

# OVER THE PASS



"The police officer dying the other day, from whatever happened to him. It was really close to our house. You never know what's going to happen to you."

– Destiny Cruz, new mother, Trinidad



"Going back to prison. It opened my eyes. I had a heart attack in prison. That scared me the most. I stay away from my old drug habit and the people I used to hang out with."

– Rosendo Sandoval, highway construction flagger, Trinidad

## TIM KELLER'S CONNECTIONS

### "What has scared you?"

Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News



"Basements scare me. I don't know what it is. Creepy old basements in old houses. When I was a kid, my dad would send me down to the basement to get a tool. My brother would invariably turn off the light while I was down there. I think that's where it started. I don't like basements."

– Keith Maberry, oil & gas engineer, moving to Trinidad from Odessa, Texas



"I just got out of jail, literally just now. I was in on a misdemeanor child support charge. While I was in jail, my five-year-old son lost his first tooth. The things you miss end up being the big things in life."

– Brandon Scott, center-pivot-irrigation technician, Lamar, Colorado

## FOOTBALL

### Sanchez vows to start for Colorado's Denver Broncos

ARNIE STAPLETON  
AP Pro Football Writer

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — Mark Sanchez is thankful for a fresh start in Denver — emphasis on start.

Sanchez said Monday that general manager John Elway told him to come in and compete for the No. 1 job with the Broncos, "and what a reinvigorating feeling this is."

"This isn't an opportunity I'm going to squander," the 29-year-old veteran said Monday during his introductory news conference at the team's suburban headquarters.

The Broncos acquired Sanchez from the Philadelphia Eagles last week for a conditional 2017 draft pick after the Super Bowl champions lost Peyton Manning to retirement and Brock Osweiler to free agency.

Sanchez, due \$4.5 million in the final year of his contract in 2016, said the trade caught him off-guard, but as it sunk in, he quickly realized how fortunate he was.

Sanchez said he's the perfect player to follow Manning after replacing another QB icon, Brett Favre, in New York his rookie season. What he learned from that experience, he said, was that playing in the shadows of a superstar doesn't have to be suffocating.

"You don't try to be Peyton Manning," Sanchez said. "Obviously we'll let No. 18 sit on the shelf there for a while. We'll let somebody else take that number. That's just rarefied air. I'm so impressed with what he's done and would love to learn as much as I can from him and the guys who have been with him. But you know you've got to be yourself and work as hard as you can, be the best version of yourself and give everything I've got to the team."

And he's eager to make his own, well, mark.

"I wasn't a part of anything last year, so I'm not hanging on any coattails that way. I'm eager to win. And I've seen a lot in this league," Sanchez said. "I'm not married. I don't have a girlfriend. I don't have kids. I just want to play ball and I want to win. I really want to win."

"And I'm so lucky to be in a spot like this. So, you know, every waking moment, that's all I'm thinking about is what an opportunity this is, that I want to win and I want to play here."

Sanchez spent his first five NFL seasons with the Jets, helping them to the AFC championship game in his first two years by winning playoff games on the road against teams led by Manning, Tom Brady, Carson Palmer and Philip Rivers. But the fifth overall pick in the 2009 NFL draft out of Southern California

eventually lost his job in New York and spent the last two seasons as a backup in Philadelphia.

Sanchez, who went 0-2 as a starter last season, said he's a better quarterback for all he's been through.

"I'm battle tested," he said. "I've been through the fire. I've been in some tough media markets, played in some great games. I've seen the highs and lows of this league. And I'm just eager to get started. ... This is an incredible opportunity."

The only other quarterback on the Broncos roster right now is Trevor Siemian, who took just one snap as a rookie last year, a kneel-down against Pittsburgh. Elway will likely draft another quarterback next month and could very well add another veteran either through free agency or another trade.

None of that would change Sanchez's mindset. "Come on, let's go, let's compete, man," Sanchez said with a smile.

Sanchez, 37-35 as a starter, said that's the first thing Elway told him: come in and stake a claim on the starting job.

"And taking a call from him was pretty special,"



AP / credit: CBS

Mark Sanchez, formerly of the Philadelphia Eagles, talked to the press on Monday about making a new start in Denver with the Broncos football team. Sanchez is eager to follow in super quarterback Peyton Manning's footsteps.

