



PARTLY SUNNY
to mostly sunny.
High 58, low 41.
> LOCAL 88

The Seattle Times



50¢ King, Pierce, Snohomish, Island, Kitsap
and Thurston counties | 75¢ elsewhere

INDEPENDENT AND LOCALLY OWNED SINCE 1896

The secretive world of Sonics owners

Dozens of people are in the ownership group: a who's who of Seattle's power brokers. The Sonics have disclosed most, but not all, of their names.

Oil money in Alaska lines up McGavick

ENERGY LEADER FUNDRAISER IN
He faces C who fought drill

BY ALICIA MUNDY
Seattle Times Washington bureau
WASHINGTON — Arctic are rallying behind Repul Senate candidate Mike Mick of Seattle for a fundraiser by Alaska's most powerful politicians. The April 13 event in Anchorage is being hosted by Sen. Stevens and Lisa Murko and Alaska's lone Congress Don Young, all Republican. It could raise as much as \$500,000 for McGavick, w challenging Democratic Maria Cantwell in this election.

The Alaska politicians are other 23 special patrons here are a who's who in Anchorage, particularly in the energy sector. Many of them have been supporters of opening the life Refuge (ANWR) to oil drilling.

DEMOCRATS' HO
8th District >

WSU rebases baseball for resumption

BY MIKE CARTER
Seattle Times staff reporter

Washington State University mandated head baseball coach Marbut had received notice that administrators will not tolerate any further misconduct.

The action, announced Tuesday, came two weeks after the Seattle Times investigation revealed Marbut had repeatedly misrepresented his academic credentials on résumés and other documents. The claims were repeated while Marbut was a coach and athletic director at Edmonds Community College and an assistant and head coach at WSU.

Marbut's athletic accomplishments also were exaggerated on school Web sites.

Now in his second year as a man, Marbut was brought in

Ple

WHAT THEY WANT

\$220 million in taxpayer money to nearly double the size of KeyArena. The goal isn't many more seats, but more restaurants and amenities for high-end ticketholders.

WHY THEY WANT IT

The owners say their lease at city-owned KeyArena — which expires in 2010 — is among the worst in the NBA because the team must split money from luxury suites and food sales with the city. They want any new lease to let them keep all profits from the arena.

THE STARBUCKIES

Orin Smith, former president and CEO

David Olsen, senior vice president for culture and leadership development

*Wanda Herndon, senior VP for global communications

Michael & Jaqueline Casey, senior VP and chief accounting officer, and his wife

Nancy & Jack Rodgers, early Starbucks investors, also owned several restaurant franchises

THE TECH CROWD

John Stanton, former chairman and CEO of Western Wireless

Theresa Gillespie, former vice chair of Western Wireless, married to Stanton

*Peter van Oppen, chairman and CEO of Digital Information Corp. (ADIC), formerly on Western Wireless board

W. Russell Daggatt, former president of Teledesic

Alan & Joyce Bender, former executive with Western Wireless and T-Mobile, and his wife

Lynn & Mikal Thomsen; he is former president and chief operating officer of Western Wireless

Naveen Jain, CEO of Intelius, former CEO of InfoSpace

Greg Maffel, president and CEO of Liberty Media, former Microsoft chief financial officer.

MYSTERY OWNERS

The Sonics would not disclose the identities of about a dozen owners. Some are family members of other owners.

THE GAMERS

*Richard Tait, developed the board game Cranium

Rob Angel, invented Pictionary

Craig Kinzer, real-estate consultant, helped create DVD game Scene It

David Edelstein, helped design Scene It and Cranium

THE NONLOCALS

Duncan MacNaughton, Hawaii developer

William Goodwin, Virginia investor

THE LAWYERS

G. Scott Greenburg, Preston Gates & Ellis

Stewart Landefeld, Perkins Cole

Ronald Berenstein, Perkins Cole

Valerie Hughes, Perkins Cole

Harry Schnelder Jr., Perkins Cole

Patrick Simpson, Perkins Cole

V.L. Woolston, Perkins Cole

Michael Reynvaan, Perkins Cole

Roger Tolbert, former Perkins Cole

OTHER OWNERS

*Stan Bazer, UW Regent, attorney and part owner of Saltchuck Resources, a shipping company

Dan & Cindy Brettler, founder and CEO of Car Toys, and his wife

Bill Block, director of King County's Committee to End Homelessness

*Pete Nordstrom, president of merchandising at Nordstrom

Sabey Corp., Seattle real-estate developer

H.S. Wright III, chairman & CEO of Seattle Hospitality Group

Jon & Julie Barwick, Barwick & Partners, a Seattle financial planning firm

Ken Woolcott, former pharmaceutical company executive

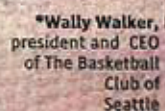
Dennis Daugs, investment adviser

Douglas Donnelly, stockbroker



THE LEADERS

*Howard Schultz, Starbucks chairman and chairman of The Basketball Club of Seattle



*Wally Walker, president and CEO of The Basketball Club of Seattle



H.S. Wright III, chairman & CEO of Seattle Hospitality Group

BY JIM BRUNNER
Seattle Times staff reporter

Ken Woolcott's family couldn't afford Sonics tickets when he was growing up, so he'd listen to the games on the radio, carefully recording the statistics of stars like Spencer Haywood and Slick Watts in a spiral notebook.

Pete Nordstrom had hoop dreams of his own. As a walk-on for the University of Washington junior-varsity squad in the 1980s, he "spent a lot of time getting dunked on by people like [UW basketball standouts] Detlef Schrempf and Christian Welp."

Both boys grew up to make millions: Woolcott at a San Diego pharmaceutical company; Nordstrom as a fourth-generation executive at his family's upscale clothing stores. They never lost their love of basketball, so when Starbucks

chairman Howard Schultz went looking for partners five years ago to buy the team, they jumped at the chance.

Although Schultz generally acts as the public face of Sonics ownership, he has many partners, many of whom have not been publicly revealed. It took 58 people to put up the \$200 million to buy the team in 2001. They had made their fortunes selling coffee, cellphones, car stereos and legal advice, and saw the Sonics as a different sort of investment — a civic icon that might also turn a profit.

Sources: Sonics and Times reporting

*Sonics board member

THE SEATTLE TIMES

April 5, 2006