

NFL strike seems likely

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — With an overwhelming vote, the rank and file of the National Football League Players Association has rejected a management offer for a new contract and set the stage for a strike with the opening of the season only two weeks away.

Ed Garvey, association executive director, told newsmen Wednesday the voting members of the Association rejected the collective bargaining agreement proposal by a tally of 743-6, with five teams still to be counted.

Garvey declined to speculate on the possibility of a strike by the union but said the membership would be asked to vote on the issue within a week.

"We will have to see what the players say about it," he said. "The comments in so far as a strike have varied from team to team. Some are militant while others are conservative."

"We hope that this vote will convince all 26 owners to get involved in the bargaining process . . . and give us an offer we can't refuse," he said.

The contract vote was taken during the past weekend in an effort to break the deadlock between the union and management in negotiations that have dragged on for 1½ years and led to a 42-day strike during last year's exhibition season. The players returned to camp and played the 1974 season without a collective bargaining agreement.

At a news conference Aug. 28, the Association urged management to submit an offer by Labor Day for the players to vote on but the owners refused, saying the union leadership had placed a "serious new roadblock" in the way of a collective bargaining agreement by its position that any restraint on player movement is illegal.

The union then submitted to the players for a vote the July 23 offer by management, the last placed on the table, which includes the Rozelle compensation rule opposed by the union and a major stumbling block in efforts to reach agreement on a negotiated contract.

In New York, Sargent Karch, executive director of the Management Council, said a resumption of bargaining this week was unlikely.

I'm not the Quarterback

By DAVID WALKER

We're two days away from Hullabaloo Caneck Caneck time and all systems are go for Emory IV.

Coach Emory begins his fourth year as Aggie boss Saturday when he leads his charges to the field of athletic combat against the University of Mississippi.

The game starts at 4 p.m. and to most Aggies this has been the longest week since freshman orientation. Everyone is ready and the rest of today and tomorrow are going to pass ever so slow.

Then when midnight yell practice starts every thing is all down hill from there. Come to think of it a lot of folks fall down hills after midnight yell practice.

Since this is the opening game I thought I would go back and take a look at Aggie openers from the past.

This will be the eighty-first first Aggie game.

The Aggie opening game record for the past 80 seasons stands at 58-19-3. They have won five in a row by a combined score of 186-34.

The Ags have especially been bullies to a couple of teams on opening day. From 1970 to 1973 they have won four in a row from Wichita State by a combined score of 166-34. Back in the dark ages the Aggies opened eight seasons with Trinity College (now University) and won 'em all. This time by a combined score of 179-10.

The 1920 Aggies had the largest margin of victory in an opening game. They eked out a 110-0 victory over Daniel Baker. The largest losing margin came on two different occasions. In 1949 Coach Harry Stiteler's Aggies (You remember old Harry now don't you) dropped a 35-0 contest to Villanova. The 66 Ags went all the way to Atlanta to get beat by Georgia Tech 38-3.

Getting back to the present there is not one single member of the 60 man Aggie squad that has ever lost on opening day. That includes Coach Emory who is 3-0 on opening day since driving over from Austin.

Athletic department officials are expecting the largest opening day crowd ever. The game is close to a sell out with only around 1,000 reserve tickets left.

Everything is set. The Ags seem to have everyone on their side. They are being picked to win the Southwest Conference by everyone except Gerald Ford and have already moved up in the polls without even playing.

So we're all ready. Two-a-days are over. Midnight yell practice isn't far away and neither is the opening kickoff. I agree with the so-called experts, this is the Aggies' year. No one can stop them but themselves.

Next year (Believe it or not) is FINALLY here. Gig 'em Ags.

Southwest conf. football shorties

Associated Press
Texas Tech Coach Steve Sloan said Wednesday in Lubbock that Tommy Duniven will be the Red Raiders starting quarterback Saturday when Tech opens the 1975 season here against Florida State.

But Sloan said that sophomore Rodney Allison also will see action against the Seminoles at the quarterback slot.

"We know that Florida State has plenty of speed," Sloan said. "They've got a halfback named 'Neon' Leon Bright who was voted the second best sophomore in the nation in a poll of college coaches. He is some kind of runner."

More than 40,000 are expected to watch the non-conference contest.

Running backs Gralyn Wyatt and Jimmy Walker remained on the questionable list because of lingering injuries Wednesday as the Texas Longhorns prepared to open the season Saturday against Colorado State in Austin.

Coach Darrell Royal's problems were compounded by the fact that veteran Joe Aboussie will be out for several weeks with a pulled hamstring muscle.

"Obviously we are concerned," Royal said. "This is an opening game, and they have much more experience than we. I think you could see the other night in the Alabama game what can happen if somebody jumps out there and surprises you, and the same thing could happen if we get confused."

Alabama was upset 20-7 by Missouri.

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Chile says no to Davis

Associated Press
SANTIAGO, Chile — Last-minute complications linked to reported death threats against the Chilean Davis Cup tennis team threatened Wednesday to force Chile to drop out of the competition and lose its place as one of four semi-finalists.

Hernan Basagoitia, president of the Chilean Tennis Federation, confirmed that Chile may not show up as scheduled in Baastad, Sweden, to meet Sweden Sept. 19-21.

The Chilean news agency Orbe reported that all the Chilean players had refused to go to Sweden, even though the federation decided on Monday night to send the team to Baastad despite reports of death threats and preparations for massive demonstrations in opposition to Chile's ruling military junta.

Oilers vets cut to trim rosters

Associated Press
Washington is a five-year NFL veteran, LeVias a seven-year pro. Also released by the Oilers were guards Brian Goodman and Bubba McCollum, tight end Bob Adams and outside linebacker Marvin Davis.

Running back Herb Mul-Key, quarterback Steve Joachim, defensive ends Dennis Wirgowski and Mike Siefert, defensive backs Royce McKimney and Floyd Hogan, offensive lineman Merle Wang and place-kicker Chris Gartner were cut by Baltimore. The Colts also asked waivers on offensive tackle Dave Simonson and wide receivers Ollie Smith and Don Westbrook and placed rookie running back Kim Jones on the injured reserve list.

Dan Conners, Oakland's longtime middle linebacker, and a pair of Houston veterans, running back Vic Washington and wide receiver Jerry LeVias, joined the unemployment rolls Wednesday, among the latest victims of the National Football League roster trimmings.

Conners was a 12-year star for the Raiders. The American Conference team also cut defensive back Jimmy Warren, an 11-year NFL veteran, and wide receiver Frank Pitt, a 10-year vet. The Raiders also traded seventy-year running back Charlie Smith to the Philadelphia Eagles for a future draft choice.

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