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Fernando Tatis Jr.



K.C. ALFRED U-T

Fernando Tatis Jr. speaks with members of the media in the Padres dugout at Petco Park on Tuesday about his 80-game suspension for his positive PED test. Seated next to Tatis is A.J. Preller, team president of baseball operations.

TATIS APOLOGIZES FOR SUSPENSION, MISTAKES

Padres star shortstop says he will have long-delayed surgery on his left shoulder

BY KEVIN ACEE

On top of the bench that runs the length of the Padres dugout, seated next to one of the men he has deeply disappointed, Fernando Tatis Jr. continued to take the beginning steps of rebuilding trust.

Facing a phalanx of cameras, the fallen face of the franchise spoke publicly Tuesday for the first time since his career trajectory took a sharp turn. He expressed contrition for mistakes that resulted in his missing the entirety of this season and ex-

plained he plans to come back from those mistakes.

Tatis began with an opening statement during which he appeared to need to gather himself a few times.

“I would like to start this day by saying how truly sorry I am,” he said. “I am really sorry. I have let so many people down. I’ve lost so much love from people that I have failed. I have failed all of them. I have failed the front office of the San Diego Padres, Peter Seidler, A.J. Preller. I have failed every fan of this city. I have failed my country. I have failed

LONG ROAD BACK FOR STAR

■ D1 • Fernando Tatis Jr. says the right things, but it will take time to rebuild trust, writes Bryce Miller.

my family, parents. I’m really sorry for my mistakes.”

The public comments concluded a series of actions Tatis has taken over the past five days to begin to rebuild trust after being suspended this month following a positive test for a substance banned by Major League Baseball as a performance enhancing drug.

Before addressing the media, Tatis spoke with teammates. Inside the clubhouse, he apologized and explained his version of events and then took teammates’ questions. Many players approached Tatis at the end of the meeting to embrace him.

“He ... said what he needed to say,” third baseman Manny Machado said. “At the end of the day, we’re all family here. We all hype each other up ... and he’s young, man. He’s gonna learn from his mistakes. I think he’s learned and he’s gonna get past

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BIDEN SET TO UNVEIL RELIEF FOR STUDENT LOAN DEBT

Plan expected to include extending pause in payments

U-T NEWS SERVICES

WASHINGTON

President Joe Biden will announce a decision today on his plans for student loan debt relief, a highly anticipated moment that could affect about 45 million borrowers nationwide, according to people familiar with the matter.

Although details of the plan were still being finalized, White House aides have said Biden is weighing a targeted plan that would provide \$10,000 of debt relief for borrowers who make below a certain level of income.

Biden also is expected to extend a pause on loan payments for all borrowers, a Trump-era program that has been in effect since the start of the pandemic.

The federal government, the main lender for Americans who borrow to fund their higher education, holds \$1.6 trillion in student debt. Biden has faced calls throughout his presidency to cancel a chunk of it, driven by borrowers and the progressive wing of the Democratic Party. He backed the idea of some relief on the campaign trail in 2020, saying: “I’m going to make sure that everybody in this generation gets \$10,000 knocked off of their student debt as we try to get out of this god-awful pandemic.”

But White House aides say the presi-
SEE DEBT • A6

McELROY’S ELEVATION SIGNALS HE IS KEY ALLY OF FRANCIS

S.D. bishop set to be cardinal shares pope’s pastoral vision

BY DAVID CRARY

When San Diego Catholic Bishop Robert McElroy receives his prestigious red hat at the Vatican on Saturday, he will bring to the College of Cardinals a loyalty to Pope Francis that has often put him at odds with the conservative majority in the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

McElroy, 68, will be the only North American among the 21 clerics who will be installed as cardinals by Francis in a ceremony at St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome. He was chosen over higher-ranking American archbishops, including two from his home state — Salvatore Cordileone of San Francisco and José Gomez of Los Angeles, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Both are considered theological conservatives.

With McElroy’s elevation, the Diocese of San Diego will be led by a cardinal for the first time.

McElroy has been among the few
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Robert McElroy

SOUTHERN WHITE RHINO BORN AT PARK

Wildlife program aims to breed northern rhinos also

BY GARY WARTH

A male southern white rhino born Aug. 6 at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park and his mother are doing well, the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance reported Monday.

“We are so pleased Livia and her calf are doing so well,” lead wildlife care specialist Jonnie Capiro said about the first-time mother and still-unnamed calf. “Seeing this energetic little rhino running around, wallowing in the mud and just being generally curious is very rewarding.”

A video of the calf frolicking at the Nikita Kahn Rhino Rescue Center can be seen in a tweet by the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance.

The calf was conceived through natural breeding of Livia and father J Gregory.

“All rhino births are significant, and this calf’s birth represents an essential

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KEN BOHN SAN DIEGO ZOO WILDLIFE ALLIANCE VIA AP

A southern white rhino, still unnamed, was born to Livia (right) on Aug. 6 at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park. The rhino is classified as a near-threatened species.

TIM BARNETT • 1938-2022

SCRIPPS SCIENTIST PIONEERED A WAY TO PREDICT EL NIÑO PATTERN

BY GARY ROBBINS

There were moments in 1997 when catching game fish off San Diego was startlingly easy. A natural phenomenon called El Niño made the ocean unusually warm, causing prized species like yellowfin tuna to swim north from Mexico in high numbers.

The El Niño also brought death and destruction, enhancing storms that killed 17 people in California and de-

stroyed everything from roads to piers to hillside homes. San Diego got 17.16 inches of rain, mostly during the winter months. That was nearly double the city’s average.

Pretty much all of this was preceded by a warning that would change science.

At considerable risk to his reputation, Tim Barnett, a bold, no-nonsense marine physicist at UC San Diego, predicted that a powerful El Niño was developing and

that its effects might be felt worldwide.

Researchers are citing the achievement to honor Barnett, who died Aug. 12 at his home in La Jolla, not far from where he worked for decades at UCSD’s Scripps Institution of Oceanography. He was 84 and had been battling Parkinson’s disease, according to his family.

Other scientists also were seeing distinct signs of El Niño. But Barnett and his colleagues candidly spoke

about it publicly during a workshop at Scripps that August, and made it clear to the journalists present that people should prepare for possible trouble.

It was the clearest public declaration of its kind at the time, and it turned out to be right. The El Niño was one of the worst on record, inflicting pain from San Diego to Somalia. Time would show that Barnett and a colleague at Scripps, David Pierce, had produced a reliable way

to forecast the rise, spread and strength of El Niños — science that’s since become very sophisticated.

The breakthrough was one of several landmark findings by Barnett and Pierce, whose work enriched Scripps’ reputation as a diviner of how the ocean, sea and humans interact.

In 2005, the duo and their colleagues in Northern California published a paper that clearly showed carbon dioxide and other pollutants

were contributing to the warming of the world’s oceans. The researchers said the greenhouse gases were tied to human activity, and could eventually lead to water shortages in the western United States.

Over time, the study helped scientists around the world definitively prove that humans are behind global warming.

Barnett and Pierce built on that study in 2008, pre-
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