

## **Mariners**

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## Longtime Mariners scout Bill Kearns, 94, dies

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Longtime Mariners scout Bill Kearns, 94, died Wednesday night, the team announced.

"Bill served as a scout for the Mariners since the inception of the franchise in 1976-77, covering the New England region," said Mariners GM Jack Zduriencik in a statement.

"Bill was a gentleman, in the finest sense, and represented his family and the Mariners in a first-class manner. And he was an excellent scout, a true ambassador of the Mariners and the game of baseball. Bill was one of the most positive people I have ever met."

Kearns woke up in the middle of the night not feeling well and drove himself to a Boston hospital but died there of a ruptured aorta, with his family at his side.

As a player, Kearns signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers after World War II but never made it to the majors. He was a shortstop but Pee Wee Reese was a fixture with the parent club.

Eventually becoming a scout for the Chicago White Sox and Kansas City Royals, Kearns joined the Mariners before their inaugural season. In 2013, Kearns was honored as one of Major League Baseball's Scouts of the Year.

## **College sports**

- **Matt Borton** scored 17 points, hitting four straight free throws in the last 30 seconds as the Seattle Pacific University men's basketball team (10-3, 2-1 GNAC) won 83-76 against Western Oregon.
- The Eastern Washington University women's basketball team (8-4) had a 20-5 run over the final eight minutes of the first half and beat Weber State 69-55 on the road. **Lexie Nelson** scored 16 points.
- The Western Washington University women lost 74-64 to SPU in Bellingham. Center **Kayla Bernsen** had 16 points for the Vikings (6-5, 0-2 GNAC). Guards **Suzanna Ohlsen** and **Aubree Callan** combined to score 47 points for the Falcons (10-1, 2-1), who are ranked No. 19 in the latest Division II poll.

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