

Numbers Game

This Day In Sports

1979 — Bobby Orr becomes the youngest player in NHL history to be selected for the Hockey Hall of Fame. The 31-year-old is inducted months after officially ending his NHL career.

C4 Antelope Valley Press, Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Morning rush

Valley Press news services
Thunder's Paul George has shoulder procedure

OKLAHOMA CITY — Thunder All-Star Paul George has had a procedure to repair a small labrum tear in his left shoulder.

A Thunder spokesman made the announcement on Tuesday.

George had surgery to repair a partially torn tendon in his right shoulder about a month ago. It was announced at that time that he would have the additional procedure at a later date. Both shoulders hampered him in the final two months of the season. His timetable for recovery remains the same — his status will be evaluated before the start of the upcoming season.

George is a finalist for the NBA's Most Valuable Player and Defensive Player of the Year awards. He ranked second in the league with 28 points per game and led the league with 2.21 steals per contest.

Thome, Martinez to manage revamped All-Star Futures Game

NEW YORK — Hall of Famer Jim Thome and Dennis Martinez will be the managers in a revamped All-Star Futures Game at Cleveland on July 7.

In its 21st year, the game is switching formats and will match American League prospects against young players from NL teams. Previously, a world team faced U.S. players.

In addition, the game is being shortened from nine innings to seven, which was the length in the initial Futures Game in 1999.

The commissioner's office said Wednesday that Thome will lead the AL team and Martinez the NLers. Both are former Indians players.

The U.S. has won 13 of 20 Futures Games, including eight of the last nine.

Raiders picked to be featured on 'Hard Knocks'

ALAMEDA — Oakland Raiders coach Jon Gruden will be a TV star once again.

HBO announced Tuesday that the Raiders will be featured on the network's "Hard Knocks" show in training camp this summer that gives a behind-the-scenes look at an NFL team.

Gruden spent nine seasons as the lead analyst on ESPN's "Monday Night Football" before returning to the sideline for a second stint as Raiders coach last year. Now he will likely be a star of the 14th edition of this reality show.

"Everybody wants to be a Raider," owner Mark Davis said. "Now they'll find out what it takes to become one."

The Raiders made several high-profile additions this offseason that made them an attractive team for the show in their final scheduled season in Oakland before a planned move to Las Vegas.

They hired another former TV analyst as general manager in Mike Mayock, traded for big-play receiver Antonio Brown and signed controversial free agents Vontaze Burfict and Richie Incognito. Oakland also had three first-round draft picks in Clelin Ferrell, Josh Jacobs and Johnathan Abram, as well as quarterback Derek Carr.

Gruden had expressed reservations about being on the show but the Raiders were one of five teams who could be forced to do the show because they didn't make the playoffs the past two seasons, didn't have a new coach and hadn't done the show the past 10 years.

NFL Films will send a 30-person crew to training camp in Napa to shoot more than 1,750 hours of footage for the series with access to meeting rooms, training rooms, living quarters and practice fields.

"They do a really good job of staying out of your way," said defensive coordinator Paul Guenther, who was on the staff in Cincinnati when the Bengals were featured on the show.

"You can see, kind of, what's going to be on the show. I think the positive thing is you find out a lot about your team and the coaches on the staff that, 'Hey, when the camera is on you are you going to be a different guy or a different player or if you're not.' Because really after the third day, you don't notice, you're so used to having them around that you just go about your business."

The other teams that were eligible were San Francisco, Washington, Detroit and the New York Giants. The first five episodes will air Aug. 6.

Defiant Semenya to IAAF: Catch dopers, 'not us'

MONTREUIL, France — After another winning run, a defiant Caster Semenya on Tuesday urged track's governing body to drop its pursuit of female runners with high testosterone levels and instead focus on catching dope cheats.

Speaking after winning a 2,000-meter race on the outskirts of Paris, the South African again made clear that she will refuse to medicate to bring down her testosterone levels, to comply with hugely controversial rules pushed by the IAAF.

"I'm not an idiot. Why will I take drugs? I'm a pure athlete. I don't cheat. They should focus on doping, not us. I'm never going to take drugs," the two-time Olympic champion over 800 meters said.

Another athlete affected by the rules, Francine Niyonsaba, also responded with a defiant "No!" when asked after the race if she would medicate.

