

49ERS

# DE Bosa agrees to record deal

After 43-day holdout, defensive player signs extension for \$170M over 5 years

By Cam Inman  
Bay Area News Group

**SANTA CLARA »** Defensive end Nick Bosa has agreed to the richest contract in 49ers history, ending a 43-day holdout in what truly was a *fait accompli* for a franchise that's investing so much toward its first Super Bowl title since the 1994 season.

The mega-deal comes just ahead of the regular-season opener, Sunday at the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Bosa's five-year, \$170-million

## TUNE IN

### SEASON OPENER

▪ 49ers at Pittsburgh

**When:** Sunday, 10 a.m.

**TV/Radio:** FOX/680

extension includes \$122.5 million guaranteed, ESPN first reported.

Coach Kyle Shanahan learned of the deal just minutes before meeting with the media and an hour before Wednesday's practice. General manager John Lynch, along with contract czars Paraag

Marathe and Brian Hampton, informed Shanahan in his office, eliciting "a couple of bro hugs," Shanahan said with a smile.

Bosa, who Shanahan said is en route to the 49ers facility, is fully expected to play Sunday. Otherwise, "He'd need to have a beer belly and be out of shape, which is not in Bosa's DNA," said Shanahan.

When asked how many snaps Bosa might play, the "pumped up" coach replied: "How many snaps are in the game? No, knowing Nick he'll be in great shape. We'll be smart with it and base it on the next two practices."

Bosa, the reigning NFL Defensive Player of the Year, waited

**BOSA » PAGE 5**



JOSE CARLOS FAJARDO — BAY AREA NEWS GROUP, FILE

The 49ers' Nick Bosa (97) and Trent Williams celebrate after defeating the Saints during a game at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara last season.

## LOCAL ROUNDUP

# DEFENDING CHAMPS OPEN WITH SWEEP



PHOTOS BY SHMUEL THALER — SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL

Santa Cruz High's girls volleyball team stays focused on teamwork in a timeout during Tuesday's home victory over Mount Madonna.

Santa Cruz, Mount Madonna both have senior heavy squads and high hopes

By Jim Seimas  
jseimas@santacruzsentinel.com

**SANTA CRUZ »** Santa Cruz High's girls volleyball team cruised to a 25-13, 25-10, 25-9 sweep of Mount Madonna on Tuesday night to open its title defense in Santa Cruz Coast Athletic League play.

It was a valuable match for both teams as the Cardinals got to empty their bench, and the Hawks got to test themselves against the top team in the league. Well, one of them.

"Our league is strong," said Harlina Manley Diaz, the Cardinals coach.

She coach that Harbor and Soquel always provide a challenge,

## REPORTING SCORES

Coaches are encouraged to report scores and highlights to **sports@santacruzsentinel.com** following games. Please include your name and contact number in the email.

Aptos and Scotts Valley are much improved, and San Lorenzo Valley and Mount Madonna are ready to pull off a stunner.

"We're going to have to be prepared," the Cardinals coach said. They were Tuesday.

The Cardinals (7-1, 1-0) maintained momentum after going 5-0 at the Nor-Cal Invitational

**ROUNDUP » PAGE 5**



Santa Cruz High senior middle Thea Luini digs a serve during Tuesday's match against visiting Mount Madonna.

**+ News+Notes:** Sabalenka, soon to be new No. 1, cruises into the US Open semifinals, **B10**

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

# Taylor impressed with QB's demeanor

Next test for Stanford's Daniels is No. 6 USC

By Harold Gutmann  
Bay Area News Group Correspondent

**STANFORD »** Making your first collegiate start on the road can be intimidating. But when coach Troy Taylor saw Ashton Daniels early on in Stanford's 37-24 season-opening win at Hawaii on Friday night, Taylor knew his quarterback would be just fine.

"Just his demeanor," Taylor said. "You can see in his facial expressions, the tightness of his skin, his eyes — all those things that we all do as human beings, you can see that on the sideline, and he was the same guy that he was in practice."

