

Mets to retire Beltrán's No. 15 in ceremony before he enters team's hall of fame

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The New York Mets will retire Carlos Beltrán's No. 15 and he will enter the team's hall of fame before their home game against the Philadelphia Phillies on Sept. 19.

Beltrán will become the ninth player in franchise history to have his number retired. Previously, Tom Seaver (41), Mike Piazza (31), Jerry Koosman (36), Keith Hernandez (17), Willie Mays (24), Dwight Gooden (16), Darryl Strawberry (18) and David Wright (5) had their numbers retired.

The Mets also have retired the numbers of former managers Gil Hodges (14) and Casey Stengel (37) and all major league teams have retired No. 42 in honor of Jackie Robinson.

Mets outfielder Tyrone Taylor, who currently wears No. 15, will change his number to 28.

Beltrán was elected to baseball's Hall of Fame earlier this year. He announced he would wear a Mets cap on his plaque. The Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be on July 26.

Beltrán was hired as the New York Mets' manager



Seth Wenig | Associated Press
New York Mets' Carlos Beltrán smiles during an introductory baseball news conference in New York on Nov. 4, 2019.

on Nov. 1, 2019, then fired on Jan. 16, 2020, without having managed a game. New York announced its decision three days after he was the only Astros player mentioned by name in a report by Major League Baseball regarding the team's illicit use of electronics to steal signs during Houston's run to the 2017 World Series championship — his final season.

He was hired by the Mets as a special assistant to the general manager in February 2023. He continues to work as a special assistant to president of baseball operations David Stearns.

Mets owners Steve

and Alex Cohen released a statement on Monday praising Beltrán as "one of the greatest offensive players in team history, combining power and speed with elite defense."

Beltrán said having his number retired and entering the team's hall of fame is "the highest possible tribute, and I truly feel blessed. The Mets hold a special place in my heart. This summer will be incredibly meaningful, from my induction into the baseball Hall of Fame to this Mets hall of fame honor, with the cherry on top being my number retirement. I'm deeply grateful."



Ethan Swope | Associated Press
Los Angeles Angels' Jorge Soler (12) and Atlanta Braves' Reynaldo López (40) fight during the fifth inning of a baseball game on Tuesday in Anaheim, Calif.

Soler and López receive suspensions following brawl

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Los Angeles Angels designated hitter Jorge Soler and Atlanta Braves pitcher Reynaldo López each received seven-game suspensions from Major League Baseball on Wednesday, a day after they were ejected following their participation in a brawl.

Michael Hill, MLB's senior vice president for on-field operations, also announced that the players received undisclosed fines. The suspensions were scheduled to begin with Wednesday's game but were put on hold pending appeals from each player.

MLB and the Major League Baseball Players Association reached an agreement to have López's suspension reduced to five games, effective immediately. With an off day, López will be able to keep his scheduled next start for

Atlanta.

Soler started in right field and batted fourth in Wednesday's finale of the three-game series.

Soler homered off López in the first inning of Tuesday night's game. In his next at-bat, Soler was hit by a 96 mph fastball from López. In the fifth, Soler charged the mound after López threw a high-and-inside wild pitch that tipped off catcher Jonah Heim's mitt.

As Soler began walking toward the mound, López held up his hands and the two glared at each other before both started throwing punches.

"I asked him if everything was OK and the answer he gave me, I didn't like it," Soler said through an interpreter, according to MLB.com. "That's why I went out there."

The right-handed López held the baseball in his right hand as he used it to

throw a punch at Soler's batting helmet.

Players and coaches stormed out of the dugouts and bullpens, and Braves manager Walt Weiss tackled Soler, the 2021 World Series MVP with Atlanta.

"I love Soler. We were teammates here," Weiss said. "But that's a big man, and so I just felt I've gotta get him off his feet because he's gonna hurt somebody. And so that was my instinct, just to get in there and get Jorge off his feet, yeah, because he was on a warpath."

López and Soler were Braves teammates during the second half of the 2024 season.

"It's just a shame, the situation and how things unfolded," López said through an interpreter, according to MLB.com. "On my part, there was never any intent to hit him at any point. So, again, it's just a shame."

Pirates sign teenage shortstop Griffin to a 9-year deal worth at least \$140 million

BY WILL GRAVES
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — Konnor Griffin is with the Pittsburgh Pirates for the long haul.

The 19-year-old shortstop agreed to a nine-year, \$140 million contract with the Pirates early Wednesday, less than a week after the former first-round pick made his major league debut.

The deal, the largest in club history, includes escalators that could raise the total value to \$150 million.

Griffin's Pittsburgh teammates attended Wednesday's news conference to announce the deal hours before the team lost to the San Diego Padres 8-2.

"This week has been amazing, debut week, and then sitting here signing a contract, it's been amazing," Griffin said. "It's one of the best weeks of my life. ... But it'll be even better if we can get a win today."

In Wednesday's game, Griffin entered as a pinch hitter in the bottom of the seventh and hit a sacrifice fly to score Nick Yorke for the Pirates' first run.

Pirates owner Bob Nutting said the nine-year contract reflects the team's commitment in winning this season and in the future.

"This is an important step for 2026 as we look at it right now, but obviously this is a long-term commitment," Nutting said. "It's a long-term statement of where we're headed as an organization, where we are headed with this team. ... This obviously is an unusual and dramatic step for the Pittsburgh Pirates. So I'm excited, I hope our fans are excited, I hope the city is excited, I know the organization is excited."