Planner

COMING UP IN THE VALLEY

JETHAWKS (Major League Baseball)
 ■ Today vs. Inland Empire, 6:35 p.m.
 ■ Thursday vs. Inland Empire, 6:35 p.m.
 ■ Friday vs. Inland Empire, 6:35 p.m.

COMING UP IN SOCAL

ANGELS (Major League Baseball)
 ■ Thursday at Tampa Bay, 4:10 p.m., FSW
 ■ Friday at Tampa Bay, 4:10 p.m., FSW
 ■ Saturday at Tampa Bay, 10:10 a.m., FSW/MLB

DODGERS (Major League Baseball)
 ■ Thursday vs. Cubs, 7:07 p.m., SportsNetLA
 ■ Friday vs. Cubs, 7:07 p.m., SportsNetLA
 ■ Saturday vs. Cubs, 6:10 p.m., SportsNetLA/KTLA

ON TV TODAY

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL
 ■ Oakland at Tampa Bay OR Cincinnati at Cleveland (10 a.m.), 9 a.m., MLB
 ■ Chicago Cubs at Colorado OR Texas at Boston (1 p.m.), noon, MLB
 ■ Milwaukee at Houston, 5 p.m., ESPN
 ■ San Diego at San Francisco (joined in progress), 8 p.m., MLB

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (Stanley Cup Final)
 ■ St. Louis at Boston, Stanley Cup Final, Game 7, 5 p.m., NBC

SOCCER (Women's FIFA World Cup)
 ■ Nigeria vs. South Korea, Group A, France, 6 a.m., FOX
 ■ Germany vs. Spain, Group B, France, 9 a.m., FOX
 ■ France vs. Norway, Group A, France, noon, FOX

Koepka facing long odds for U.S. Open

By DOUG FERGUSON
Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH — Brooks Koepka should already have enough motivation for this U.S. Open.

At stake is a shot at a U.S. Open record not touched in 104 years — three straight victories by Willie Anderson.

On his mind was a Fox Sports preview that Koepka interpreted as another example of him not getting the credit he deserves, another chip on his broad shoulder, another chance to prove everyone wrong.

"A bunch of people on Twitter I think tagged me in it — in the promo — and I guess they were amazed that I wasn't in it," Koepka said Tuesday. "I just clicked on the link and watched it. Just kind of shocked. They've had over a year to kind of put it out. So I don't know. Somebody probably got fired over it — or should."

Was it a slight?

Fox had four U.S. Open promos, three of which included Koepka, one of them devoted entirely to Koepka and the history he can match. The other was entirely about Tiger Woods, the Masters champion who returns to the scene of his record 15-shot victory at Pebble Beach.



DEFENDING
Brooks Koepka hits on the fifth hole during a practice round for the U.S. Open Championship golf tournament on Monday in Pebble Beach.
Associated Press

Koepka wasn't clear about what shocked him. If there is any cause for a beef in the Woods promo, it was talk about passing the torch to the next generation and showing images of Rory McIlroy, Dustin Johnson and Jordan Spieth — but no Koepka.

The good news for Koepka?

He says it's getting harder for him to hide when he's out in public. He can feel eyes on him when he walks into a restaurant, and he's not sure why all the fuss.

"I just view myself as a regular guy, just like everybody else," he said. "And I just happen to be really good at golf. And that's it." It was hard not to notice,

maybe even appreciate, the interview room. Only six people attended his pre-tournament press conference last year at Shinnecock Hills when he was the defending champion, although it was late on a Wednesday afternoon. This time, it was hard to find six empty seats.

Koepka has everyone's attention at Pebble Beach. He has won four of his last eight majors, a stretch of success only Woods, Jack Nicklaus and Ben Hogan have equaled in the era of four majors.

Even so, it's another name that enters the equation this week.

Koepka recalls seeing Anderson's name on a building in Scot-

land last summer, right after he won his second U.S. Open. By then, Koepka was vaguely aware that the Scottish-born Anderson had won the U.S. Open in 1903, 1904 and 1905.

"I just try to put that in the back of my mind," Koepka said in a tone nearly as flat as his heart rate. "It's just another golf tournament. I have to go out and do what I'm supposed to do. It's going to be a tough test this week — we all know that."

Four players have had a shot at three straight U.S. Open titles since then. None came particularly close. The most recent opportunity fell to Curtis Strange in 1990 at Medinah, where a 68 brought him within two shots of the lead until he faded to a 75 in the final round and tied for 21st.

