



# ***Press Clips***

**(October 17, 2018)**

**CLIPS CONTENT**

*FROM OC REGISTER (PAGE 3)*

- **Angels opting out of Anaheim stadium lease, opening the door for a possible move**
- **Angels Offseason Options: Patrick Corbin**

*FROM THE LA TIMES (PAGE 6)*

- **Angels opt out of their Angel Stadium lease, but it doesn't mean they're leaving**

*FROM ANGELS.COM (PAGE 7)*

- **Angels opt out of stadium lease with Anaheim**

*FROM MLB.COM (PAGE 8)*

- **Why Angels are banking on 2-hour manager test**
- **Here's what happened in Tuesday's AFL action**

*FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS (PAGE 13)*

- **Angels opt out of stadium lease, look at 'all our options'**

*FROM CBS SPORTS (PAGE 14)*

- **Angels reportedly opt out of stadium lease despite ranking near the top of MLB in attendance since 2003**

*FROM BLEACHER REPORT (PAGE 15)*

- **Angels' Location Up in Air After Team Opt's out of Stadium Lease in Anaheim**
- **MLB Rumors: Angels Interview Eric Chavez, Brad Ausmus, 'Unclear' Who Is Favored**
- **1 Flashy Move to Make Each MLB Team an Offseason Winner\***

*FROM SPORTS ILLUSTRATED (PAGE 19)*

- **Are the Angels Violating Norms by Reportedly Making Managerial Candidates Take a Test?**
- **Angels Opt Out of Lease on Angel Stadium In Anaheim**

*FROM MLB TRADE RUMORS (PAGE 21)*

- **Angels Opt Out Of Ballpark Lease**

*FROM THE SPORTING NEWS (PAGE 22)*

- **Angels announce they're opting out of Anaheim stadium lease**

*FROM YAHOO! SPORTS (PAGE 23)*

- **The Angels are opting out of their stadium lease and could leave Anaheim**

*FROM KABC (PAGE 24)*

- **Angels opt out of stadium lease in Anaheim**

*FROM THE DESERT SUN (PAGE 25)*

- **Former Oakland A's standout Eric Chavez could become next Angels manager**

*FROM THE DETROIT NEWS (PAGE 26)*

- **Ex-Tigers manager Brad Ausmus interviews for Angels' opening**

**FROM OC REGISTER****Angels opting out of Anaheim stadium lease, opening the door for a possible move**

By Alicia Robinson

The Angels will play in Anaheim through the 2019 season, but after that, the team could make plans to leave its longtime home.

Angels officials have notified the city they are exercising an option to cancel their lease, which included an opt-out clause that expired Tuesday, Oct. 16, team spokeswoman Marie Garvey said.

The move doesn't mean the Angels will definitely leave. Team officials will meet with the new mayor and City Council after the Nov. 6 election to discuss the future, Garvey said.

The city owns the 45,000-seat stadium, where the Angels have played for more than 50 years. If the opt-out deadline had passed, the team would have been locked into staying through late 2029, Garvey said.

"As we look to the future, we need the ability to continue to deliver a high-quality fan experience beyond what the original lease allows," club president John Carpino said in a written statement. "It is important that we look at all our options and how we can best serve our fans now and in the future."

"We do have options" for where the team could play long-term, Garvey said, but would not elaborate on where executives might be looking.

Anaheim spokesman Mike Lyster said in a statement that city leaders "don't believe there is a better place for the team" than Anaheim.

"As fun as baseball is in Anaheim, this is a reminder that this is still a business. And we understand that the Angels need to preserve all options available," Lyster said.

"We welcome talking with the team about the future of baseball in Anaheim."

What it would take to keep the team in town has been the subject of discussion for several years.

In 2013, Angels and city officials attempted to negotiate a new lease. When the two sides couldn't reach agreement, the team continued exploring a move to the former Marine base in Tustin, but later determined it would cost too much to build a new stadium there.

By 2016, the Angels were talking with Anaheim again, but those efforts also made little progress.

The two sides have haggled over allowing the team to drop "Anaheim" from its name – they've been the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim since 2005 – and whether owner Arte Moreno's firm should get a \$1-a-year lease to develop the land around the stadium. They've also debated whether the team or the city should pay for major renovations to the stadium, which opened in 1966.

Since Moreno bought the team in 2003, the Angels have put more than \$50 million into upgrades, but the stadium is expected to need more than \$150 million in improvements over the next 20 years, including repairs to plumbing, concrete, elevators and escalators, according to city information.

This spring, the team debuted new scoreboards with millions of LED lights; the one in right field is billed as the third largest in the major leagues.

But that wasn't enough to appease some fans. In August, Popular Mechanics magazine ranked all 30 MLB facilities and put Angel Stadium in 27th place, and a 2016 USA Today best-to-worst list landed it at No. 26 with one comment: "Meh."

"I think that it has the reputation of being adequate and no more," Ballpark Digest publisher Kevin Reichard said.

Newer and recently renovated parks have added high-end, private gathering areas for the corporate crowd, and standing-room social spaces with beer and plenty of outlets where millennial fans can plug in a smartphone, Reichard said.

It's unknown what Angels executive will bargain for when they sit down with Anaheim again, but some city leaders are ready to listen.

Councilwoman Lucille Kring, who has two years left in her term, said it's "extremely important" to keep the team and its 3 million tickets sold annually.

"It's an economic engine over there and it draws people to the city," she said. "I'd be willing to open up and see what they want."

If the team does look for greener pastures, it's unlikely they'd go far. Garvey said the Angels' contract with Major League Baseball gives them rights to play in Orange, Los Angeles and Ventura counties, but they couldn't simply move out of state.

Reichard said teams rarely relocate, even within their own market. The last major shift – when the former Expos moved from Montreal to become the Nationals in Washington, D.C. – was in 2005, he said.

As the news spread, some fans speculated on social media that Anaheim's recent battles with Disney and some city leaders' opposition to tax incentives for business had set the table for the Angels' lease announcement.

Mayor Tom Tait, who has voted against tax subsidies and is termed out this year, said he's not convinced the Angels would leave the city and believes the latest news is an attempt to sway votes toward council candidates who may offer the team a sweet deal at taxpayers' expense.

"I'll take Arte Moreno's word (from) a couple years ago, when they said they were committed to staying in Anaheim," Tait said.

Speaking to reporters in 2017, Moreno said it would be unrealistic for the team to leave Angel Stadium before 2029.

Garvey said the opt-out announcement is unconnected to the election and pointed again to the deadline.

“This is contractual,” she said. “It wasn’t political.”

## Angels Offseason Options: Patrick Corbin

By Jeff Fletcher

*(This is the latest in a series of quick profiles on players who fit for the Angels to add over the winter. They are purely “informed speculation,” based on what we know about the Angels’ roster needs along with General Manager Billy Eppler’s preferences and history. We’ll have a new one every weekday, until the GM Meetings, which are the unofficial start of the hot stove season.)*

### **PATRICK CORBIN, LHP, Arizona Diamondbacks**

**The basics:** Corbin is coming off his best season at age 28. The Angels originally drafted Corbin, but traded him – along with Tyler Skaggs – to Arizona for Dan Haren in 2010.