After throwing just six passes last year as a freshman, Daniels completed 25 of 36 passes for 248 yards and two TDs and rushed a team-high 11 times for 42 yards against the Rainbow Warriors. The sophomore didn't turn the ball over or take a sack.

Daniels and Stanford stay on the road Saturday to play No. 6 USC (2-0) at the L.A. Coliseum. It will be a far more intimidating environment and a far better

**STANFORD » PAGE 10**

## TUNE IN

### STANFORD AT USC

**When:** Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

**TV/Radio:** FOX/1050

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

# Cal's Wilcox balks on QB Jackson's injury status

By Jeff Faraudo  
Bay Area News Group Correspondent

**BERKELEY »** Cal coach Justin Wilcox stopped short of revealing whether starting quarterback Sam Jackson V will be available to face Auburn on Saturday night in the Bears' home opener.

But backup Ben Finley, who played well off the bench when Jackson was injured in Cal's 58-21 win at North Texas, sounded like he expects his teammate to be on the field.

"I'm just going to be ready. I'm glad Sam's healthy right now and he's practicing," Finley said during a Tuesday news conference with reporters. "Whatever way they can utilize me for this Saturday, I just want to win."

Cal and Auburn will meet for the first time ever Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

**CAL » PAGE 10**

## TUNE IN

### CAL VS. AUBURN

**When:** Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

**TV/Radio:** ESPN/810

## NBA G LEAGUE

# Santa Cruz Warriors unveil '23-'24 schedule

By Jim Seimas  
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The Santa Cruz Warriors, the NBA G League affiliate of the Golden State Warriors, unveiled their Showcase Cup and regular season schedule for the team's upcoming 2023-24 season.

The Warriors open the Showcase Cup with two home games at Kaiser Permanente Arena, on Nov. 10 against the Stockton

Kings and Nov. 11 against the Salt Lake City Stars. They close the regular-season on March 30 with a road game at the Rip City Remix in Portland, Oregon.

"With the season approaching, excitement is building," said David Kao, Santa Cruz Warriors Chief Operating Officer, in a release. "We're ready to see our team's dedication and fan support translate into an unforgettable season of basketball. Head

Coach Nicholas Kerr will bring great leadership to our team this season and I look forward to partnering with him as we continue to elevate our program."

All NBA G League teams begin the 2023-24 season with the Showcase Cup, which includes 14 games in team markets, followed by two Winter Showcase games to crown the Showcase Cup champion. Team records will reset for the 34-game reg-

ular season, which begins on Dec. 28.

The Warriors will play 11 back-to-backs throughout the season, with eight being played at home. Santa Cruz closes the regular season with five of their final nine games at home, followed by the NBA G League playoffs.

Following its home game against the Iowa Wolves on Feb.

**SCHEDULE » PAGE 5**



On the air Thursday

BASEBALL

4 p.m. Cardinals at Braves or Diamondbacks at Cubs MLB  
7:30 p.m. Guardians at Angels (in progress) MLB

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

5 p.m. Women: Arizona at Wisconsin FS1

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

5 p.m. Red Oak (Texas) at Lake Belton (Texas) ESPN2

GOLF

5 a.m. DP World: Horizon Irish Open GOLF  
1 p.m. LPGA: Kroger Queen City Championship GOLF  
9 p.m. Asian Tour: Shinhan Donghae Open GOLF

NFL

5:20 p.m. Lions at Chiefs NBC

SOCCER

6:50 a.m. Euro qualifying: Kazakhstan vs. Finland FS2  
8:50 a.m. Euro qualifying: Lithuania vs. Montenegro FS2  
11:30 a.m. Euro qualifying: France vs. Ireland FS2  
3 p.m. Women: **Santa Clara at Cal** PAC12  
4 p.m. Women: North Carolina at South Carolina ESPN2  
5 p.m. Women: UC Irvine at Oregon St. PAC12  
7 p.m. Women: Long Beach St. at UCLA PAC12

TENNIS

4 p.m. U.S. Open, women's semifinals ESPN



BRANDON VALLANCE — SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL, FILE

Gui Santos signs an autograph for a Santa Cruz Warriors fan after the team's NBA G League season finale at Kaiser Permanente Arena last season.

