

Warriors sign Steve Kerr to extension

By JANIE MCCAULEY
Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Golden State Warriors coach Steve Kerr has received a contract extension following the franchise’s repeat championship and third title in four years during his tenure. Kerr and general manager Bob Myers, who are close friends and colleagues, said when the season ended that something would get done quickly once they began formal discussions. Kerr had one year remaining on his original \$25 million, five-year contract. Details of the extension were not announced Tuesday. “We’re excited to have Steve under contract and poised to lead our team for

the next several years,” Myers said in a statement released by the team. “Under his guidance, we’ve been fortunate enough to win three NBA titles in four years and his ability to thrive in all facets of his job is certainly a primary reason for our success. He’s a terrific coach, but more importantly an incredible human being.” The 52-year-old Kerr has said he hopes to coach at least another decade and perhaps 15 years. His Warriors swept LeBron James and Cleveland in the fourth straight NBA Finals matchups between the rivals. Kerr stayed healthy and on the bench while continuing to deal with symptoms such as headaches and dizzy spells stemming from a pair

of back surgeries following the 2015 title. The Warriors marked themselves as a dynasty with their latest crown. They joined Bill Russell’s Boston Celtics, the Chicago Bulls led by Michael Jordan and the Lakers’ trio of title runs fueled by George Mikan in the 1950s, Magic Johnson and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in the ‘80s, and Shaquille O’Neal and Kobe Bryant nearly 20 years ago as the only franchises in NBA history to capture three championships in four years. Golden State captured the franchise’s first title in 40 years during 2014-15, with Kerr as a rookie head coach. Now, the Warriors are gearing up for one more season in Oracle Arena before

opening their state-of-the-art Chase Center in San Francisco’s Mission Bay neighborhood in August 2019. James offered a shoutout to Kerr during the finals. “I could sit here and say today — ‘Listen, Golden State is a great team ...’ — I didn’t even mention their head coach,” James said. “Their head coach is the one who kind of puts it all together, makes it all flow. To be able to put egos and the right position and spot on the floor where everybody feels good about the outcome and things of that nature — when it comes to team sports, that’s something that you would hope that you could be a part of.” Kerr owns a 265-63 record (.808).



AP Photo/Susan Walsh
A choir moves on the field before the 89th MLB baseball All-Star Game on Tuesday at Nationals Park, in Washington.

ALL-STAR: Astros hit back-to-back HR in 10th

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Orioles shortstop Manny Machado had fun, pulling out a camera to snap a selfie at second base after Matt Kemp doubled. By Wednesday, they could be teammates — Baltimore seems ready to trade Machado, with the Dodgers and Phillies in the mix. Major League Baseball, meanwhile, seemed to take a selfie of itself at this game, with all the homers and strikeouts. This was MLB 2.018, an update that’s not appealing to everyone.

Declining attendance is a concern, and the sport’s owners worry that slower games with less action on the bases are taking a toll. A day after hometown star Bryce Harper electrified the crowd by winning the Home Run Derby, it was eerily quiet for most of the evening at Nationals Park. Harper didn’t excite the fans, either, fanning in his two at-bats. The popular Presidents Race at the park drew the biggest cheer in the middle innings, with the big-headed George Washington character prevailing.

The only thing missing was a bevy of defensive shifts. Overloaded infielders are the norm now, but AL manager A.J. Hinch of Houston and NL skipper Dave Roberts of the Dodgers

ers pretty much played things straight up. Bregman and Springer homered off losing pitcher Ross Stripling of the Dodgers — that’s kind of how last year ended, too, with Houston battering Los Angeles pitchers in the World Series. “I’ve seen it before. I haven’t seen it before in an All-Star Game like this,” Hinch said. “Pretty proud of them.”

Bregman smiled all around the bases and earned MVP honors. Segura’s three-run homer in the eighth landed in the bullpen and broke a 2-all tie. Judge homered in the second off Scherzer, the Nationals ace who became the first reigning Cy Young Award winner to start an All-Star Game in his home park.

Trout kept up his All-Star excellence, tagging Mets righty Jacob deGrom. A two-time MVP in his event, Trout is 7 for 15 with five extra-base hits and three walks in these games. Diaz wound up with the win and Toronto’s J.A. Happ got a save after giving up Votto’s homer. The AL won for the 18th time in 21 games played to a decision, and leads the series 44-43-2. Not since the early 1960s has the AL been ahead.

SOFTBALL: First game is Saturday vs. Wyoming

Continued from 1B

2-2 at the regional last year and was ousted by the eventual champion Utah while going 3-2 in 2016.

Wilson said that the goal is to make this the best showing for Pendleton yet, and that the coaching staff has reached out to coaches of the previous regional teams and have learned that “you never know what to expect.”

“There’s some teams there that are real solid and I look forward to playing them and competing,” Wilson said. “And I know the girls are super excited. They know the reason we’re going down there is to compete and try to win another tournament, and that’s our No. 1 goal.

“We plan on going down there and playing five or six softball games and playing for the championship.”

And when the team isn’t grinding it out on the softball field, it will likely use some down time for some fun activities such as a trip to Knott’s Berry Farm amusement park, soak up the sun at the beach, and perhaps even cool off at a water park.

But when the trip is over



Staff photo by Eric Singer

Pendleton 12U Little League softball All-Star Lanie Burke refills a patron’s glass of water at the team’s spaghetti feed at the Pendleton Eagles Lodge on Tuesday evening. The dinner raised money for the team’s trip to the Western Regional in San Bernardino, California, that begins at the end of the week.

and the team returns home, Wilson said that the girls will let the community know just how much they appreciated the support.

“I think when we get back and have some free time, these girls are going to be writing some thank you notes,” Wilson said. “And they’re going

to have a lot of them to write.”

Contact Eric at esinger@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0839.

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