

Viewpoint

# Staub needs talking to

By MILTON RICHMAN  
UPI Sports Editor

NEW YORK — If he's serious about sitting out the season and not playing for Detroit, which I doubt, Rusty Staub ought to pick up the telephone and have a little talk with Rufus Gentry, who did the same thing 34 years ago but doesn't go along at all with what Staub is doing now.

Staub claims he's not looking for any more money. Not now, anyway. What he's looking for is a three-year extension on his present \$600,000 contract which still has this year plus another one to run.

When they open the season, the Tigers will place Staub on either the disqualified or restricted list. But they can activate him almost as soon as he decides to report.

Personally, I don't think it'll be that long before he does. On one hand, the Tigers' redhaired, 35-year-old designated hitter talks about some vague seven-figure restaurant deal he's supposed to be involved in and on the other hand, he keeps working out every day in Houston, running and swinging a leaded bat. That's a funny way to

run a restaurant, isn't it?

Originally, Staub set March 16 as a deadline for the Tigers to meet his terms. Well, the deadline came and went without Staub getting any answer. To me, he seems to be looking for a face-saving device now so he can report. Just go around and check some of those restaurant owners you know. See how many expect to make \$200,000 this year.

Figures like that absolutely boggle Rufus Gentry's mind.

Gentry, a 12-game winner for the Tigers in 1944, his first full year with them, held out all of 1945 because they wouldn't give him a \$2,000 raise he wanted. When I tracked him down in Daisy Station, N.C., Tuesday, he told me if it was simply a matter of Rusty Staub asking for more money, he'd be all for him.

"I've seen him on TV and he's a good hitter," said the former Detroit pitcher. "He wants an extension on his contract, though, and I don't go along with that. Once you sign a contract, you should stick to it."

Of his own case Gentry said, "I'd do it again," with undiminished conviction.

Instead of signing and joining the Tigers, he remained in Daisy Station laying bricks and at least showed them he had the courage of his convictions. They won the pennant that season without him.

The following year, Gentry finally signed — for \$10,000. The Tigers sent him to their Buffalo farm in the International League without cutting his salary and by July he already had won 15 games.

"Two other guys on the club, Floyd Giebell and Tom Pullig, were supposed to get \$1,000 bonuses if they won 15 games, and after I did, I asked the general manager, John Stiglmeier, for the same bonus," Gentry remembers. "He said he'd give it to me at the end of the season and I asked him to put it in writing. 'Do you think I'd lie to you?' he said. 'I haven't lied to you yet.' I said that was right but \$1,000 might make him lie. He never did put anything in writing and after I finished the season with a 20-and-16 record, I never got the money. I just got beat out of it."

Rusty Staub ought to talk to Rufus Gentry sometime. He'd get an earful, guaranteed.



Just hanging around

Pat Callihan, a member of the Texas A&M gymnastic team, competes in the still ring event at last week's meet between the Aggies and the University of Texas-Arlington. The meet,

which was held Sunday in Arlington, was won by UTA, 100. The position Callihan holds in this photograph is called straddle position.

Battalion photo by V. Shaw White

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## Rossman, Galindez to fight April 14

United Press International  
NEW ORLEANS — Mike Rossman and Victor Galindez, who got lost on the way to the boxing ring in Las Vegas in February, Wednesday promised to show up in the Louisiana Superdome April 14 for their light-heavyweight title rematch.

Rossman, the self-proclaimed "Kosher Butcher" who stopped Galindez in the 13th round of their World Boxing Association title bout last year in the Superdome, said he hoped to make the repeat performance a better fight.

"I hope it is as good," said Rossman, 22. "Sometimes rematches are better and sometime they're not."

Galindez, his brown face scarred from 10 years in professional boxing,

promised through his interim would have his weight in the rematch. Last year Galindez, 30, had to spend two days in a box to make the 175-pound and complained later that not in shape.

"It's going to be a tough problem," Galindez said. "My weight problem."

Officials of Top Rank promoters of the fight, said the in is scheduled for the night but promised to eye on Galindez paunch during training sessions.

Even though Rossman champion, he will earn \$150,000 for the fight. Galindez will receive \$175,000, Top Rank officials

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