Schedule

FROM PAGE 4

10, Santa Cruz has a 13-day break before returning to action Feb. 22 against Raptors 905. (NBA All-Star Weekend 2024 takes place Feb. 16-18 in Indianapolis, Indiana.)

2023-24 S.C. WARRIORS SCHEDULE

SHOWCASE CUP

- Nov. 10, Stockton Kings at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 11, Salt Lake City Stars at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 17, G League Ignite at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 19, Santa Cruz Warriors at G League Ignite, 3 p.m.
- Nov. 21, Santa Cruz Warriors at Salt Lake City Stars, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 27, Santa Cruz Warriors at Ontario Clippers, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 1, Rip City Remix at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 2, Rip City Remix at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 5, Santa Cruz Warriors at Ontario Clippers, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 8, Santa Cruz Warriors at G League Ignite, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 10, Salt Lake City Stars at Santa Cruz Warriors, 2 p.m.
- Dec. 12, Santa Cruz Warriors at South Bay Lakers, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 14, Santa Cruz Warriors at South Bay Lakers, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 16, Stockton Kings at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Dec. XX, Santa Cruz Warriors vs. TBD
- Dec. XX, Santa Cruz Warriors vs. TBD

REGULAR SEASON

- Dec. 28, Sioux Falls Skyforce at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 29, Sioux Falls Skyforce at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 2 Santa Cruz Warriors at Indiana Mad Ants, 6 p.m.
- Jan. 4, Santa Cruz Warriors at Indiana Mad Ants, 6 p.m.
- Jan. 6, Santa Cruz Warriors at Cleveland Charge, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 13, South Bay Lakers at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 15, Long Island Nets at Santa Cruz Warriors, 2 p.m.
- Jan. 19, Ontario Clippers at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 20, Ontario Clippers at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 23, Santa Cruz Warriors at Salt Lake City Stars, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 25, Santa Cruz Warriors at Austin Spurs, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 27, Santa Cruz Warriors at Memphis Hustle, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 29, Santa Cruz Warriors at Memphis Hustle, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 2, Texas Legends at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 3, Texas Legends at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 7, Santa Cruz Warriors at Salt Lake City Stars, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 9, Iowa Wolves at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 10, Iowa Wolves at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 23, Raptors 905 at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 24, Raptors 905 at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 28, Santa Cruz Warriors at Oklahoma City Blue, 11 a.m.
- Feb. 29, Santa Cruz Warriors at Oklahoma City Blue, 7 p.m.
- March 3, Santa Cruz Warriors at Mexico City Capitanes, 4 p.m.
- March 4, Santa Cruz Warriors at Mexico City Capitanes, 8 p.m.
- March 6, Santa Cruz Warriors at Austin Spurs, 7 p.m.
- March 10, RGV Vipers at Santa Cruz Warriors, 12:30 p.m.
- March 12, RGV Vipers at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- March 15, G League Ignite at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- March 16, G League Ignite at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- March 21, Santa Cruz Warriors at Stockton Kings, 7 p.m.
- March 23, Santa Cruz Warriors at Stockton Kings, 5 p.m.
- March 27, South Bay Lakers at Santa Cruz Warriors, 7 p.m.
- March 29, Santa Cruz Warriors at Rip City Remix, 6 p.m.
- March 30, Santa Cruz Warriors at Rip City Remix, 3 p.m.

Roundup

FROM PAGE 4

at Rancho Cotate High on Saturday.

“The girls told me they want to put another number up on that banner after last year,” Manley Diaz said. “So there’s always that goal, but it’s going to be tough this year.”

Senior setter Antonia Wilson made 16 assists, six service aces, and three kills, senior outside hitter/defensive specialist Lily Pederson had three aces and three kills, and sophomore Natalie Monroe, a 6-foot-1 outside hitter/right side, had a team-high six kills in a limited role after shining over the weekend.

