter how Washington and Washington State play."

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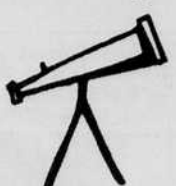
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