**2018 season:** Corbin posted a 3.15 ERA and pitched exactly 200 innings, earning an All-Star berth. He struck out 246 and walked 48.

**Contract stats:** Corbin is a free agent, and he’s likely to be given a qualifying offer, meaning the Angels would have to surrender their second-round pick if they signed him. He made \$7.5 million last year and could triple that this winter. Assuming that Clayton Kershaw doesn’t use his opt-out, Corbin and Dallas Keuchel would be the clear top starting pitchers on the market. Although Keuchel has a better track record, Corbin was better this year and is 18 months younger.

**Why he makes sense:** The Angels need pitching, and Corbin is probably the dream acquisition for many fans. Durability is one of the most important qualities the Angels are looking for, and over the last two years, only three pitchers have made more starts than Corbin’s 65. He had Tommy John surgery a few years ago, so his arm ought to be sound. Eppler likes strikeouts, and Corbin struck out 11.1 hitters per nine innings this season. He allowed just 15 homers, which is exceptional considering he pitched in a relatively tough pitchers’ park in Arizona.

**Why he doesn’t:** As perhaps the most attractive starting pitcher on the market, Corbin is going to demand a significant contract. It seems unlikely he could be had for anything less than five years and perhaps \$100 million. Aside from the long-term risk of that type of contract, there is the short-term issue of allocating so much of the limited room they have in the 2019 payroll to one player. Also, Corbin grew up in New York and has reportedly always dreamed of pitching for the Yankees. The Yankees are going to have some holes in their rotation, so they figure to be involved in the bidding.

**FROM LA TIMES****Angels opt out of their Angel Stadium lease, but it doesn't mean they're leaving**

By Bill Shaikin

The Angels opted out of their lease with the city of Anaheim on Tuesday, setting the stage for another round of negotiations over whether the team remains in its longtime host city or finds a new home elsewhere in Southern California.

“As we look to the future, we need the ability to continue to deliver a high-quality fan experience beyond what the original lease allows,” Angels President John Carpino said in a statement. “It is important that we look at all our options and how we can best serve our fans now and in the future.”

Angel Stadium, which opened in 1966, is the fourth-oldest ballpark in the major leagues, behind Boston’s Fenway Park, Chicago’s Wrigley Field and Dodger Stadium.

Since 2003, the first season of Arte Moreno’s ownership, the Angels and New York Yankees are the only major league teams to sell 3 million tickets every year.

Anaheim Mayor Tom Tait, who led the drive against a tentative agreement between the city and the team for an Angel Stadium renovation in 2013, is in his final term. Voters in Anaheim will elect a new mayor and three new council members next month.

Angels spokeswoman Marie Garvey said the decision to opt out was not meant to influence voters. She said the lease required the team to opt out no later than Tuesday or wait until 2028 for another chance to do so.

“It’s today, or 10 years from now,” Garvey said. “There’s no option in between.”

Garvey would not say whether remaining in Anaheim was the Angels’ first choice.

“We’ll sit down with the new mayor and city council,” she said. “We also are going to look at all our options.”

The Angels ended negotiations with Anaheim in 2014, then revived them briefly in 2016. They explored options for new ballparks in Los Angeles, Carson and Irvine, but prioritized a proposal for a new stadium in Tustin because of its proximity to their current home and fan base.

The sides are believed to have focused on a stadium that would have seated about 37,000 and cost about \$700 million. Tustin officials said then that they would not provide taxpayer funding for stadium construction.

Moreno said last year that the team would play at Angel Stadium until the lease ends in 2029.

In a statement, the city of Anaheim acknowledged that Moreno needed to act now or lose his flexibility for the next decade.

“We look forward to many great years of Angels baseball in Anaheim,” the city statement said. “We don’t believe there is a better place for the team than in the heart of Orange County’s most exciting city....

“As fun as baseball is in Anaheim, this is a reminder that this is still a business. And we understand that the Angels need to preserve all options available. We welcome talking with the team about the future of baseball in Anaheim.”

By exercising the opt-out clause, the Angels can leave Angel Stadium after the 2019 season. The city and team would have to negotiate what might happen beyond next season.

Moreno said last year that he believed any move to a new ballpark would require at least three years of planning. The Angels could move to Los Angeles County without the Dodgers’ consent, under the major league rules that say both teams share the same operating territory.

Under the failed 2013 deal, initially proposed by the city, Anaheim would have provided land in the stadium parking lot to Moreno, who would have agreed to pay for an estimated \$150 million in stadium improvements, at no cost to the city.

Moreno could have recouped his investment by developing the land. Tait objected to the city selling the land to Moreno for \$1, and to the city not sharing in the profits from development.

Garvey said the Angels understand they are unlikely to find a city in Southern California willing to pay for a new ballpark.

“We understand the realities of California,” she said. “There is a significant investment involved either way.”

**FROM ANGELS.COM**

## **Angels opt out of stadium lease with Anaheim**

By Maria Guardado

The Angels announced Tuesday that they have opted out of their stadium lease with the city of Anaheim, a move that will open the door for the team to explore venue options outside of its longtime home.

The Angels will continue to play at Angel Stadium through the 2019 season, but they could choose to leave Anaheim after that if the two sides are unable to negotiate a new lease over the next year. Angels spokeswoman Marie Garvey said the team will meet with the new mayor and city council after the Nov. 6 election to discuss options moving forward.

"As we look to the future, we need the ability to continue to deliver a high-quality fan experience beyond what the original lease allows," Angels president John Carpino said in a statement. "It is important that we look at all our options and how we can best serve our fans now and in the future."

Opened in 1966, Angel Stadium is the fourth-oldest stadium in the Majors, behind Fenway Park (1912), Wrigley Field (1914) and Dodger Stadium (1962). Had the Angels not exercised the one-time opt-out clause by Tuesday's deadline, they would have been contractually bound to stay in the city-owned stadium through the 2029 season.

"It's today or 10 years from now," Garvey said. "That really drove the decision."

The Angels previously attempted to negotiate a new lease with Anaheim in 2013 and '16, but talks broke down on both occasions.

"We look forward to many great years of Angels baseball in Anaheim," city of Anaheim spokesman Mike Lyster said in a statement. "We don't believe there is a better place for the team than in the heart of Orange County's most exciting city. ... As fun as baseball is in Anaheim, this is a reminder that this is still a business. And we understand that the Angels need to preserve all options available. We welcome talking with the team about the future of baseball in Anaheim."

Last spring, when the Angels initially said they planned to stay at Angel Stadium through the 2029 season, owner Arte Moreno said he believed it would take a minimum of three years to acquire another site due to environmental regulations in California. The Angels have explored other ballpark sites around Southern California in recent years, though they have thus far been unsuccessful in securing a new location.