“It was nice to see the girls in a rhythm tonight, working on serving strong, passing well, and moving our offense around,” Manley Diaz said. “And we did. We got all 14 of our players in today, which was really great too.”

Santa Cruz relied on two of its strengths, the depth of its bench and back-row passing, in the sweep.

Senior libero Summer Pederson continued to excel with her passing. Junior outside hitter/defensive specialist Shelby Leonardich is also in one of the lead passing rotations.

Pederson and Wilson, who are among 10 seniors on the team, lead the squad, but Monroe has been leading in the attack. Senior middle blocker Daisy Manako has also been productive in the attack when she gets set.

“We spread it out,” Manley Diaz said.

Senior right side/middle blocker Ava Lord also returns for Santa Cruz.

“We lost a lot of seniors last year,” Lord said. “Even though we’ve all been playing volleyball with each other for so long, it still kinda feels like a new team. So we’re all just trying to figure out, like, who works best with each other, at what times, and what do we do when we get in trouble? But I think we’ve been working really hard. It’s starting to come together and looking real nice.”

The Cardinals saw senior middle Jordan Simpkins, one of the top blockers in the state last season, transfer to a high school in Kentucky in the offseason, but they’re hoping another senior talent, outside hitter Sadie Jeffrey, returns to the court soon. Jeffrey had off-season surgery on her ankle and is still sidelined.

Junior middle blocker Kelaiah Wynn, who played junior-varsity last season, is settling in nicely, her coach said.

Senior Julie Miritz is making the move from middle to right side. Some of the other seniors played on junior-varsity a year ago.

“With this team,” Manley Diaz said, “we’re going to see where our peak is. We’re not running out of the gate, firing on all pistons right away. We have a lot of development that’s going to happen very quickly on this team.”

Sophomore outside hitter



SHMUEL THALER — SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL

Senior libero Summer Pederson keeps the ball in play for Santa Cruz on Tuesday as defensive specialist Lily Pederson looks on.



RAUL EBIO — SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL

St. Francis High's Carley Anderson dives for a ball against host Pajaro Valley on Monday in Watsonville.



SHMUEL THALER — SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL

Santa Cruz High sophomore Natalie Monroe, top, battles at the net against Mount Madonna on Tuesday.

Eden Fisher led the Hawks (1-4, 0-1) with five kills.

Mount Madonna, like Santa Cruz, has a huge senior class. For that reason, its focus is on this season, not the future.

“We’ve got a lot of really good pieces with this team,” Hawks coach PK McDonald said. “We’ve got size and a lot of potential with a lot of good players. But with this game, size is nice, but you have to pass the ball at a better level than we did tonight.”

McDonald said his team needs to improve its passing to take advantage of powerful hitters Fisher and 6-1 senior outside hitter Cy Harris. When it does, the results will improve, he said.

Hawks junior Lagi Hun-

nicutt is in her first year playing setter.

Senior Anya Gonzalez is playing libero for the Hawks, who graduated all three of their serve-receive passers from last season.

“This is the level that we want to be,” said McDonald, of playing Santa Cruz, “so I’m glad for this wake-up call. We got shown what championship level SC-CAL volleyball is. I really thing this team can come together and play at that level, but we have a lot of work to do.”

On Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Santa Cruz plays at Scotts Valley, and Mount Madonna (1-4, 0-1) hosts SLV.

**AT HARBOR 3, APTOS 0 »** Junior outside hitter Isla Johnson had a team-high 12 kills, and the Pirates opened SCCAL play with a 25-16, 25-15, 26-24 sweep Tuesday.

Junior outside hitter Holly Refjir made eight kills for the Pirates, and junior middle blocker Sabine Kemos made seven kills. Junior setter Maren O’Farrell had 14 assists and five kills.

Senior outside hitter Peyton Westjohn had six kills, eight digs, and two aces for the Mariners. Junior middle Claire Wiloughby had six kills and hitting .385, and freshman outside hitter Ella Dueck had nine kills, 11 digs, and two aces.

