

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

WEEKEND, AUGUST 5-6, 2017

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## Football

# A time to celebrate



**FILE -** In this Dec. 10, 2006, file photo, San Diego Chargers running back LaDainian Tomlinson is carried by teammates after scoring his 29th touchdown of the season, breaking the NFL single-season record, in the fourth quarter of the Chargers 48-20 victory over the Denver Broncos in a football game in San Diego.

AP Photo/Denis Poroy, File

## Warner takes unlikely journey to Hall of Fame

By **BOB BAUM**  
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Kurt Warner was 28 years old before he became a starting NFL quarterback, a late start for a Hall of Fame career.

Before that came one season as a starter at Northern



Warner

Iowa; time stocking grocery shelves to make ends meet; three years of Arena Football; and one

year in NFL Europe.

It's a remarkable journey that led him to three Super Bowls with two franchises. He won one Super Bowl, was voted NFL MVP twice and Super Bowl MVP once.

And he might not have gotten the opportunity had St. Louis starter Trent Green not gone down with an injury in 1999.

Suddenly Warner was a starter, and the Rams took off, evolving into "The Greatest Show on Turf."

By the time he called it quits after the 2009 season, he had led the Rams to two Super Bowls, winning one, and had guided the long-downtrodden Arizona Cardinals to their only Super Bowl appearance, nearly winning it.

He appreciates that Hall of Fame voters were able to look beyond his statistics, which he acknowledges don't approach those of many of the game's greats.

"They felt that they

See **WARNER/2B**

## Pro Football Hall of Fame welcomes Class of 2017 on Saturday

By **BARRY WILNER**  
Associated Press

CANTON, Ohio — For several members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame's class of 2017, it was a time to campaign while celebrating.

Terrell Davis wants more attention paid to the running game, and stronger hall consideration for running backs — something similar to this year, when both he and LaDainian Tomlinson were selected.

Morten Andersen, just the second full-time kicker to make the hall, spoke out Friday for the guys who put the foot in football.

Kenny Easley can't believe there are only eight pure safeties enshrined.

So while enthusiastically embracing their entry into the hall, which will happen Saturday night along with Kurt Warner, Jerry Jones and Jason Taylor, Davis and

### Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement

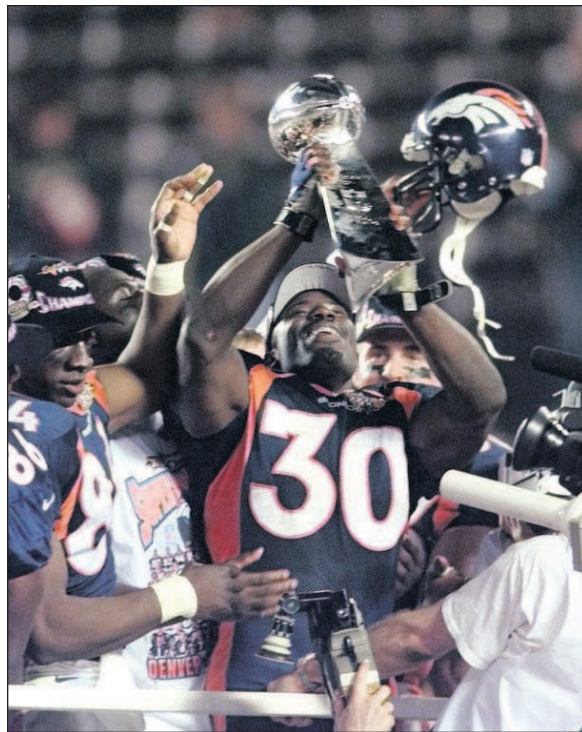
- Today, 4 p.m.
- Hall of Fame Museum, Canton, Ohio
- TV: NFL Network
- Online: NFL.com

Andersen and Easley represented.

"The running game is not just go to minicamp and then training camp in shorts and T-shirts and think you will be successful," Davis said when the unusual presence of two running backs in the same hall class was mentioned. "You need the pads on, need lots of hitting and repetitions. It's like an orchestra."

"I think now they are realizing in the NFL you've got to find other ways of getting the running game going."

See **HALL OF FAME/2B**



**FILE -** In this Jan. 25, 1998, file photo, Denver Broncos running back Terrell Davis holds the Lombardi trophy in the air after Denver beat the Green Bay Packers 31-24 in Super Bowl XXXII, at San Diego's Qualcomm Stadium. Davis will be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Saturday, Aug. 5, 2017.

