

TV LISTINGS

Wednesday, June 24
COLLEGE BASEBALL
4 p.m. — World Series, finals, game 3, LSU vs. Texas, at Omaha, Neb. (ESPN)
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL
4 p.m. — N.Y. Yankees at Atlanta (ESPN2)
6:30 p.m. — Texas at Arizona (FSN)
SOCCER
11:25 a.m. — FIFA, Confederations Cup, semifinal, teams TBA, at Bloemfontein, South Africa (ESPN)
TENNIS
4 a.m. — Wimbledon Championships, early round, at London (ESPN2)

Schedule subject to change and/or blackout.

INSIDE TODAY



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Venus stumbles in Wimbledon win
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Braves smash Yankees
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QUICK READ

Yzerman, Hull, Robitaille, Leetch get Hall of Fame

Steve Yzerman, Brett Hull, Luc Robitaille and Brian Leetch are going into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

The selection committee announced on a conference call Tuesday it had elected the maximum four players this year. All were eligible for the first time.

Yzerman retired in the summer of 2006 with the sixth-highest point total in NHL history. The longtime Detroit Red Wings captain won the Stanley Cup three times and a gold medal with Canada in the 2002 Olympics.

Hull's 741 goals rank third all-time, Robitaille's 668 are the most by a left wing and Leetch is one of just five defensemen to have a 100-point season.

A player must be retired for three seasons before becoming eligible to enter the Hall. The induction ceremony will be Nov. 9.

Sandberg: Sosa doesn't deserve Hall of Fame

CHICAGO (AP) — Former Chicago Cubs star Ryne Sandberg says Sammy Sosa doesn't belong in the Baseball Hall of Fame.

"I don't think so," Sandberg told ESPN Radio 1000 in Chicago on Tuesday. "Part of being in the Hall of Fame, they use the word integrity in describing a Hall of Famer, in the logo of the Hall of Fame, and I think there are going to be quite a few players that are not going to get in."

The New York Times last week reported that Sosa was one of 104 players who tested positive for a performance-enhancing drug in an anonymous 2003 survey, while he was with the Cubs. A congressional committee is looking into the allegations.

During a 2005 hearing before Congress, Sosa testified: "To be clear, I have never taken illegal performance-enhancing drugs."

NFL

Players confident all Cardinals will be in place for opening day

By DAVID BELL
TODAY'S NEWS-HERALD

A pair of Arizona Cardinals are confident last year's full NFC Championship team will be on the field for opening day 2009.

"Every team has issues but what everybody has to do is focus on what they do and get better," said tight end Alex Shor. "I don't know the particulars of what those guys are working through (in contract negotiations) but I know that when they show up, they will be ready."

The Cardinals are continuing to work on new contracts for wide receiver Anquan Boldin, line-backer Karlos Dansby and defensive tackle Darnell Dockett. Boldin and Dockett sat out the recent organized team activities but Dansby has participated in voluntary workouts. Team officials said they want to focus on Dansby's deal next before tackling the Boldin issue.

Earlier this month the team completed a new five-year deal with safety Adrian Wilson. Previously the team locked down quarterback Kurt Warner and defensive end Bertrand Berry to new deals, though Berry was also AWOL at the OTA.

"I think the consensus is we'll have the same team (as last year) on the field," said offensive lineman Carlton Medder.

Shor and Medder were in Lake

Havasu City Tuesday to talk with participants in the City Parks and Recreation Department's Camp Iwanago and the Sunshine summer camps and Special Olympians about the importance of eating right, getting plenty of exercise and performing well in school.

Away from the presentation, the players said they've found little difficulty in handling the coaching changeover this year.