**FROM MLB.COM**

## Why Angels are banking on 2-hour manager test

By Jon Paul Morosi

Many baseball observers reacted with curiosity this week, following an MLB.com report that the Angels have administered two-hour written tests to **managerial candidates** during interviews this month.

The Angels are, in fact, "getting closer" to a decision on their next manager, one source said Tuesday. Eric Chavez and Brad Ausmus are among the internal candidates who have interviewed, sources say, while Cubs bench coach Brandon Hyde and Astros bench coach Joe Espada are active candidates as well.

And while the duration and thoroughness of the Angels' exam may be rare -- even by the standards of an increasingly analytical sport -- written exercises have been a component of managerial interviews for more than a decade, sources say.

In fact, Terry Francona's interview with the Red Sox following the 2003 season included a short quiz, lineup exercise and multiple-choice portion, one source told MLB.com. The purpose of the written work



was to make Francona feel uncomfortable, spur discussion and reveal to the Red Sox front office how he weighed competing factors in arriving at decisions.

The approach worked: The Red Sox hired Francona, and during his first season in Boston he helped the franchise win its first World Series in 86 years.

Sources say the Angels' current test spans multiple aspects of a modern manager's job: in-game decisions, the value of analytical information and approaches to relationships with players and front-office officials.

The examination typically has required between four and six handwritten pages, representing roughly one-quarter of the total time spent on a first-round interview. One source said the initial one-day interview for the Angels' managerial position has lasted around nine hours.

The Angels believe the written test can be more revealing than dialogue in illuminating how candidates approach specific aspects of the job. For example: During the regular season, managers have several hours during which they consider analytical, scouting and subjective information to determine a lineup. A written exercise -- in which candidates set a lineup after being presented with research and other hypothetical factors -- mimics that ritual more meaningfully than a series of questions during extemporaneous conversation.

The Angels engineered the two-hour test with a balance of quantitative and qualitative sections, in order to demonstrate candidates' critical thinking ability, according to one person familiar with the exam. Major League team executives told MLB.com this week that it's common for teams to ask managerial candidates to complete short questionnaires and assessments of their personalities and learning styles.

A high-ranking official with one team said the prevalence of email and text messages in sharing information for in-season decisions has made communication skills (across mediums) more important to evaluate when hiring for various positions. In the Rangers' ongoing managerial search, the team is asking candidates to prepare brief answers to several questions in order to promote better discussion during the interview.

Baseball teams aren't the only entities within the industry who see the value in written assessments. Anyone wishing to join the Scott Boras Corporation as a player representative must complete a written test along with in-person interviews, to provide a fuller picture of his or her communication skills and analytical abilities.

## **Here's what happened in Tuesday's AFL action**

Here's a team-by-team breakdown of how all 30 teams' prospects fared in Arizona Fall League action on Tuesday:

### **AL East**

**Blue Jays (Surprise)**

**No. 1 overall prospect** Vladimir Guerrero Jr. continued to rake, going 3-for-4 with a double, three RBIs and a walk for Surprise. Guerrero also stole his first base of the Fall League season. **Santiago Espinal**(Blue Jays' **No. 22 prospect**) went 0-for-3 with two walks, a run scored and a stolen base. Zach Jackson allowed three runs on one hit and two walks with one strikeout in two-thirds of an inning of relief.

**Orioles (Glendale)**

Martin Cervenka went 1-for-3 with a double and a walk for Glendale. **Steve Wilkerson** went 1-for-4 from the leadoff spot.

**Rays (Peoria)**

**Rays No. 9 prospect Lucius Fox** went 2-for-5 with an RBI, a walk and two runs scored out of the leadoff spot for Peoria. Phoenix Sanders tossed 1 1/3 scoreless innings of relief, allowing one hit and two walks with one strikeout.

**Red Sox (Mesa)**

**Red Sox No. 6 prospect** Bobby Dalbec drove in a run, his fifth AFL RBI, as part of a 2-for-3 night.

**Yankees (Glendale)**

Yankees **No. 2 prospect** Estevan Florial went 0-for-3 with a walk and scored Glendale's lone run. Steven Sensley went 0-for-3 with a walk. Matt Wivinis tossed two scoreless innings of relief, allowing one hit and one walk with one strikeout. Hobie Harris allowed one run on one hit and one walk in one inning of relief.

**AL Central****Indians (Glendale)**

**Indians No. 6 prospect Yu Chang** went 1-for-4 with a single for Glendale. Connor Marabell went 0-for-4. Dalbert Siri pitched a scoreless inning of relief, issuing one walk.

**Royals (Peoria)**

Royals **No. 2 prospect** Khalil Lee went 2-for-5 with a two-run homer, his first long ball of the Fall League season, and a double for Surprise. Nick Heath went 3-for-4 with two walks, two runs scored and three stolen bases out of the leadoff spot. **Meibrys Vilorio** went 0-for-4 with a walk.

**Tigers (Mesa)**

**Tigers No. 14 prospect Gregory Soto** got the start for Mesa and gave up one run on five hits over four innings. Daniel Pinero went 1-for-3.

**Twins (Salt River)**

**Twins No. 18 prospect** Travis Blankenhorn drew a walk, but was otherwise 0-for-3. **Adam Bray** threw an inning in relief and gave up one run on two hits. Hector Lujan fared a bit better as he threw a frame and retired the side in order. **Devin Smeltzer** took the mound next and gave up one hit in a scoreless inning.

**White Sox (Glendale)**

**White Sox No. 9 prospect Luis Alexander Basabe** went 1-for-4 with a single for Glendale. Zach

Thompson allowed three unearned runs on two hits in an inning of relief. Luis Robert (No. 4) got the day off.

## **AL West**

### **A's (Mesa)**

**Athletics No. 30** prospect Skye Bolt put together a strong night at the plate as he went 2-for-4 with a triple. Eli White (No. 18) went 0-for-2.

### **Angels (Mesa)**

**Angels No. 4** prospect Jahmai Jones went hitless (0-for-4), while Daniel Procopio threw two scoreless innings and gave up two hits.

### **Astros (Scottsdale)**

Astros **No. 2 prospect** Forrest Whitley tossed four innings and notched his first win of the Fall League season for Scottsdale. The right-hander allowed one unearned run on two hits and a walk, striking out six. Ronnie Dawson went 1-for-4 with an RBI double. Drew Ferguson went 0-for-3 with an RBI. Erasmio Pinales tossed a scoreless inning, walking two and striking out one.

### **Mariners (Peoria)**

Mariners **No. 20 prospect** Ian Miller hit a go-ahead, three-run home run for Peoria, finishing 1-for-3 with three RBIs, two walks and two runs scored. Evan White (No. 2) went 1-for-5 with two RBIs and a walk. Chris Mariscal went 3-for-5 with a triple, two RBIs and two runs scored. Matt Walker allowed three runs on one hit and three walks in one-third of an inning.