AP Photo/Hans Deryk, File

## MLB

# Mariners earn win with big 7th inning

Paxton earns 7th straight win with 6 strong innings

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — James Paxton tied a Mariners' record by winning his seventh straight start, and Seattle beat the Kansas City Royals 5-2 Friday night to move back over .500.

Paxton (12-3) did not allow a hit until Mike Moustakas' single with one out in the fifth, and Brandon Moss'

two-out single ended Paxton's scoreless streak at 21 innings.

Paxton gave up two runs and four hits in six innings with one walk, seven strikeouts and a pair of wild pitches. Scott Bankhead won seven straight starts in 1989 and Jamie Moyer in 2003.

David Phelps, Nick Vincent and Edwin Diaz each followed with a perfect inning as Seattle improved to 13-8 since the All-Star break. Diaz got his 22nd save in 26



chances.

Jason Hammel (5-9) gave up three runs and six hits in 6 1/3 innings.

Danny Valencia drove in Jean Segura with sacrifice flies in the first and eighth innings.

Paxton's wild pitch in the sixth scored Whit Merrifield and gave Kansas City a 2-1 lead. Merrifield doubled and advanced to third on Lorenzo Cain's single.

Guillermo Heredia's tying double chased Hamel

in a three-run seventh, and Jarrod Dyson and Leonys Martin hit RBI singles off Ryan Buchter.

**CANO'S MILESTONE DOUBLE**

Robinson Cano's first-inning double was the 500th for his career.

**UP NEXT**

RHP Felix Hernandez (5-4), who is 2-4 with a 3.00 ERA in seven games at Kauffman Stadium, starts Saturday for Seattle and LHP Danny Duffy (7-6) for Kansas City. Duffy is 1-1 with a 2.25 ERA in seven games against the Mariners.



AP Photo/Orlin Wagner

Seattle Mariners' Jarrod Dyson, left, beats the tag by Kansas City Royals second baseman Whit Merrifield during the seventh inning of a baseball game at Kauffman Stadium in Kansas City, Mo., Friday, Aug. 4, 2017. Dyson finished the game 2 for 4 on offense with one run scored and the go-ahead RBI single in the seventh.

## Sports shorts

### Darvish dazzles in Dodgers debut

NEW YORK (AP) — Yu Darvish fit right in with the steamrolling Dodgers, striking out 10 over seven innings of three-hit ball during his Los Angeles debut to pitch the top team in the majors past the New York Mets 6-0 on Friday night.

Chris Taylor hit a leadoff homer against Jacob deGrom, and Mets nemesis Chase Utley added a two-run shot as Los Angeles improved baseball's best record to 77-32 with its 11th victory in 12 games. Yasiel Puig also went deep for the Dodgers, who have outscored New York 42-11 in winning all five meetings this season.

On the best extended roll by a National League team since World War II, the Dodgers are 42-7 since June 7 a stretch unequaled in franchise history. They have won 22 of 25 since July 4, with all three losses coming against Atlanta.



Darvish

"My life sucks. It's no fun being in this body right now. Everything hurts ... think of getting in 50 car wrecks a week for 20 straight weeks a year."

— **Jim Plunkett**

The former NFL quarterback and Super Bowl champion opened up in an interview with the San Jose Mercury News about the toll football took on his body and the fears he has of future issues. He has had 18 operations since retiring and currently takes 13 pills a day for various ailments.

### Doc Rivers has front office duties stripped by Clippers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Doc Rivers is losing his dual roles with the Los Angeles Clippers, keeping his position as coach while Lawrence Frank takes over Rivers' responsibility for basketball operations.

The team announced the changes Friday, saying the moves are "aimed at bringing the team to a new level of excellence by creating separate roles." The team says the change came as a result of discussions between Rivers and owner Steve Ballmer.

Rivers and Frank will be equals in the Clippers' power structure, with each reporting directly to Ballmer.

Rivers said he's "excited to focus on the coaching side" since two-thirds of the team's roster will be new next season. He has a 217-211 career regular-season record.



### THIS DATE IN SPORTS

**1921** — Radio station KDKA and announcer Harold Arlin provide the first broadcast of a major league game as the Pirates beat the Phillies 8-5 at Pittsburgh.

**1936** — At the Berlin Olympics, Jesse Owens wins his third of four gold medals, winning the 200-meter race in an Olympic-record 20.7 seconds.

**1967** — The Denver Broncos beat the Detroit Lions, 13-7, in a preseason game, for the first AFL victory over an NFL team.

**2007** — Tom Glavine earns his 300th victory in an 8-3 victory over the Cubs.

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