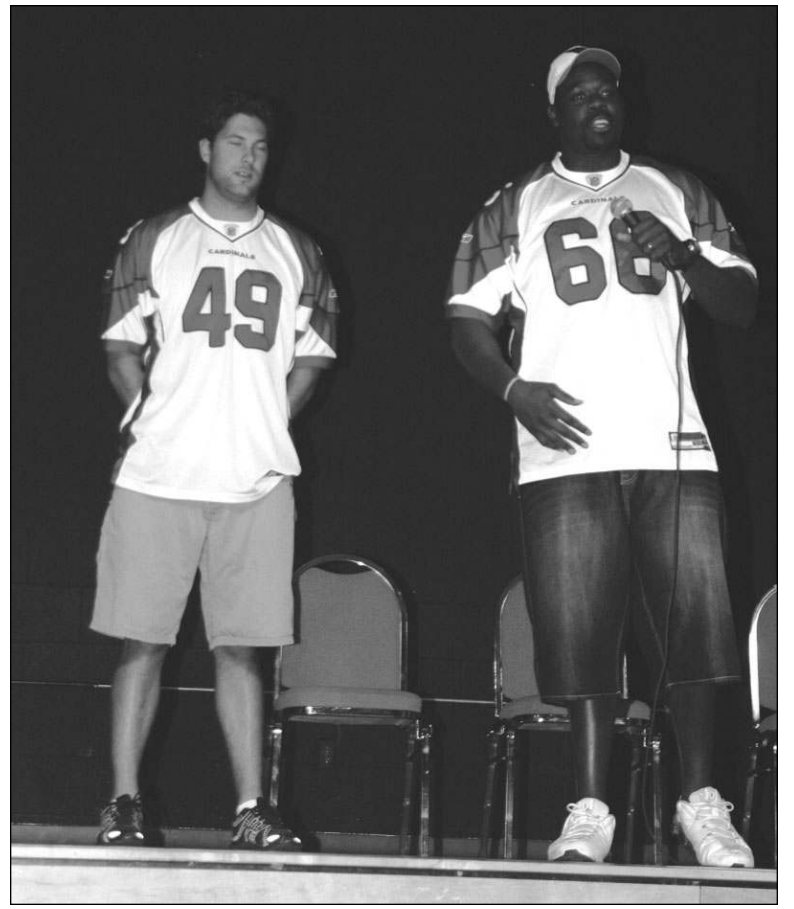
"We're pretty much doing the same thing as last year, so there's no problems with the coaches," Medder said.

Offensive coordinator Todd Haley left to take the Kansas City Chiefs head coaching job while defensive coordinator Clancy Pendergrast was fired.

Cardinals head coach Ken Whisenhunt looked in-house to fill the vacancies; tabbing line-backers coach Bill Davis to take the defensive coordinator spot, while splitting the offensive coordinator between two coaches. Offensive line and assistant head coach Russ Grimm is now the run-game coordinator while wide receivers coach Mike Miller is the pass-game coordinator.

"We're going to be coming after them (opposing teams) like they're going to be coming after us," Shor said.

"Last year was great but that was last year. So we're not defending anything, we're going to be



David Bell/News-Herald Photo
Arizona Cardinals tight end Alex Shor (49) listens while offensive lineman Carlton Medder (66) talks with participants in the City Parks and Recreation Department's Camp Iwanago and the Sunshine summer camps and Special Olympians during a special presentation at Relics and Rods Hall at the Lake Havasu City Community Center Tuesday.

attacking."

The duo did not agree with the NFL commissioner Roger Goodell's proposal to shorten the preseason and add a 17th game to the regular season schedule.

"I like the preseason, it gives me a chance to show what I can do," Medder said.

"And it's a huge difference

between the NCAA and the NFL, a completely different game. The younger players need that extra training camp time," Shor said.

Training camp at the Northern Arizona University campus in Flagstaff will start July 31 and practice is open to the public.

You may contact the reporter at dbell@havasunews.com.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Texas evens College World Series 1-1

By ERIC OLSON
AP SPORTS WRITER

OMAHA, Neb. — Freshman Taylor Jungmann limited LSU to five hits in his first complete game and Russell Moldenhauer hit his record-tying fourth home run of the College World Series as Texas evened the best-of-three finals, 5-1 over LSU on Tuesday night.

The top-seeded Longhorns (50-15-1) forced a winner-take-all game Wednesday night for the national championship. LSU (55-17), ranked No. 1 in the major polls, lost for the first time in 15 games.

Jungmann, who threw six pitches all for balls in a short relief appearance in Game 1 Monday, struck out nine against an LSU offense that averaged 9.5 runs in its first four CWS games.

Jungmann (11-3) won his third game in Omaha — the other two were in relief — and he pitched the first complete game in the CWS since 2006.

LSU starter Aaron Ross (6-8) lasted only two innings in his first CWS start.

Moldenhauer's surprising



Dave Weaver/AP Photo
Texas' Michael Torres, left, is tagged out between second and third base by LSU third baseman Derek Helenihi in the second inning of Game 2 of the best-of-three NCAA College World Series baseball finals, in Omaha, Neb., Tuesday. Texas won 5-1.

show of power continued. He came to Omaha with no home runs this season and became the 10th player to hit four in a CWS when he sent a high fly over the right-center field fence off Ryan

Byrd in the third.

Jungmann had never pitched more than 7 2-3 innings. He gave up a triple to DJ LeMahieu leading off the third in addition to four singles.

MLB

Ramirez cheered by Albuquerque fans

By TIM KORTE
AP SPORTS WRITER

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Los Angeles Dodgers slugger Manny Ramirez was welcomed back to baseball with rousing cheers.

In the minor leagues, anyway.

Ramirez, easing back into playing shape after a 50-game drug suspension, suited up for Tuesday night's game with the Albuquerque Isotopes, wearing No. 99 for the Dodgers' top farm club.

He played four innings and was hitless in two at-bats. The capacity crowd of 15,321 was the largest in Albuquerque's baseball history.

