

SPORTS

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SPORTS
IN BRIEF

Golf tourney to raise funds for wildlife rescue center

The Daily Astorian

LONG BEACH, Wash. — “Birdies and Bogeys,” a golf tournament that benefits the Wildlife Center of the North Coast, takes place Sunday at the Peninsula Golf Course in Long Beach, Wash.



Golfers of all skill levels are eligible to play in the scramble tournament, which will benefit the wildlife rehabilitation center by providing funds needed to care for, feed and treat hundreds of injured, orphaned and starving wild birds and other animals each year.

The golf tournament is open to two-person teams, and will include games, raffle, prizes and more. Included in the \$40 entry fee are nine holes of golf, a donation to the center, and a barbecue, picnic-style dinner provided by The Cove Restaurant.

Check-in starts at 2 p.m., with a shotgun start at 3 p.m.

To sign up to play, golfers can call Peninsula Golf Course at 360-642-2828. “Drop-in” entries may also be accepted, depending on availability.

Rangers lose 6-4 to Mariners after dealing ace

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — The Texas Rangers seemed a bit wiped out after a few emotional days, both good and bad.

Hours after ace pitcher Yu Darvish was traded, and a day after Adrian Beltre’s 3,000th career hit, the Rangers blew a big early lead in a sloppy 6-4 loss to the Seattle Mariners on Monday night.

“Obviously the magnitude yesterday, the high emotion with the 3,000 hits and then today with the trades,” manager Jeff Banister said. “I don’t like to use those as any type of excuse, but they are human beings, and there are different emotions. ... However, we still feel like these guys continue to battle.”

After jumping ahead 4-0 the first two innings against Felix Hernandez, the Rangers couldn’t overcome four errors, two balks and 13 strikeouts against the four Seattle pitchers.

Cubs issue World Series championship ring to Bartman

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Steve Bartman is getting a World Series championship ring from the Chicago Cubs.

The Cubs announced Monday they were giving a ring to the fan remembered for deflecting a foul ball that might have landed in left fielder Moises Alou’s glove with Chicago five outs from the World Series in 2003.

Bartman was harassed after the incident and has avoided the spotlight since then. Chicago beat Cleveland last fall for its first championship since 1908.

The Cubs say they “hope this provides closure on an unfortunate chapter” and Bartman “continues to be fully embraced by this organization.”

Bartman released a statement saying he is “deeply moved and sincerely grateful.” He praised team owners the Ricketts family and management, and called the ring a reminder of “how we should treat each other in today’s society.”

Los Angeles reaches deal for 2028 Summer Games

Associated Press



AP Photo/Damian Dovarganes

The facade of The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum in Los Angeles. It was announced Monday that Los Angeles has reached an agreement with international Olympic leaders that will open the way for the city to host the 2028 Summer Games, while ceding the 2024 Games to rival Paris.

Mayor of Los Angeles Eric Garcetti speaks, during a press conference after the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Extraordinary Session, at the SwissTech Convention Centre, in Lausanne, Switzerland in July.

Jean-Christophe Bott
Keystone



LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles has reached an agreement with International Olympic leaders that will open the way for the city to host the 2028 Summer Games, while ceding the 2024 Games to rival Paris, officials announced Monday.

The deal would make LA a three-time Olympic city, after hosting the 1932 and 1984 Games.

With the agreement, the city is taking “a major step toward bringing the Games back to our city for the first time in a generation,” Mayor Eric Garcetti said in a statement.

He called it a “historic day for Los Angeles, for the United States” and the Olympic movement.

The agreement follows a vote earlier this month by the International Olympic Committee to seek an unusual deal to award the 2024 and 2028 Games simultaneously. Paris is the only city left to host the 2024 Games.

The Los Angeles City Council and U.S. Olympic Committee board of directors will consider the agreement in August. If approved, the IOC, LA and Paris could enter a three-part agreement, clearing the way for the IOC to award the 2024 Games to Paris, and the 2028 Games to LA. The IOC vote is scheduled for September, in Lima, Peru.

In a statement, the Paris bid committee welcomed the announcement in Los Angeles but stopped short of confirming the obvious, that Paris is in line for the 2024 Games.

“Paris 2024 is proud to be working together with the IOC and our friends in Los Angeles to reach a positive solution for both cities, the Games and the whole Olympic Movement for 2024 and 2028,” committee co-chair Tony Estanguet said.