"He says it's another day, another round, another tournament," Strange said. "It's not. It's the U.S. Open. He's going for three in a row. But of anyone I've seen who walks the walk, it's Brooks Koepka. He goes about his business in a professional way every day."

Koepka realizes history is against him, and not just because it has been 104 years since anyone won a third straight U.S. Open.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

2019 Women's World Cup Glance

GROUP STAGE						
W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts	
France	1	0	0	4	0	3
Norway	1	0	0	3	0	3
Nigeria	0	1	0	0	3	0
South Korea	0	1	0	0	4	0

Friday, June 7
At Paris
France 4, South Korea 0

Saturday, June 8
At Reims, France
Norway 3, Nigeria 0

Wednesday, June 12
At Grenoble, France
Nigeria vs. South Korea, 6 a.m.

At Nice, France
France vs. Norway, noon

Monday, June 17
At Rennes, France
France vs. Nigeria, noon

At Reims, France
South Korea vs. Norway, noon

GROUP B						
W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts	
Spain	1	0	0	3	1	3
Germany	1	0	0	1	0	3
China	0	1	0	0	1	0
South Africa	0	1	0	1	3	0

Saturday, June 8
At Rennes, France
Germany 1, China 0

At Le Havre, France
Spain 3, South Africa 1

Wednesday, June 12
At Valenciennes, France
Germany vs. Spain, 9 a.m.

Thursday, June 13
At Paris
South Africa vs. China, noon

Monday, June 17
At Montpellier, France
Germany vs. South Africa, 9 a.m.

At Le Havre, France
China vs. Spain, 9 a.m.

GROUP C						
W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts	
Brazil	1	0	0	3	0	3
Italy	1	0	0	2	1	3
Australia	0	1	0	1	2	0
Jamaica	0	1	0	0	3	0

Sunday, June 9
At Valenciennes, France
Italy 2, Australia 1

At Grenoble, France
Brazil 3, Jamaica 0

Thursday, June 13
At Montpellier, France
Australia vs. Brazil, 9 a.m.

Friday, June 14
At Reims, France
Jamaica vs. Italy, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, June 18
At Grenoble, France
Australia vs. Jamaica, noon

At Valenciennes, France
Italy vs. Brazil, noon

GROUP D						
W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts	
England	1	0	0	2	1	3
Argentina	0	1	0	0	1	0
Japan	0	1	0	0	1	0
Scotland	0	1	0	1	2	0

Sunday, June 9
At Nice, France
England 2, Scotland 1

Monday, June 10
At Paris
Argentina 0, Japan 0

Friday, June 14
At Rennes, France
Japan vs. Scotland, 6 a.m.

At Le Havre, France
England vs. Argentina, noon

Wednesday, June 19
At Nice, France
Japan vs. England, noon

At Paris
Scotland vs. Argentina, noon

GROUP E						
W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts	
Canada	1	0	0	1	0	3
Netherlands	1	0	0	1	0	3
Cameroon	0	1	0	0	1	0
New Zealand	0	1	0	0	1	0

Monday, June 10
At Montpellier, France
Canada 1, Cameroon 0

Tuesday, June 11
At Le Havre, France
Netherlands 1, New Zealand 0

MLB

American League Glance

West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Houston	46	22	.676	—
Texas	36	30	.545	9
Oakland	34	34	.500	12
Angels	33	35	.485	13
Seattle	28	42	.400	19

East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	41	25	.621	—
Tampa Bay	41	25	.621	—
Boston	34	34	.500	8
Toronto	23	43	.348	18
Baltimore	21	45	.318	20

Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	44	21	.677	—
Cleveland	34	32	.515	10½
Chicago	32	34	.485	12½
Detroit	24	39	.381	19
Kansas City	21	45	.318	23½

Tuesday's Games
N.Y. Yankees 12, N.Y. Mets 5, 1st game
Baltimore 4, Toronto 2
N.Y. Mets 10, N.Y. Yankees 4, 2nd game
Cleveland 2, Cincinnati 1, 10 innings
Oakland 4, Tampa Bay 3
Texas 9, Boston 5

Chicago White Sox 7, Washington 5
Houston 10, Milwaukee 8
Minnesota 6, Seattle 5
Kansas City 3, Detroit 2

L.A. Angels 5, L.A. Dodgers 3
Today's Games
Oakland (Anderson 6-4) at Tampa Bay (Yarborough 5-2), 9:10 a.m.
Cincinnati (DeSclafani 2-3) at Cleveland (Plesac 1-1), 10:10 a.m.
Texas (Lynn 7-4) at Boston (Porcello 4-6), 1:05 p.m.
Toronto (Jackson 0-4) at Baltimore (Hess 1-8), 4:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Woodruff 8-1) at Houston (Verlander 9-2), 5:10 p.m.
Seattle (Mione 1-1) at Minnesota (Berris 8-2), 5:10 p.m.
Detroit (Norris 2-5) at Kansas City (Duffy 3-3), 5:15 p.m.