### **Rangers (Surprise)**

Yanio Perez went 2-for-6 with two RBIs out of the cleanup spot for Surprise. Julio Pablo Martinez (Rangers' **No. 2 prospect**) went 1-for-4 with two walks, a run scored and a stolen base. Joe Barlow struck out the only batter he faced in relief.

## **NL East**

### **Braves (Peoria)**

Braves **No. 12 prospect** Kyle Muller notched his first win of the Fall League season for Peoria, tossing two scoreless innings of relief. He allowed one hit and one walk while striking out three. Cristian Pache (No. 6) went 3-for-6 with two doubles and two runs scored out of the cleanup spot. Braxton Davidson went 1-for-2 with three walks and three runs scored.

### **Marlins (Salt River)**

**Marlins No. 26** prospect **Bryson Brigman** picked up a pair of his and went 2-for-4 out of the leadoff spot for Salt River. Brian Miller (No. 11) also got a hit and finished 1-for-3. **Monte Harrison** (No. 1) went 0-for-3, but reached once via a walk.

### **Mets (Scottsdale)**

Mets **No. 2 prospect** Peter Alonso hit his second home run of the Fall League season for Scottsdale. He also doubled, drove in two runs and scored a pair, finishing 2-for-3. Ali Sanchez (No. 25) started at

catcher and went 0-for-4. Matt Blackham pitched a perfect sixth inning and Joe Zanghi pitched a perfect seventh, each notching a strikeout.

### **Nationals (Salt River)**

**Nationals No. 23** prospect Luis Reyes tossed five scoreless innings of two-hit ball while giving up just two walks and striking out three. Reyes, who arguably has the best stuff in Washington's system but has struggled with command, also struck out three. Tres Barrera (No. 15) went 2-for-4.

### **Phillies (Scottsdale)**

Phillies **No. 11 prospect** Arquimedes Gamboa went 1-for-2 with two walks and a run scored for Scottsdale. Luke Williams went 0-for-3 with a walk, an RBI and a run scored.

## **NL Central**

### **Brewers (Peoria)**

Brewers **No. 1 prospect** Keston Hiura (No. 30 overall) had a huge day for Peoria, going 3-for-5 with a home run, a triple, five RBIs, a walk and two runs scored. Hiura also made a nice defensive play during the sixth inning, using his glove to scoop a ground ball to first base for an out. Trent Grisham (Milwaukee's No. 19) went 0-for-3 with an RBI, two walks and a run scored. Mario Feliciano (No. 23) started at catcher and went 0-for-1. **Bubba Derby** got the start and allowed four runs on seven hits and three walks with three strikeouts in 3 2/3 innings.

### **Cardinals (Surprise)**

Evan Kruczynski started for Surprise, tossing 3 2/3 scoreless innings with three hits allowed, three walks and three strikeouts. **Conner Greene** (Cardinals' **No. 27 prospect**) took the loss, allowing six runs on five hits and two walks in two-thirds of an inning of relief. Will Latcham allowed five runs on three hits and three walks in one-third of an inning of relief.

### **Cubs (Mesa)**

**Cubs No. 16** prospect D.J. Wilson was 0-for-4, as was Jhonny Pereda. Bailey Clark fired two perfect innings and struck out a pair in the process.

### **Pirates (Surprise)**

Pirates **No. 5 prospect** Cole Tucker went 1-for-3 with two walks, an RBI and a run scored for Surprise. **Bryan Reynolds** (No. 9) went 0-for-3 with two walks, a run scored and a stolen base. Blake Weiman tossed 1 1/3 scoreless innings of relief, allowing two hits and striking out one. Matt Eckelman allowed two runs on two hits and one walk in one inning of relief.

### **Reds (Scottsdale)**

Reds prospects Taylor Trammell (**No. 3**) and **Shed Long** (No. 8) each notched a single for Scottsdale. Alfredo Rodriguez went 2-for-4 with a run scored, while Trammell also scored a run. Ty Boyles tossed a scoreless inning of relief, allowing one hit and striking out two.

## **NL West**

**D-backs (Salt River)**

Pavin Smith, the **D-backs' No. 4 prospect**, went 1-for-4, but the hit was a go-ahead single in the top of the ninth. Drew Ellis (No. 9) went 0-for-4.

**Dodgers (Glendale)**

Ben Holmes started for Glendale and allowed two runs on four hits and one walk with three strikeouts. It was Holmes' first loss of the Fall League season. Errol Robinson (Dodgers' **No. 20 prospect**) went 0-for-3. Jared Walker went 0-for-3 with a walk.

**Giants (Scottsdale)**

**Chase Johnson** tossed a scoreless inning of relief for Scottsdale, allowing one hit and one walk.

**Padres (Peoria)**

Padres **No. 25 prospect** Austin Allen entered as a pinch-hitter for Peoria and went 2-for-2 with an RBI, a walk and two runs scored. Travis Radke allowed one run on two hits and three walks with four strikeouts in 1 2/3 innings of relief.

**Rockies (Salt River)**

Josh Fuentes went 1-for-4 at the plate, while Sam Hilliard, the **Rockies No. 9 prospect**, went 2-for-4 and continued his fast start in the AFL. Justin Lawrence (No. 17) picked up the save and struck out two in his inning of work.

**FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS****Angels opt out of stadium lease, look at 'all our options'**

By Greg Beacham

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — The Los Angeles Angels opted out of their Angel Stadium lease with the city of Anaheim on Tuesday, renewing the possibility they could build a stadium somewhere near their longtime Orange County home.

The team and the city will negotiate on a new deal to keep the Angels in the fourth-oldest ballpark in the major leagues. The Angels also will renew their explorations of the feasibility of building a stadium elsewhere in Southern California.

"As we look to the future, we need the ability to continue to deliver a high-quality fan experience beyond what the original lease allows," Angels President John Carpino said in a statement. "It is important that we look at all our options and how we can best serve our fans now and in the future."

The Angels terminated their lease on the last day possible before 2028. The decision means the club has the ability to leave Angel Stadium after the 2019 season.

The renewed possibility of the Angels leaving their longtime hometown could become an issue in the upcoming city elections: Anaheim will elect a new mayor and three city councilmembers next month.

City of Anaheim spokesman Mike Lyster said the Angels' decision was understandable.

"We look forward to many great years of Angels baseball in Anaheim," Lyster said in a statement. "We don't believe there is a better place for the team than in the heart of Orange County's most exciting city. ... As fun as baseball is in Anaheim, this is a reminder that this is still a business. And we understand that the Angels need to preserve all options available. We welcome talking with the team about the future of baseball in Anaheim."

Owner Arte Moreno said before the 2017 season that he expected the Angels to stay at their ballpark for at least another decade, but the club is clearly open to the possibility of building a new stadium nearby if a favorable deal could be reached. Moreno also said last year that any move to a new stadium would require at least three years of preparation.

