

# Jenkins still pitching; Rangers still winning

United Press International  
When Ferguson Jenkins retires from major league baseball, he plans to return to his native Canada and become a full-time farmer. He says he's not ready for the autumn yet.

At the age of 37, when major league pitchers' arms are broken strings in a windup, Jenkins is motoring along as if he were a young pitcher. He has the boat he owns for pursuing his favorite summer hobby of bass fishing.

Two years ago in spring training, the pitcher wasn't quite so clear for the Rangers' righthander. Re-called from the Boston Red Sox after a disappointing 10-10 season, he had been designated by manager Billy Hunter as his prime relief man.

Jenkins didn't quite suit the man who had won 20 games in a season as a starter, so when he got a chance to start after the first month of the season he made the most of it. By the end of the season Jenkins had proven himself a club-leading 18 victories.

Now, after 14 big league seasons and 231 victories, he once again has found himself in a position of respect. He knew in the back of his mind he would be a winning pitcher as a reliever again if I was given the chance," Jenkins said.

"The big thing is experience. The more experience you get and longer you play, the better thinking pitcher you'll become.

Look at Gaylord Perry. He won 20 games last year at age 40. That's what he knows how to throw and how to throw. He's a real 'game' pitcher.

Because of his vast experience, he often finds himself in the

role of a resident guru for some of the younger pitchers on the staff. He often is asked for advice and gives it willingly.

"If youngsters like to talk about baseball, I'm willing to listen to them and find out what they have problems with. If there's some knowledge I can pass on to them, I will.

"There probably isn't a situation I haven't been in. A lot of times a youngster might ask me for advice, like how to pitch to Thurman Munson with a runner in scoring position or what to throw and what not to throw to Reggie Jackson when the bases are empty.

Sometimes, Jenkins admits, his advice backfires simply because a young pitcher won't stay with it long enough.

"Sometimes you give a youngster a tip that helped you when you were younger and it doesn't work for him. Then, two years later he'll say 'gee, if I'd only stayed with the advice you gave me my game would have come around. It helps to be more patient,'" said Jenkins.

"I can look back at the advice I got from guys like Robin Roberts, Jim Bunning, Curt Simmons and Chris Short when I first broke in. They were telling me the right things to do. I just had to stick with it longer to make it work."

Because he has accumulated a warehouse full of knowledge and has a pleasant, easy-going manner, Jenkins has had several offers to become a pitching coach when his playing days are done. However, he doubts he would be happy in such a role.

"I don't know if I could be a pitching coach," he says. "I think maybe the pressure would be too much for

me, having to think about 10 other guys. I have enough problems thinking about myself. It's a hassle trying to get nine or ten guys on a ballclub to do things the correct way and do things your way.

"No. When my career is over I'm going to go back to Canada and relax. I have a farm and I'd like to buy another farm, and give farming a shot. I'm called a 'gentleman farmer' in my area because I'm only there five months a year during the winter. I harvest my own crops but I don't plant them. I'd just like to be home more."

But while Jenkins continues to pitch, the Rangers continue to win as Dave Lemanczyk allowed only one hit Tuesday night — a third-inning single by rookie Pat Putnam — in pitching the Toronto Blue Jays to a 2-0 victory over the Texas Rangers.

Lemanczyk, who walked only one, retired the last 14 batters in a row in posting his first decision of the season. He had surrendered 10 hits and four runs in his previous 10 innings of work.

Steve Comer, although touched for only five hits in seven and one-third innings, suffered his second loss in three decisions. The Blue Jays touched Comer for both runs in the fifth inning on a walk to Al Woods, a stolen base, a double by Roy Howell, a sacrifice bunt and a suicide squeeze bunt by Rick Cerone.

Putnam reached third after his single in the third on an error by Dave McKay — one of two Blue Jay errors in the inning — but he failed to score as Lemanczyk retired the next two batters.



Francis on the fly

Battalion photo by Pat O'Malley

Texas A&M's Harry Francis attempts to break up a double play in a recent game against SMU. The Aggies took two on the road Tuesday against Sam Houston State University winning 4-1 and 5-1. Mark Ross got the win in the first game.

backed up by Kyle Hawthorne's two-run homerun. Mark Thurmond won the nightcap giving up one hit through five innings. The Aggies will play the Arkansas Razorbacks in a three game series here Friday and Saturday.

# Goose' could lose money

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NEW YORK — The New York Yankees had better think twice about docking Rich Gossage's salary if he is on the disabled list following his clubhouse scuffle with Johnson last Thursday.

That's the advice Marvin Miller, executive director of the Players' Association, has for the world champions.

Miller won't come right out and say so, but he indicated that withholding pay from either man might

be a breach of contract that would allow them to become free agents.

"I don't have an official comment yet," Miller said. "I've got a copy of Gossage's contract in hand, but I'm going to wait and see what the Yankees will do. I know they issued a written statement to Gossage on Saturday detailing the disciplinary action they intended to take."

Gossage, who signed with the Yankees in the winter of 1977 as a free agent, has a six-year contract worth \$2.7 million. If his pay is

withheld on a daily basis until he returns, the righthander stands to lose an estimated \$1,800 per day.

Gossage and Johnson were involved in a locker-room fight Thursday after a game with Baltimore, and the Yankee relief ace suffered a torn ligament in his right thumb which required surgery. He is expected to be sidelined for six to eight weeks.

The Yankees haven't determined how severe a fine to impose on Gossage or Johnson, and club General Manager and Vice President Cedric Tallis said Monday that last weekend's statement about withholding pay was premature.

"The statement we issued over the weekend was a temporary thing pending complete analysis of the situation," said Tallis.

Any disciplinary action levied against Gossage or Johnson is subject to a possible grievance and arbitration with the Player's Association. It is expected both players will be slapped with stiff fines.

# Aggs finish third

WOLFE CITY — Southern Methodist's Mary Beth Murphy had a hole in the first hole of a sudden death playoff to win the Texas Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Women state golf tournament Tuesday.

Meanwhile, her SMU teammates compiled a 920 total to take their

second consecutive TAIAW title, taking Houston Baptist by 19 strokes. Texas A&M was third at 945, followed by Texas at 948 and Lamar at 950.

Murphy won the individual honors by defeating Monica Welsh of A&M and Stephanie Farwig of Houston Baptist.

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