On Thursday, Aptos (4-2, 0-1) plays at Hollister at 6:30 p.m., and Harbor (11-5, 1-0) plays at Soquel at 7 p.m.

**SOQUEL 3, SLV 0 »** Junior Claire Petersen had nine

kills, and the Knights opened SCCAL play with a 25-6, 25-8, 25-8 sweep on Tuesday night.

Juniors Jesse Dueck and Mary Henderson each had seven aces, which helped give the Knights 21 total. **AT PAJARO VALLEY 3, ST. FRANCIS 1 »** The Grizzlies prevailed 25-22, 25-22, 17-25, 25-17 in the teams’ nonleague match Tuesday night.

Carley Anderson had seven kills, three aces, and three blocks for the Sharks. Peyton Orradre had seven kills, 10 digs, and one block, Delaney Fowler had five kills and three blocks, and Georgia Oztzman made 15 assists.

**AT WATSONVILLE 3, NORTH SALINAS 2 »** Daisy Cornejo had 15 kills and nine aces, and the Wildcatz prevailed in five sets Tuesday, 25-20, 25-12, 17-25, 19-25, 15-13.

Calina Casillas had 7 kills and four aces. Danicka Hernandez had five aces.

Watsonville (3-0) plays at Soledad on Thursday at 6 p.m. to open Pacific Coast Athletic League Mission Division play.

Molina Ruiz’s goal narrowed the Seahawks’ deficit to 2-1.

Victor Vargas had two goals and an assist for the Bear Cubs (3-0-0).

Cabrillo (0-1-1) plays at Allan Hancock (3-1-0) on Saturday at 4 p.m.

Table tennis

**MAJOR LEAGUE TABLE TENNIS »** Kaiser Permanente Arena, home of the Santa Cruz Warriors, will host a Major League Table Tennis (MLTT) event on Sept. 22 and 23 at 5 p.m., and Sept. 24 at 1 p.m. Tickets are on sale now, and can be purchased on the official MLTT website at mltt.com/tickets.

The 2023-24 MLTT season runs from September to March, with events played bi-weekly and a Final Four match played in April. MLTT is the premier and only professional table tennis league in the United States and consists of eight city-based teams split between East and West divisions. Players in the tournament will compete for prize money of over \$250,000, which stands as the highest amount within the sport.



KARL MONDON — BAY AREA NEWS GROUP, FILE

The 49ers' Nick Bosa watches teammates practice before a playoff game last season.

bardi Trophy.

“We’re aware of the business side of it. We understand we have a fantastic football team with great core values at really important positions,” Kittle said early in training camp. “We understand the (championship) window, whatever that is, could be closing. We’re going to try our best just to keep that window as open as long as we possibly can, but we’re going to try sneak out some wins while that window is still open.”

The 49ers’ last Super

Bowl win coincided with the 1994 installation of the salary cap — at a mere \$34.6 million. That is almost as much as the Los Angeles Rams’ annual salary to Aaron Donald, a three-time NFL Defensive Player of the Year and the standard bearer for Bosa’s deal.

Bosa was set to make close to \$18 million on the fifth-year option of his 2019 rookie deal. Bolstering his leverage: a career-high 18 ½ sacks last season, giving him 43 sacks since that

2019 NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year debut.

Bosa, it’s believed, has spent the past month working out at the gym he and his older brother, Joey, built in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where they fanatically train each offseason rather than take part in their teams’ voluntary programs. Joey Bosa is three years removed from signing an extension with the Chargers (five years, \$135 million) which stood as the market’s best until T.J. Watt corralled a bigger salary (four years, \$112 million) from the Pittsburgh Steelers just days before the 2021 opener.

Steve Wilks, the 49ers’ first-year defensive coordinator, expects an easy assimilation for Bosa’s return, saying during camp: “You guys have been around here longer than I have and I’ve seen it from afar, but I think he’ll be fine when he gets here.”

The 49ers, after back-to-back runner-up finishes in the NFC, open defense of their NFC West title when the regular season begins Sunday in Pittsburgh.

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THIS NEWSPAPER.

Thank you!