After previous negotiations with Anaheim ended in 2014, the Angels actively explored building a new ballpark in Los Angeles, Irvine, Carson or Tustin, an Orange County suburb just a few miles southeast of Angel Stadium. The Angels ultimately decided to stay home, and they spent millions on improvements to the city-owned stadium.

Only Fenway Park, Chicago's Wrigley Field and Dodger Stadium are older than the Anaheim ballpark also known as the Big A, which opened in 1966 on land formerly occupied by Orange County's famed orange groves. Before that, the AL club founded in 1961 played its inaugural season at Los Angeles' long-demolished Wrigley Field and four seasons at Dodger Stadium.

The Angels have drawn at least 3 million fans in each of the past 16 seasons at Angel Stadium. They've kept up the remarkable streak even during their current nine-season drought on the field with no playoff victories and just one postseason appearance.

Moreno irked many Orange County fans in 2005 when he changed his franchise's name from the Anaheim Angels to the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. The "of Anaheim" suffix was dropped for the 2016 season, although the team rarely uses any geographical identifiers in its official communications.

**FROM CBS SPORTS**

## **Angels reportedly opt out of stadium lease despite ranking near the top of MLB in attendance since 2003**

*The Angels have ranked top-three in attendance in all but one season since 2003*

By R.J. Anderson

The Los Angeles Angels could be on the move -- or, at least, that's what they want local voters and politicians to think. On Tuesday, the Angels announced they were opting out of their lease with the city of Anaheim, according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

Per the *Times*, the Angels had to opt out Tuesday or wait for another 10 years to pass before receiving another opportunity to do so:

Angels spokeswoman Marie Garvey said the decision to opt out was not meant to influence voters. She said the lease required the team to opt out no later than Tuesday or wait until 2028 for another chance to do so.

"It's today, or 10 years from now," Garvey said. "There's no option in between."

The Angels have sought a new stadium in the past. Their current home, Angel Stadium, is one of the oldest in the majors, having opened in 1966.

The Angels have ranked second or third in the American League in attendance in every year since 2003 with the exception of one year -- 2013, in which they ranked fourth.

### **FROM BLEACHER REPORT**

## **Angels' Location Up in Air After Team Opt's out of Stadium Lease in Anaheim**

By Joseph Zucker

The Los Angeles Angels are opting out of their stadium lease for Angel Stadium in Anaheim, California, the *Los Angeles Times*' Bill Shaikin reported Tuesday.

Angels spokesperson Marie Garvey told Shaikin the team had to exercise its opt-out clause by Tuesday or wait until 2028 for its next opportunity. Garvey didn't comment on whether the Angels prefer to stay in Anaheim or move elsewhere.

In February 2017, Angels owner Arte Moreno indicated the franchise planned to remain at Angel Stadium for the foreseeable future, citing the numerous requirements for potentially moving the team.

"It's going to take some time to get ourselves prepared to see which direction we're going to go," Moreno said, per the Associated Press' Greg Beacham. "We have flexibility, but acquiring land and getting a proper partner and getting prepared in California is a three-, four-year process."

Shaikin noted the Angels "explored options" regarding a relocation to Los Angeles, Carson or Irvine, California in 2014 and had singled out Tustin, California, "because of its proximity to the current stadium and fan base."

Garvey told the *Orange County Register*'s Scott Schwebke in August 2016 the Angels had abandoned Tustin as a stadium site because "none of the parties could overcome the financial hurdle."

Schwebke wrote a new venue in Tustin would've cost anywhere from \$500 million to over \$1 billion.

Granted, opting out of the stadium lease doesn't preclude the Angels from staying in Anaheim. The Angels could use the specter of relocation as leverage to receive a more favorable lease.

Were the Angels to actually move, it would signal the end of an era. The Angels have called Angel Stadium home since 1966, making it the fourth-oldest ballpark in MLB behind Fenway Park, Wrigley Field and Dodger Stadium.

## **MLB Rumors: Angels Interview Eric Chavez, Brad Ausmus, 'Unclear' Who Is Favored**

By Mike Chiari

The Los Angeles Angels have interviewed both Brad Ausmus and Eric Chavez as they look to fill their vacant managerial position.

According to MLB Network's Jon Morosi, the Angels are "moving closer to a decision," but it isn't yet known who is favored to land the job.

Mike Scioscia stepped down as the Angels manager at the conclusion of the 2018 regular season, marking the end of a 19-year run in that position.

L.A. has finished 80-82 in consecutive seasons and hasn't reached the playoffs since 2014.

The 49-year-old Ausmus, like Scioscia, is a former MLB catcher who played for the San Diego Padres, Detroit Tigers, Houston Astros and Los Angeles Dodgers. He was a one-time All-Star and three-time Gold Glove award winner.

Ausmus served as the Tigers manager from 2014 until his dismissal in 2017.

Although Detroit went 90-72 and reached the playoffs during his first year at the helm, they went just 64-98 in 2017, and he finished with a 314-332 record overall.

Chavez, 40, was primarily a third baseman during an MLB career that spanned 17 seasons with the Oakland Athletics, New York Yankees and Arizona Diamondbacks. He was a six-time Golden Glove award winner and one-time Silver Slugger award winner.

After retiring at the conclusion of the 2014 season, Chavez became a television analyst before serving in front-office roles for the Yankees and then the Angels.

In August, Chavez became the Triple-A Salt Lake Bees manager after Keith Johnson was promoted to the Angels coaching staff.

Chavez was a special assistant to Angels general manager Billy Eppler before getting his first taste of coaching with the Angels farm club.



Whoever gets the nod as L.A.'s next manager will take over a talented club that is led by perennial MVP candidate Mike Trout.

## **1 Flashy Move to Make Each MLB Team an Offseason Winner\***

By Joel Reuter

Not every move that's made during the MLB offseason grabs headlines.

An under-the-radar signing, small-scale trade or waiver claim can often pay huge dividends, even if it's received with little fanfare at the time.

Those are not the type of moves we're focusing on here.

Ahead, we've selected one flashy move that each team should consider making to emerge from the offseason as winners.

It's a mix of trade ideas, free-agent signings, in-house extensions and a few other odds and ends.

The moves suggested had to be within the realm of possibility, given a team's financial situation and areas of need.

### **AL West**

#### **Houston Astros: Sign Clayton Kershaw**

With Dallas Keuchel and Charlie Morton set to walk in free agency, some decisions will need to be made about the future of the starting rotation.

Justin Verlander, Gerrit Cole and Lance McCullers Jr. are presumably locked into three spots, while young guys like Josh James, Framber Valdez and top prospect Forrest Whitley all look ready to make an impact at the MLB level. They could go young, but with the window to contend still wide-open, expect at least one of those spots to be filled by a known commodity.