In embracing what amounted to the second-place prize and an 11-year wait, LA will receive a financial sweetener.

Under the terms of the deal, the IOC will advance funds to the Los Angeles organizing committee to recognize the extended planning period and to increase youth sports programs leading up to the Games. The IOC contribution could exceed \$2 billion, according to LA officials. That figure takes into account the estimated value of existing sponsor agreements that would be renewed, as well as potential new marketing deals.

The delay to 2028 opens a host of questions for Los Angeles, which is looking at the prospect of retooling its multibillion-dollar plans for more than a decade into the future. It would face challenges from maintaining public interest to recasting deals for stadiums, arenas and housing that have been in the works for months and even years.

Speaking with reporters at a soccer stadium in Carson, just outside LA, Garcetti said the 2028 proposal was the better of the two, promising to bring hundreds of millions of dollars in additional benefits.

The deal “was too good to pass up,” the mayor said.

He also suggested the IOC would easily ratify the 2024-2028 deal in September.

Hall of Fame gets Easley after reconciling with Seahawks

By TIM BOOTH
Associated Press

SEATTLE — For more than a decade, the Pro Football Hall of Fame wasn’t a consideration for Kenny Easley.

He was interested in anything regarding football.

“I didn’t watch an NFL football game, college football game, high school football game, for 15 years basically,” Easley said. “I didn’t watch a football game until the night that I was inducted into the Seahawks Ring of Honor. (That) was the first football game I had watched in 15 years.”

The day that Easley reconciled with the Seahawks happened in 2002 and began another lengthy quest that finally landed the hard-hitting All-Pro safety a spot in the Hall of Fame. Easley will be the fourth Seattle Seahawks player inducted, going into Canton on Saturday as this year’s senior candidate after never being in serious consideration during his time as a modern-day contender. Easley will join Steve Largent, Walter Jones and Cortez Kennedy.

Thirty years after Easley walked away from football due to health issues that were the source of his disillusionment with the game, he is embracing the recognition he is finally receiving. He even dreamed of the induction the night before he found out he was bound for Canton.



AP Photo/John Froschauer

Former Seattle Seahawk Kenny Easley (45) is recognized during a halftime celebration of the team’s 40th anniversary, during an NFL football game against the Chicago Bears in Seattle in September. The day that Easley reconciled with the Seahawks happened in 2002 and began another lengthy quest that finally landed the hard-hitting All-Pro safety a spot in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Easley will be the fourth Seattle Seahawks player inducted, going into Canton on Saturday as this year’s senior candidate.

“The dream was so vivid that it was almost like I was already in the Hall of Fame and it was just a formality for the knock to come at the door. ... It’s a great honor and that dream just sort of made it feel like it was meant to be,” Easley recalled.

Easley’s disenchantment from football has many parts. He had an

ugly divorce from the Seahawks after the 1987 season, in part because of a kidney ailment that shortened his NFL career. He was traded to the Cardinals and failed his physical. He would never play another down and believes the large doses of painkillers he took as a player led to his kidney issues. Easley believed the Seahawks knew

of the kidney condition and didn’t disclose it to him.

He also believed his involvement in the players’ strike in 1987 helped lead to his departure.

It wasn’t until 2002, then with Paul Allen as the owner in Seattle, that Easley began to soften his stance toward the Seahawks and was open to being welcomed back by the franchise. About the time Easley reconciled with the team, a case was starting to be made that Easley deserved consideration for the Hall of Fame. It was pointed out to Easley that he was the only defensive player on the NFL’s All-Decade Team of the 1980s not inducted into Canton. He was the 1984 Defensive Player of the Year and an All-Pro three times. He picked up strong support from influential voices, perhaps none stronger than Hall of Famer Ronnie Lott.

“Ronnie Lott has been talking about Kenny Easley going into the Hall of Fame since the day I retired,” Easley said. “He kept the drum beat going, and the remarkable thing about that is he didn’t have to. He was in the Hall of Fame, had a brilliant career and he didn’t have to say anything about Kenny Easley. Every time somebody would ask him or he had an opportunity to say it, he would say that Kenny Easley needed to be in the Hall of Fame. Ronnie Lott is one of the most remarkable human beings that I’ve ever associated with.”