Sanchez said. "I got the guy's picture in my room growing up. He and Brett Favre, Dan Marino. I was like, 'Oh my God. I got him on the phone. This is really happening.' So, as soon as that wore off, you think about what an opportunity this is."

Sanchez said the setbacks he's experienced in recent years never shook his confidence.

"I've just been hungry these last couple of years to just get an established, starting role ... and not wait for somebody to get hurt or for something to happen to go in the game. And so now I'm in a lot of ways in control of my own destiny here," he said. "To have that in my power for the first time in a few years, that's pretty special."

"And then to see what this could be, I mean, it's incredible. So, like I said, everything I've got I'm pouring into this thing. I'm looking forward and I'm definitely not looking back."

## BASEBALL

### Kershaw shuts down Rockies, Van Slyke homers in Dodgers win

BOB BAUM  
AP Sports Writer

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Clayton Kershaw wasn't happy with his second start of the spring. The third, he said, was much better.

Kershaw threw five scoreless innings and Scott Van Slyke hit his third home run of the spring in the Los Angeles Dodgers' 6-4 victory over the Colorado Rockies on Sunday.

Kershaw gave up two hits, both in the first inning, striking out three and walking one.

"I still went through some spurts there where I was messing up a little bit and didn't make the adjustments as fast as I probably needed to," he said, "but overall it was definitely an improvement I'd say."

The Dodgers ace left-hander, winner of the NL Cy Young award three of the last five seasons, has allowed one run in 10 innings this spring. He intended to go four innings but needed one more inning to hit his goal of 60 pitches.

"Good to get to go five I guess," Kershaw said. "Obviously four was the goal today but the pitch count was low, which was great, and getting back up and down, that's really more important than the pitch count to some extent."

Kershaw threw 61 pitches, 37 strikes.

Van Slyke led off the second with a home run of Jordan Lyles onto the grassy slope beyond the left field fence. Cody Bellinger doubled twice for the Dodgers and drove in two runs.

Kershaw, who led the majors with nine pickoffs last season, gave up a leadoff single to Charlie Blackmon in the first inning then promptly picked him off. Nolan Arenado followed with a one-out single, the only other hit Kershaw permitted.

Kershaw retired 13 of the final 15 batters he faced. The exceptions came when Ryan Rayburn walked to start the fourth and Nick Hundley reached on a throwing error by shortstop Enrique Hernandez with two outs in the fifth.

"The first inning he was up a little bit," manager Dave Roberts said, "then he just kind of settled in

nicely."

Van Slyke is hitting .409 this spring. Andre Ethier led off the Dodgers' three-run third with a triple down the right field line and is batting .438. Los Angeles has nine triples this spring, all by different players.

The Rockies used a designated hitter and the Dodgers didn't, because Kershaw wanted some at bats. He flew out to left, struck out and walked on four pitches.

#### STARTING TIME

Lyles, who figures to be the fourth or fifth starter in the Colorado rotation, had a rough third outing of the spring, allowing four runs on five hits in 2 1-3 innings.

The Rockies right-hander struck out the first two he faced in a 1-2-3 first inning, but had a rough time after that.

"Fastball command," he said. "I fell behind, a walk to the pitcher on four pitches, just a lot of bad counts."

Now Lyles wants to quickly move on.

"I guess that's the good thing about spring training," he said. "You can have these type of outings and it's a lot easier to get over it and move on to the next day. During the season, it's going to stay with you a little longer even though you don't want it to."

#### TRAINER'S ROOM

Dodgers: An MRI on shortstop Corey Seager's left knee showed a mild sprain. He is expected to be sidelined one to two weeks. Seager had feared he had torn his meniscus. Left-hander Alex Wood was scratched from Saturday's scheduled start due to what was described as mild tightness in his left forearm.

#### UP NEXT

Dodgers: Roberts announced after the game that Mike Bolsinger would get his first start of the spring Monday when the Dodgers host Milwaukee in Glendale.

Rockies: Tyler Chatwood makes his second start and third appearance of the spring for Colorado in Rockies' game Monday at Seattle in Peoria.