Simply bringing back Morton or Keuchel is the most likely solution, but we're talking flashy moves, and it wouldn't get any flashier than signing Clayton Kershaw. The Texas native might welcome a chance to pitch closer to home, and if the Dodgers don't win a title this season, he could be ready for a change of scenery.

With no other glaring holes to fill and money to spend, it's not out of the realm of possibility, should Kershaw decide to test the open market in earnest.

#### **Los Angeles Angels: Sign Patrick Corbin**

Patrick Corbin has been a member of the Angels organization once before. They originally selected him in the second round of the 2009 draft before shipping him to the D-backs as part of the Dan Haren trade.

With a glaring need to bolster the starting rotation and Corbin looking like the best candidate for a long-term deal, a reunion could be forthcoming.

Mike Trout is only signed for two more years, so now is not the time for the Angels to sit on their hands. At the same time, it's unlikely they'll entertain any high-profile trades since their emerging farm system will be the key for life after Trout, should he choose to walk.

A splashy free-agent signing or two to address the rotation seems like the most likely outcome then, and Corbin should be atop their wish list.

The 29-year-old went 11-7 with a 3.15 ERA, 1.05 WHIP and 246 strikeouts in 200 innings.

### **Oakland Athletics: Extend Khris Davis**

Khris Davis has his shortcomings as a player.

He's now a full-time DH, which limits his value, and his consistent .247 batting average and sub-.330 on-base percentage leaves something to be desired from a player who generates all of his value with his bat.

However, he's also one of the most dangerous sluggers in baseball.

The 30-year-old has averaged 44 home runs and 112 RBI over the past three seasons, and he posted career highs in home runs (48), RBI (123), OPS+ (136) and WAR (2.9) this past season while helping the A's to a surprise postseason berth.

Davis is also a fan-favorite and a positive clubhouse presence, and while letting players walk in free agency has become the Oakland way in recent years, he's the kind of player who needs to be retained. He'll be a free agent after the 2019 season, so extending him now make sense.

### **Seattle Mariners: Trade for Zack Greinke**

With a paper-thin farm system that ranked No. 30 in our final update, the Mariners will need to get creative if they want to make a splash on the trade market.

And if there's one thing we know about general manager Jerry Dipoto, it's that he has every intention of doing just that.

While they lack the chips to trade for a young, controllable arm, it might not take much in the way of prospects to pry Zack Greinke loose if they're willing to take on a sizeable portion of his remaining salary.

According to Bob Nightengale of *USA Today*, the D-backs would "love to move" Greinke, as a busy offseason of rebuilding could be in store in the desert. The 34-year-old went 15-11 with a 3.21 ERA, 1.08 WHIP and 199 strikeouts in 207.2 innings, and he's owed \$104.5 million over the next three years.

Felix Hernandez is owed \$27.9 million in 2019 in the final year of his deal, There would be more to it than this, but if the D-backs are willing to pay the bulk of his 2019 salary, the Mariners might be willing to take on the bulk of his 2020 and 2021 commitment if the acquisition cost is low enough.

### **Texas Rangers: Trade Joey Gallo**

The Rangers are expected to be sellers this offseason. Reliever Jose Leclerc and starter Mike Minor are among the most likely players to be dealt, while they could also entertain offers for second baseman Rougned Odor and his team-friendly contract. Shin-Soo Choo, Alex Claudio, Jurickson Profar, Delino DeShields and Robinson Chirinos also figure to hear their names on the rumor mill.

Trading any one of those guys wouldn't really qualify as a "flashy" move, though.

Trading slugger Joey Gallo would.

Gallo, 24, has smacked 81 home runs the past two seasons while posting a 113 OPS+ and 5.2 WAR. He's also hit a meager .208 and struck out at a 36.3 percent clip during that same span.

While he's already a valuable player with as much raw power as anyone in baseball, a change of scenery and the right hitting coach could make him a bona fide superstar. The right team might be willing to give up a couple of high-profile prospects for a chance to unlock that upside.

*\*Article cut to only include AL West-related material.*

## **FROM SPORTS ILLUSTRATED**

### **Are the Angels Violating Norms by Reportedly Making Managerial Candidates Take a Test?**

On Monday afternoon, Jon Morosi of MLB Network and FOX Sports reported that the Angels will be administering a two-hour written test to managerial candidates. The news was met with some amusement (sharpen your No. 2 pencils!) and a feeling that this was another move to alienate more traditional managers (say, Buck Showalter or Dusty Baker) from future positions. Our panel of MLB experts discusses the ramifications of Eppler's move and how it might signal the future of managerial hiring.

**Tom Verducci:** The two-hour test is nothing new. I've known candidates who spent an entire day interviewing and even watching games to go through what their thought process should be. It shouldn't scare off "traditional" candidates, and if it does, you didn't want that guy anyway.

**Ben Reiter:** I'm assuming the ability to write is a prerequisite to anyone – traditional or otherwise – who is trying to get one of just thirty highly coveted and highly paid jobs. The really interesting question is what the Angels will *do* with the tests, and how much they will factor into their ultimate decision. Which we don't know.

**Emma Baccellieri:** I'd argue that managers' interpersonal skills are more important than ever. The front office is bringing information on how to optimize the line-up, how to use the shift, how to deploy the bullpen. There are still crucial decisions for a manager to make, particularly in-game, but so much of the big-picture stuff can be largely handled elsewhere. Meanwhile, communicating with and relating to players remains a huge part of the job, and that can't be outsourced. There's certainly value in a written test like this one—particularly as one part of a larger interview process—and we don't know exactly how the team is using it. But I don't think that, on its own, it can assess who's going to be equipped to manage the personalities of a clubhouse.

**Jon Taylor:** It's certainly a sign of the times in that it reflects how thoroughly the Angels' front office wants to control its manager—to have him be an extension of its thought process. That's no surprise: We saw that with the Yankees and Aaron Boone, and as front offices get more and more data-centric and quant-heavy, the days of the truly independent manager will come to a close. Will this turn off the likes of Buck Showalter and Dusty Baker? Almost certainly. Is that by design? Almost certainly. Young and pliable is the flavor of the moment. The one worry if you're the Angels is drawing in someone so raw and untested that he can't think on his feet in crucial situations—a problem that shows up at inopportune moments, as the Yankees found with Boone in the last two games of the ALDS.

**Gabriel Baumgaertner:** This is a newstory ripe for Twitter jokes, but I can't imagine it's something too unusual for a prospective manager. All four remaining teams are led by young managers (Milwaukee's Craig Counsell is the oldest at 48) and three of them (Dodgers, Astros and Brewers) are openly some of the most progressive teams regarding player evaluation. A prospective manager likely doesn't need to be fluent in xFIP to win over Eppler, but he probably will need to demonstrate a knowledge of certain hitters' tendencies and ideal reliever matchups.

Talk radio hosts are bound to lambast this as removing the heartbeat from the game, but my assumption is that Eppler wants a manager whose situational awareness is high and his test is a way of demonstrating that. I'd be shocked if it is revealed that the candidate who scored the highest on this written test was given the job.

