

Feds won't appeal, call an end to Barry Bonds case

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO—After a nearly decade-long steroids prosecution, Barry Bonds emerged victorious Tuesday when federal prosecutors dropped what was left of their criminal case against the career home runs leader.

The government's pursuit of Bonds ended quietly with a one-paragraph motion by the U.S. Department of Justice announcing Solicitor General Donald B. Verrilli Jr. will not ask the U.S. Supreme Court to review the appellate decision that overturned Bonds' obstruction of justice conviction.

A jury found the former San Francisco Giants star guilty in 2011 for giving a meandering answer to a federal grand jury in 2003 when asked whether his personal trainer gave him anything that required a syringe for self-injection. An 11-judge panel of

the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned that conviction in April, and the government had until Wednesday to file for a Supreme Court review. The jury deadlocked on three counts accusing Bonds of making false statements when he denied receiving steroids or human growth hormone or any substance that required a syringe for self-injection from the trainer, Greg Anderson. The government dismissed those counts in August 2011, and the 9th Circuit barred a retrial on the obstruction charge, citing double jeopardy.

"The finality of today's decision gives me great peace," Bonds said in a statement. Shepherd, Jr.; Greg McCoy def. Tom Stearns; Steve Hart def. Joseph Banda; O.T. Millsap def. John Maier. Sixth Flight: John Pyle def. Chris Robinson; Kevin Kelly def. John Mayer; Mike Millette def. Paul Kirkland; John Cole def. William Orr; Mike Capri def. Roger Qualman; Chuck Carnease def. Bill Replogle; Kevin Merz def. Steven Severeide; Mike Barr def. Robert Hubbard.



Barry Bonds



Gary Henley/The Daily Astorian

Jeff Leinassar chips onto the ninth green on his way to a Super Seniors win Tuesday at the Astoria Golf & Country Club.

Swingle, Stalick advance in Super Seniors division

The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Golfers in the Women's, Seniors and Super Seniors divisions took their swings Tuesday, on the second day of match play in the Oregon Coast Invitational.

The 105th annual event continues today at the Astoria Golf & Country Club, with second round action in the Grand Champions, Junior-Seniors and Super Seniors.

Tuesday's winners in the championship flight of the Women's division included eight-time champion Lara Mack Tennant and Amanda Jacobs, gunning for her third straight OCI championship.

Medalist Joe Vaughan was a winner in the Seniors' championship flight, along with Astoria club member Walter Yeaw.

Astoria members Jeff Leinassar, David Vistica, Peter Roscoe, Rob Swingle and Roger Stalick all advanced with victories in the Super Seniors championship flight.

Swingle, the defending champion, got past Greg Marshall, and Stalick defeated George Mack, Sr.



Gary Henley/The Daily Astorian
Gearhart's Rob Swingle has won two Coast Invitational championship flights — the 1963 Grand Champions and the 2014 Super Seniors.

SCOREBOARD

Table with GOLF section and results for Oregon Coast Invitational at Astoria Golf & Country Club, Women's, Super Seniors, and Seniors divisions.

Shark wrestler: 'I haven't got a scratch on me'

By JOHN PYE
AP Sports Writer

Mick Fanning sat up on a high stool, straight backed and good humored, recounting the story he will be telling for the rest of his days, about how he fought off a shark with his bare hands during a surfing competition in South Africa.

It sounds like the plot of a movie, but this three-time world champion is no fictional Crocodile Dundee-style Aussie. He's the real thing: his shark-wrestling exploits were broadcast live.

The 34-year-old Fanning arrived back in Australia on Tuesday and appeared at a news conference in Sydney before heading home to the Gold Coast, the burgeoning city surrounding Surfers Paradise beach.

"It was so close. I'm doing OK, though," he said. "I haven't got a scratch on me. Just more of an emotional, mental sort of trauma right now."

"To walk away from a shark attack without a scratch on you — it is a miracle really."

Fanning was competing against fellow Aussie Julian Wilson in the final of the JBay Open, the World Surf League

event at Jeffrey's Bay on South Africa's east coast, when he was bumped off his board by a shark.

In video posted on the World Surf League website, Fanning could be seen scanning the water before a big fin emerged behind him. He turned to deal with the shark, and then lost his board as a wave rolled in and he disappeared from view.

Wilson was paddling toward Fanning and later said that he believed if he could get there with his board, he'd at least have a weapon to distract the shark, which he estimated was at least twice the size of his mate and childhood hero.

Fanning said at first he tried to swim away but then decided to defend himself, and turned to punch the shark in the back. He was next seen furiously swimming toward a personal watercraft, where he was helped out of the water and back to shore.

He recounted the events to fans gathered around him on



Mick Fanning



World Surf League/AP

Australian surfer Mick Flanning is pursued by a shark, in Jeffrey's Bay, South Africa, Sunday. Knocked off his board by an attacking shark, the surfer punched the creature during the televised finals of a world surfing competition in South Africa before escaping.

the beach, and only later, when the adrenalin subsided, did the tears kick in as he realized how close he had come to serious injury or death.

On a flight from Port Elizabeth to Johannesburg, a woman sitting beside him pointed to the report in a newspaper and asked if the story was about him. Then he got emotional again.

He said he felt so "insignificant" compared with the size and speed of the shark, but didn't hold any grudges against the apex predator because he knew "we are in their domain."

"Thanks for not eating me," he said, joking about his interaction with the shark.

Fanning said he could sense the shark looming behind him, and turned to see it just as contact was made.

"I thought, 'Let's see what happens.' Like anything, you want to go down fighting," he said. "I don't know why it didn't bite. I was on top of it, trying to put my board between us. It was just fight or flight, I just ran on instinct. Once my board was gone, I thought that was it. I was just waiting for it to come and take a leg or two. I guess I'm lucky it wasn't my time."

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