



**1/2 Marathon • 5K Run / Walk
Kids Races • Bed Race
May 28-29, 2006 • Laguna Hills CA**

User name: Password: | [Free Registration](#)



[+ Archives](#) [+ Customer service](#)

Home > Sports > **Pro**

[PRINT ARTICLE](#)

[E-MAIL ARTICLE](#)

CHANGE TYPE SIZE



Wednesday, May 3, 2006

NFL owners are given a lot to consider

They have more information than ever before, but it's still unclear whether they'll be in position to make a decision on L.A. later this month.

By **MICHAEL LEV**

The Orange County Register

GRAPEVINE, TEXAS – NFL owners have more answers than ever about the Los Angeles stadium derby after hearing extensive presentations from the competing sites. But this question remains: Do they have enough to make a decision at their spring meeting later this month?

Eleven owners came to a Dallas-area hotel to greet and grill Anaheim and Coliseum officials Tuesday. As they left, none of the owners definitively could say they were ready to pick one site over the other when they reconvene May 22 in Denver.

"I think there's a possibility," Broncos owner Pat Bowlen said. "I don't know that it's a real possibility. We'll see."

"I think we took a huge step forward," New York Giants executive vice president Steve Tisch said. "(But) I don't get the impression we're there yet."

After what he called a "very



Anaheim's proposal to the NFL included a photo illustration of the stadium that could be built for a team.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CITY OF ANAHEIM

Forums

- [What do you think about the possibility of the NFL coming to Anaheim?](#)

Previous stories

More from Sports

- [Lakers can't close, lose 114-97](#)
- [Angels fall to Tigers, 2-1](#)
- [Seventh heaven – Ducks advance](#)
- [Assault probe targets Brown](#)
- [NFL owners are given a lot to consider](#)
- [Early lead doesn't help Dodgers](#)
- [Solis gets a boost](#)
- [Locker talk: Lakers blog](#)
- [Sportoons](#)

Subscribe to The Register

Get **The Register** or the **E-Register**, the print edition online

[> E-Register login](#)

- [Events calendar](#)
- [Discussion boards](#)
- [Blogs](#)
- [Maps and yellow pages](#)
- [RSS feeds !\[\]\(db0edf9c3a70567221d24a32005db51e_img.jpg\)](#)
- [County online poll](#)

ADVERTISING

\$500 off
Vinyl
French Doors!

Offer for the month of May only



good" meeting featuring "excellent dialogue," NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue acknowledged that "we have a lot of information to digest."

The 11-owner committee will bat around ideas during a conference call next week. After meeting May 22, the committee will address the rest of the owners the next day. They could make a decision then or delay it. Tagliabue reiterated that he wants some resolution by the end of 2006.

"This is the year for us to make some decisions up or down rather than keep moving sideways," he said.

Anaheim officials have indicated they will pursue other options for the 53-acre plot near Angel Stadium if the NFL doesn't make a decision by the end of this month. Asked if Tuesday's events would affect that deadline, Anaheim Mayor Curt Pringle said: "Nothing's changed."

Pringle and five other city representatives sought to alter some perceptions about Anaheim and Orange County when they addressed owners for about 50 minutes.

Part of their challenge, Pringle said, was "to present who Anaheim is to people who may see L.A. as singularly downtown L.A. In fact, when you talk about the Los Angeles media market, you're talking about a broader community, and we are firmly in the center of the broader community."

Tisch said the question of whether Anaheim is the equivalent of Los Angeles never came up because Pringle and his staff highlighted what the city has to offer.

"Anaheim is Anaheim," Tisch said, "but if you look at its population, per-capita income, unemployment rate, its success in the business community, it almost made it a non-issue. They were not at all defensive about explaining why Anaheim is or is not L.A. They took a much more proactive and intelligent approach."

One of Anaheim's key points was that the owner of an NFL team would have control of the stadium and much of the land around it. The city's objective was to appeal to the business sense of the billionaires in the room.

"NFL owners are very successful businessmen," Anaheim City Councilman Bob Hernandez said. "They certainly recognize the economic opportunity that exists in Anaheim, that it's a superior economic opportunity to other sites. They want to make money."

Coliseum representatives also focused on finances. They said a refurbished Coliseum would generate sufficient revenue to offset the debt from \$600million to \$800million in construction costs.

The Coliseum's economic plan revolves around selling naming rights, personal seat licenses, 200 suites and 17,000 club seats. Coliseum Commission member David Israel said the Coliseum could fetch higher prices than Anaheim for premium seats, citing the difference between the high-end seats at Dodger Stadium (\$375) and Angel Stadium (\$110). Israel also noted Forbes' recent team valuations, which put the Dodgers at \$482million and the Angels at \$368million.

"Nobody in their right mind is going to be enthusiastic about

- Clock ticking on offer
- NFL closer to return to L.A. area
- NFL owners look ahead
- NFL could buy site, too
- Anaheim to NFL: Decide by May

Offer for the month of May only

We make It!
We install it!
We GUARANTEE it!



800-258-4823

WEST COAST
VINYL WINDOWS

**NEVER
PAY
RENT
OR
MORTGAGE
AGAIN!**



spending \$800million," said Bill Chadwick, a member of the Coliseum Commission. "But when you do the math, you find the revenues (the stadium) will generate will cover debt service by a 4-1 ratio. That's highly profitable."

Another way to offset costs is to have two tenants. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger pushed for two additional teams in Southern California when he addressed the owners Tuesday, saying "there is a enough room and enough of an audience" to have teams in Los Angeles and Anaheim.

Tagliabue said the league would focus on having one team in the short term. Schwarzenegger conceded that even that is a daunting task.

"That's one thing my kids have been talking about since I became governor," he said of bringing the NFL back to the L.A. area.

"They think that I can do anything, that I would just come here and make this happen because they see me in the movies blowing up buildings and wiping out armies and conquering witches and even the devil. They think Daddy will just go there and bring some teams back."

[PRINT ARTICLE](#)

[E-MAIL ARTICLE](#)

CHANGE TYPE SIZE



Media Partners: [KOCE](#) | [MSNBC](#) | [OCExcelsior](#) | [SqueezeOC](#) | [Home magazine](#) | [Coast magazine](#) | [KPCC](#) | [KMEX](#) | [Nguoi Viet](#)

Copyright 2006 The Orange County Register | [Contact us](#) | [Privacy policy and User agreement](#) | [Corrections](#) | [Career opportunities](#) | [Advertise with us](#) | [About us](#) | [Archives](#) | [OC Real Estate Finder](#) | [OC Car Finder](#) | [OC Job Finder](#) | [OC Single Scene](#) | [California Lottery](#) | [Register in Education](#) | [Buy our Photos](#) | [Feedback](#) | [Local Business Listings](#)



Freedom Communications, Inc.