**Jack Dickey:** The Angels, who have a shrinking window and no time to waste on a bad hire to replace Mike Scoscia, should be applauded for their rigor. It's important to see how potential managers explain their baseball and people philosophies outside of the traditional job-interviewing context. As a lowly journalist, I've never hired anyone for a paying job, but I've certainly been around lots of people who've been hired for paying jobs. A lot of people can talk a good game in an interview! There's only so much you can cover in a couple hours, and sometimes a pleasant conversation can obscure less-pleasant truths. The problem for the Angels is that the skills necessary to be a great big-league manager are only marginally more likely to surface themselves in a written test plus an interview than in an interview alone. It's a hard job to do, and a hard job for which to predict someone's performance. Take the NL East: Dave Martinez and Mickey Callaway had great pedigrees—both struggled this year. Gabe Kapler had a less traditional résumé; the jury's still out. Brian Snitker, with no pedigree, looks like a maestro. So who knows?

## Angels Opt Out of Lease on Angel Stadium In Anaheim

By Alaa Abdeldaiem

The Los Angeles Angels announced on Tuesday that the team has opted out of their lease on Angel Stadium in Anaheim.

"Angels Baseball has notified the City of Anaheim that we are exercising our right under the one-time opt-out period to terminate the Stadium lease," club president John Carpino said. "As we look to the future, we need the ability to continue to deliver high-quality fan experience beyond what the original lease allows. It is important that we look at all our options and how we can best serve our fans now and in the future."

The move means the Angels will re-open negotiations to determine whether the team will remain in Anaheim or move to another city in Southern California. An effort to renovate the stadium was made in 2013 before talks came to a standstill in 2014. Mayor Tom Tait, who is in his final term, was against the renovations.

Angels spokeswoman Marie Garvey told the *Los Angeles Times* that the decision to opt out had nothing to do with the upcoming mayoral and city council elections.

"It's today, or 10 years from now," Garvey said. "There's no option in between."

Garvey did not comment on whether or not remaining in Anaheim was the team's first choice but instead said that they would "sit down with the new mayor and city council" while also exploring other options.

Angel Stadium opened in 1966 and is the fourth-oldest ballpark behind Fenway Park, Wrigley Field and Dodger Stadium.

### FROM MLB TRADE RUMORS

## Angels Opt Out Of Ballpark Lease

By Jeff Todd

**4:25pm:** Shaikin adds that the Angels will be in their current stadium through next season but must discuss its future beyond that with the city of Anaheim, which has issued a statement on the decision:

*"We look forward to many great years of Angels baseball in Anaheim. We don't believe there is a better place for the team than in the heart of Orange County's most exciting city. ... As fun as baseball is in Anaheim, this is a reminder that this is still a business. And we understand that the Angels need to preserve all options available. We welcome talking with the team about the future of baseball in Anaheim."*

**3:01pm:** The Angels announced today that they have opted out of their lease for Angel Stadium, as Bill Shaikin of the Los Angeles Times reports. It remains somewhat unclear precisely when and how the decision will go into effect, and the Halos' long-term stadium plans remain uncertain.

Indications in early 2017 were that the Angels would remain in the park for the foreseeable future, with owner Arte Moreno noting the club would be able to opt out instead in 2028 or 2038. As he put it at the time, explaining that it would seemingly not be feasible to leave the lease in the near-term:

*"It's going to take some time to get ourselves prepared to see what direction we're going to go. We have options with the lease, whether we exercise them or not. We really have options all the way through '38. We have flexibility."*

Instead, it seems now that the long-term location of the franchise is fully on the negotiating table. Beyond that, the decision seemingly poses questions regarding the team's immediate plans, though perhaps a new, shorter-term lease will be possible.

As Shaikin notes, the decision takes place against the backdrop of a pending mayoral and city council election in Anaheim. A team spokesperson says the ballclub will "sit down with the new mayor and city council" after the election, while noting the team's intention to "look at all our options."

## FROM THE SPORTING NEWS

### Angels announce they're opting out of Anaheim stadium lease

By E. Jay Zarett

The Angels have opted out of their stadium lease with the city of Anaheim, the team announced Tuesday. The team began playing in Angel Stadium in 1966.

"As we look to the future, we need the ability to continue to deliver a high-quality fan experience beyond what the original lease allows," Angels president John Carpino said in a statement. "It is important that we look at all our options and how we can best serve our fans now and in the future."

Angels spokesperson Marie Garvey told the Los Angeles Times the team either had to exercise its opt out option by Tuesday or delay the decision until 2028.

"It's today, or 10 years from now," Garvey said. "There's no option in between."

Garvey said the Angels are exploring all of their options moving forward but that they aren't anticipating finding a city in the area willing to finance a new stadium.

"We understand the realities of California," Garvey said. "There is a significant investment involved either way."

The City of Anaheim released a statement saying it hoped the Angels would stay, but making no promises:

"We look forward to many great years of Angels baseball in Anaheim. We don't believe there is a better place for the team than in the heart of Orange County's most exciting city," the statement read, via the Times. "As fun as baseball is in Anaheim, this is a reminder that this is still a business. And we understand that the Angels need to preserve all options available. We welcome talking with the team about the future of baseball in Anaheim."

The Angels finished 2018 with an 80-82 record and missed the playoffs for a fourth straight season. Manager Mike Scioscia, who had been with the team since 2000, announced he was stepping down in late September.

**FROM YAHOO! SPORTS**

## **The Angels are opting out of their stadium lease and could leave Anaheim**

By Liz Roscher

The Los Angeles Angels may not be "of Anaheim" for too much longer. The team announced on Tuesday that they're opting out of their stadium lease with the city of Anaheim.

The Angels have been in Anaheim since moving into Angel Stadium (which has had several names) in 1966. It's the fourth-oldest ballpark in the majors behind Fenway Park, Wrigley Field, and Dodger Stadium.

Back in February of 2017, team owner Arte Moreno said that the Angels would not opt out of their lease, and would stay in Angel Stadium until the lease ran out in 2029. Obviously something has changed in the 20 months since he said that.

The timing of this announcement is interesting, because it occurs less than a month before Anaheim will elect a new mayor. According to Bill Shaikin at the Los Angeles Times, the current mayor (who is not running for reelection) was against the city making a stadium renovation deal with the Angels back in 2013. Negotiations broke down, and the team ended them in 2014. Without a renovation deal, they started looking at other cities in the area to build a new ballpark.

However, an Angels spokesperson told Shaikin that the timing is just a coincidence.

*Angels spokeswoman Marie Garvey said the decision to opt out was not meant to influence voters. She said the lease required the team to opt out no later than Tuesday or wait until 2028 for another chance to do so.*

*"It's today, or 10 years from now," Garvey said. "There's no option in between."*

The Angels opting out of their stadium lease sounds scary, but it doesn't mean they won't have a place to play in 2019. While the terms of their lease requires them to opt out now, it doesn't take effect until after the 2019 season.