When asked why it was important to sign for nine years, Griffin said he sees the Pirates as a winning organization.

"I'm pumped to be a Pirate and be a part of this wonderful clubhouse," Griffin said, looking at his teammates at the back of the room. "A lot of great talent back there and coaches and staff. Thank you all for being here to support me. Y'all made this transition to the big leagues super easy. And I'm just pumped to go compete. The goal is to win. The goal is to win a World Series. And I think we've



Gene J. Puskar | Associated Press
Pittsburgh Pirates' Konnor Griffin takes infield practice before making his Major League Baseball debut in the Pirates' home-opener against the Baltimore Orioles in Pittsburgh on April 3.

got a great clubhouse to go do that. I'm pump to be part of it."

The agreement comes less than 24 hours after general manager Ben Cherington said the "ingredients" were in place for a long-term pact.

The Pirates selected Griffin with the ninth overall pick in the 2024 amateur draft. He sprinted through the team's farm system, hitting .333 with 21 home runs, 94 RBIs and 65 stolen bases. He was one of the final cuts during spring training last month, and his stay at Triple-A Indianapolis was brief.

Pittsburgh called Griffin to the majors after just a week, and he has played well through his first handful of games. Griffin laced an RBI-double in his first big-league at bat against Baltimore last Friday, and added a pair of hits, including a two-run single, in a 7-1 win over San Diego on Tuesday night that helped the Pirates to their sixth win in seven games.

Griffin, who has said repeatedly he wants to stay in Pittsburgh for as long as possible, has impressed teammates with his maturity and his unique skillset.

Reigning NL Cy Young winner Paul Skenes called Griffin "a big leaguer through and through," though Griffin is doing his best to ignore the attention that has surrounded his arrival for a team that is trying to return to relevance and end a playoff drought that's now over a decade old.

"Just sticking to being myself, not trying to do too much," Griffin said Tuesday night. "Just let the game tell me the situation. Compete one pitch at a time and let it all happen."

GARAGE SALE
WEST- Mohawk Dr. 1624
April 9th, 10th, 11th 8-5
Lots of brand new items,
home decor, x-max.
Lots of misc.

LEGAL NOTICE

BID ADVERTISEMENT

The Hancock County Board of Education will accept sealed bids on Waste Removal for the school district property until 10:00 am, Friday, April 17, 2026, at the Board of Education Office in Hawesville, Kentucky. For specifications or other information, contact Dr. Joshua Scherrer at the Board of Education Office or call (270) 927-6914. The Hancock County Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to accept irregularities in the bidding process. All sealed bids must be clearly marked "WASTE REMOVAL".

LEGAL NOTICE

Owensboro FEC, LLC with a mailing address of **5000 Frederica Street, Owensboro, Ky 42301** hereby declares intention(s) to apply for a **NQ2 Retail Drink License, special Sunday Retail Drink Liquor License(s)** no later than **April 30, 2026**. The licensed premises will be located at **5000 Frederica Street Owensboro, Ky 42301** doing business as **MAUI'S INDOOR THEME PARK LLC**. The (owner(s); Principal Officers and Directors; Limited Partners; or Members) are as follows : **President, Terry Hatton of 309 W Brannon Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356, Member , Steve Hatton of 107 Foaling Ridge Road, Nicholasville, Ky 40356, Member , Jeff Hatton, of 1693 W 2400 N , Lehi, Utah, 84043.** Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license(s) by writing the Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control Mayo-Underwood Building 500 Mero St., 2NE33 Frankfort, Ky. 40601, within 30 days of the date of this

HOME SERVICES GUIDE

REVERSE WEAR AND TEAR ON YOUR SHELTER WITH THESE PROFESSIONAL SOLUTIONS!

MAINTENANCE REPAIRS IMPROVEMENTS

SERVICES
NICK'S EXTERIORS
For ALL Your Exterior Needs
Specializing In Storm Damage
* Roofing & Gutters
* Windows & Doors
* Siding & Soffit
* Fencing & Decks
* Sunrooms
* Kitchens & Bath Remodels
* Flooring
* Storage Buildings
* Garage Doors
* Concrete & Stone
Call NICK at 270-231-3106
Licensed & Insured

SERVICES
LAWN HUNTERS MOWING
YARDWORK AND LANDSCAPING
Mowing starting at \$25.00
Spring Cleanup
Landscaping
Power Washing
30% off going price
Call 270-231-5340

SERVICES
THE PAINTER!
Best Prices in the Tri-State.
Excellent Results
Inside and Out.
Plenty of local refs.
270-302-0497

J&M Construction
Remodeling, roofing, siding and much more!
Amish Crew.
(270) 750-4377

HOME SERVICES
YARD DOG
Free Removal of Unwanted Appliances, Mowers, Exercise Equipment Grills & Batteries
SAME DAY PICK UP
Don't get April fooled call me!
270-313-7227

SERVICES
HOME REPAIR
TC ROOFING & Construction
Roofing & Remodeling
* Handyman Services
* Roofing * Gutters
* Fencing * Decks * Siding
* Landscaping
* Pressure Washing
* Windows * Doors
* Flooring
* Home Improvement
* Drywall * Painting
* Kitchen * Bathroom

SERVICES
MATTINGLEY'S
AUTOMOTIVE
24 Hour Towing Service
Quality Auto Service Since 1968
24th & Veach Road - Owensboro, KY.
683-4251 or 684-0719
We install Jasper Engines & Transmissions
100,000 Miles/36 Month Nationwide Warranty