Thursday's Games
Seattle at Minnesota, 10:10 a.m.
Toronto at Baltimore, 4:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Tampa Bay, 4:10 p.m.
Texas at Boston, 4:10 p.m.
Detroit vs. Kansas City at Omaha, Neb., 5:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Chicago White Sox, 5:10 p.m.

AL Leaders

BATTING — Polanco, Minnesota, .341; Meadows, Tampa Bay, .333; Brantley, Houston, .320; LeMahieu, New York, .316; Anderson, Chicago, .314; Dozier, Kansas City, .314; Springer, Houston, .308; Fletcher, Los Angeles, .308; La Stella, Los Angeles, .307; 2 tied at .305.

RBI — Abreu, Chicago, 52; Rosario, Minnesota, 52; Encarnacion, Seattle, 49; Santana, Seattle, 48; Soler, Kansas City, 45; Bregman, Houston, 44; Mondesi, Kansas City, 44; Trout, Los Angeles, 44; Voit, New York, 44; 5 tied at 43.

National League Glance

West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Dodgers	45	23	.662	—
Colorado	35	31	.530	9
Arizona	35	33	.515	10
San Diego	33	34	.493	11½
San Francisco	27	38	.415	16½

East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlanta	38	29	.567	—
Philadelphia	38	29	.567	—
New York	33	34	.493	5
Washington	31	36	.463	7
Miami	23	42	.354	14

Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Milwaukee	38	29	.567	—
Chicago	37	29	.561	½
St. Louis	33	32	.508	4
Pittsburgh	30	36	.455	7½
Cincinnati	29	36	.446	8

Tuesday's Games
N.Y. Yankees 12, N.Y. Mets 5, 1st game
N.Y. Mets 10, N.Y. Yankees 4, 2nd game
Philadelphia 7, Arizona 4
Cleveland 2, Cincinnati 1, 10 innings
St. Louis 7, Miami 1
Atlanta 7, Pittsburgh 5, 8 innings
Chicago White Sox 7, Washington 5
Houston 10, Milwaukee 8
Colorado 10, Chicago Cubs 3
San Francisco 6, San Diego 5
L.A. Angels 5, L.A. Dodgers 3

Today's Games
Cincinnati (DeSclafani 2-3) at Cleveland (Plesac 1-1), 10:10 a.m.
Chicago Cubs (Hamel 5-2) at Colorado (Santana 5-2), 12:10 p.m.
Arizona (Kelly 6-6) at Philadelphia (Eflin 6-5), 4:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Mikolas 4-6) at Miami (Yamamoto 0-0), 4:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Keller 0-1) at Atlanta (Soroka 7-1), 4:20 p.m.
Milwaukee (Woodruff 8-1) at Houston (Verlander 9-2), 5:10 p.m.
San Diego (Lucchesi 5-3) at San Francisco (Anderson 1-1), 6:45 p.m.

Thursday's Games
Pittsburgh at Atlanta, 9:10 a.m.
Arizona at Washington, 4:05 p.m.
St. Louis at N.Y. Mets, 4:10 p.m.
San Diego at Colorado, 5:40 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at L.A. Dodgers, 7:10 p.m.

NL Leaders

BATTING — Bellinger, Los Angeles, .353; Yelich, Milwaukee, .346; McNeil, New York, .338; Arenado, Colorado, .330; Bell, Pittsburgh, .324; Dahl, Colorado, .324; Rendon, Washington, .320; JTumer, Los Angeles, .316; Freeman, Atlanta, .306; Blackmon, Colorado, .306.

RBI — Bell, Pittsburgh, 60; Arenado, Colorado, 57; Escobar, Arizona, 55; Ozuna, St. Louis, 55; Bellinger, Los Angeles, 54.

SPORTS ODDS

Major League Baseball Today

National League			
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
Chicago	-127	at COLORADO	+117
at PHILADELPHIA	-140	Arizona	+130
St. Louis	-		