Fans lined the walkway from the clubhouse as Ramirez entered the field. They gathered near the dugout, clustering for autographs, and they seemed ready to forgive Ramirez for violating baseball's drug rules.

"People love me everywhere I go," Ramirez said before the game. "I'm excited to bring a lot of joy to a lot of people here. I feel good. I'm happy that I'm here."

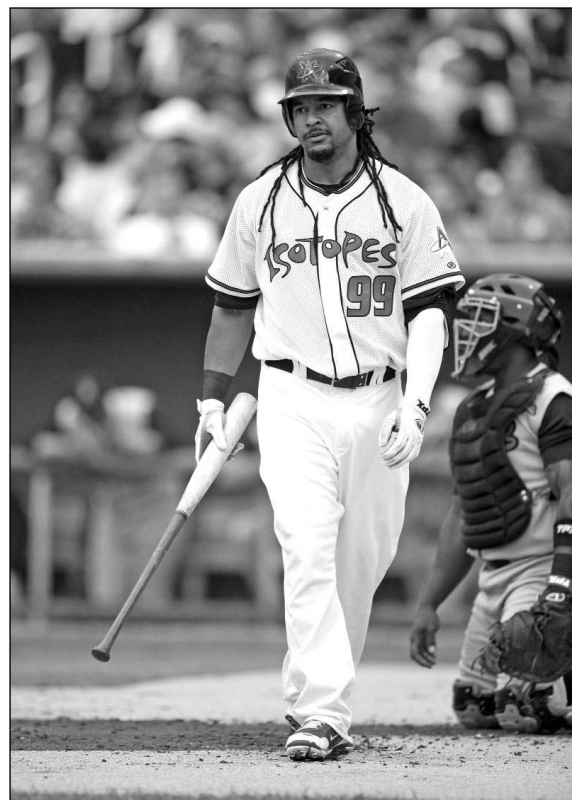
After going through stretching, warmups, batting practice and shagging flies in the outfield, Ramirez returned to a cramped corner of the Isotopes clubhouse and briefly held court.

One of the first questions was about whether he used steroids.

"I'm not talking about it anymore," he said. "I already said what I'm going to say. I'm here to do my rehab, you know, and (go) to the game and get a couple at-bats and get back to the big-league team."

He played left field Tuesday night for the Dodgers' Triple-A affiliate, Isotopes manager Tim Wallach said Ramirez will play five innings on Wednesday and seven on Thursday.

"It's more to get him on the field, to get him some innings out in left field, physically get him moving



Craig Fritz/AP Photo
Los Angeles Dodgers' Manny Ramirez heads to the dugout after striking out during his first at-bat while playing for the Dodgers' Triple-A team, the Albuquerque Isotopes, against the Nashville Sounds in Albuquerque, N.M.

around," Wallach said. "The at-bats are important as well, just to see live pitching."

It wasn't certain if Ramirez will see the series finale on Friday.

OLYMPICS

Age-old question: Chinese gymnasts under review

By NANCY ARMOUR
AP NATIONAL WRITER

Two Chinese gymnasts suspected of being underage at the 2000 Olympics aren't off the hook yet.

The International Gymnastics Federation announced Tuesday it has turned the investigation into Dong Fangxiao and Yang Yun's eligibility over to its disciplinary commission. The commission, established Friday, will give its decision to the FIG's executive committee by the end of September, at the latest.

Questions about Dong and Yang's ages arose during the FIG's investigation into the eligibility of several members of China's team that won the gold medal at the Beijing Games. The 2008 gymnasts were cleared in October, but the FIG said it wasn't satisfied with "the explanations and evidence provided to date" for Dong and Yang.

"It's ridiculous that we are being subjected to this level of dealing with this issue, in my opinion," Steve Penny, president of USA Gymnastics. "I just cannot understand why anyone associated with the Olympic movement would feel like they would put themselves or the sport in jeopardy at this level."

"The age limit is the age limit. Whether you agree with it or not, it is what it is. For this to be issue that surrounded two Olympic games, it just doesn't make sense to me."

If the disciplinary commission finds Dong and Yang were underage in Sydney, it will propose sanctions. Based on previous cases, that could include wiping out China's results in Sydney. When the FIG discovered North Korea's Kim Gwang Suk had been listed as 15 for three years in a row, it stripped her of her gold medal on uneven bars at the 1991 world championships, nullified her results and barred North Korea from the 1993 worlds.

Because this case involves the Olympics, however, it would be up to the International Olympic Committee to decide if China should lose any medals. The Chinese women were the bronze medalists in Sydney, and Yang also won a bronze medal on uneven bars. The U.S. women were fourth in 2000, while Viktoriya Karpenko of Ukraine was fourth on bars.

"We can cancel results, but we cannot cancel the medals," said Andre Gueisbuhler, the FIG's secretary general. "To withdraw the medals, the IOC would have to take this step."