Additionally, the Angels may not actually leave Anaheim. The team will be sitting down with the new mayor to discuss their options, which could include a renovation agreement. And that might end up being the best or even only option for the Angels, since they would likely have to fund a new ballpark in a new city entirely themselves, or with private (not public) funding.

Of course, if the Angels do end up moving, the biggest question is whether they would pay tribute to their past and add their actual city of residence to the end of the team name. The Los Angeles Angels of Irvine. The Los Angeles Angels of Yorba Linda. The Los Angeles Angels of the City of Industry. All of those just roll off the tongue, don't they? Well, no worse than the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.

### **FROM KABC**

## **Angels opt out of stadium lease in Anaheim**

By Josh Haskell

ANAHEIM, Calif. (KABC) --

The Angels have opted out of their lease with the city of Anaheim, opening the door to the possibility that the team may move to a different host city in the Southland.

Team officials sent a letter to the city about its decision to opt out of the existing lease with Angel Stadium.

In a statement, Angels President John Carpino said: "As we look to the future, we need the ability to continue to deliver a high-quality fan experience beyond what the original lease allows. It is important that we look at all our options and how we can best serve our fans now and in the future."

Also, Angels Baseball Chairman Dennis Kuhl sent a letter to the team's sponsors and partners, letting them know about the decision.

That letter read, in part, "Today, we notified the City that we have decided to exercise our one-time opt-out option in the existing lease. It was important to make this decision, so we can explore all options and continue to give our fans a great experience. There will be no change for the 2019 Season, as the Team will continue to play at Angel Stadium."

It's not clear if the Angels will head elsewhere, but the move to opt out of the lease sets the stage for another round of negotiations.

Angel Stadium is the fourth oldest ballpark in the major leagues, behind Fenway Park, Wrigley Field and Dodger Stadium.



Council member Kris Murray accuses some on the city council of being anti-business. Disney pulled out of a deal with Anaheim last week to build a four-diamond hotel.

"The city needs to negotiate in good faith and that hasn't happened," Murray said. "They're going to keep their options open, and it's a smart business move on their part."

Next month, Anaheim voters will elect a new mayor and three new council members who will lead the negotiations with the Angels.

The city of Anaheim released the following statement, saying there's no better place for the team than in Anaheim: *We look forward to many great years of Angels baseball in Anaheim. We don't believe there is a better place for the team than in the heart of Orange County's most exciting city. The Angels' paid attendance here puts them in rare company as part of a group including the Dodgers, Yankees and Cubs that sell more than 3 million tickets each year. As fun as baseball is in Anaheim, this is a reminder that this is still a business. And we understand that the Angels need to preserve all options available. We welcome talking with the team about the future of baseball in Anaheim.*

As for fans, they say the fourth-oldest stadium in baseball needs upgrades.

"It's old and it need improvements," said Angels fan Joe Bilotta. "It needs to be brought up to today's standards. All the other stadiums are just rocking it with food and everything else, and Angel Stadium is not doing it."

The Angels previously considered moves to neighboring Southern California cities, most notably Tustin. The team has played at the city-owned Angel Stadium since it opened in 1966.

## FROM THE DESERT SUN

### **Former Oakland A's standout Eric Chavez could become next Angels manager**

By Pete Donovan

The prohibitive favorite to replace Los Angeles Angels manager Mike Scioscia is a 40-year-old former Gold Glove third baseman from Mount Carmel High School near San Diego: Eric Chavez.

Chavez has been a special assistant to Angel General Manager Billy Eppler and was dispatched to Salt Lake City to manage the club's Triple-A affiliate for the final month of the season — surely a sign to prepare him for Anaheim.

He played the majority of his 17-year career in Oakland. It should be noted that Oakland General Manager Billy Bean is also a graduate of Mount Carmel High. Does that mean we'll see Billy Ball in Anaheim next year? Can't imagine that offense fits the lumbering Albert Pujols...

Think FOX is rooting for a Dodgers-Red Sox World Series over a Brewers-Astros World Series? Hmmm. Los Angeles-Boston or Milwaukee-Houston? A no brainer...

The only time the Brewers made it to the World Series was in 1982 when they defeated the Angels in the division championship series. Tommy John won a game for the Angels and Don Sutton won a game for the Brewers. Both are now Coachella Valley residents...

The MVP of that series came from the losing team. Fred Lynn of the Angels hit .611 (11 of 18)...

Dodgers manager Dave Roberts was once recruited by the Air Force Academy – to play quarterback!...

Two things we know about the Angels: (1) They need starting pitching and (2) they are not very good judges of talent. Jhoulys Chacin was brilliant starting for the Brewers on Monday night (5 1/3 scoreless innings). He was a 15-game winner for Milwaukee during the regular season. And, yes, the Angels had him a few years back and let him go!...

Two things we know about the Dodgers: (1) Clayton Kershaw will not opt out of his contract as his potential free-agent value has dipped – along with his fastball velocity and (2) they will not re-sign catcher Yasmani Grandal. Instead, they will look for a defensive-oriented backstop...

With their regular shortstop Didi Gregorius out until the middle of next season (after Tommy John surgery), the Yankees will make a strong run at Manny Machado...

The Kansas City Royals have fallen on hard times (104 losses this year) since winning the World Series in 2015, but there's a sparkling young double-play combination in place. Second-baseman Whit Minnifield led the majors with 45 stolen bases and hit .304 with 43 doubles. Shortstop Adalberto Mondesi, son of former Dodger star Raul Mondesi, hit .275 with 14 homers and 32 stolen bases in half a season (75 games)...

My favorite Brewer is Bob Uecker, the funniest man in the broadcast booth ever.

## **FROM THE DETROIT NEWS**

### **Ex-Tigers manager Brad Ausmus interviews for Angels' opening**

Brad Ausmus' bid to get back in the dugout continues.

The former Tigers manager has formally interviewed for the Los Angeles Angels' opening, according to national baseball writer Jon Paul Morosi.

#### **Jon Morosi**

#Angels have formally interviewed Brad Ausmus and Eric Chávez in their managerial search, source confirms. Team is moving closer to a decision, although it is unclear who the frontrunner is. @MLB @MLBNetwork

This is at least the second formal interview for Ausmus, who also interviewed for the Cincinnati Reds' opening.

Ausmus, 49, was the Tigers' manager for four seasons, from 2014-17, posting a record of 314-332 with one playoff appearance, in his first season on the job.

This past season, he worked in an advisory role in the Angels' front office, leading to speculation he would be a candidate to succeed long-time manager Mike Scioscia. According to Morosi, the Angels are giving candidates a two-hour written exam.

There are five managerial vacancies in Major League Baseball, including the Toronto Blue Jays, Minnesota Twins and Baltimore Orioles.