

Sports

J.R. Richard to pitch Friday

United Press International
HOUSTON — Houston Astros pitcher J.R. Richard is scheduled this week to pitch for the first time since suffering a stroke a little more than a year ago, but the right-hander is miffed about not being consulted in the matter.

Astros General Manager Al Rosen announced Monday Richard would pitch at Friday night's Astrodome exhibition game with the Texas Rangers. The two teams meet Thursday night in Arlington Stadium.

Rosen also indicated Richard might be placed on the team's active roster when that roster is expanded to 40 players Sept. 1.

Richard told reporters watching his 15-minute practice Monday night he was upset about not being consulted about pitching Friday night.

"What upsets me is they didn't come to me and ask me about pitching Friday," he said. "They just put it in the papers. That's kind of disrespectful to me. They haven't asked me anything. I don't mind throwing in the game at all," he added.

A performance in a game would be the first for Richard since he collapsed in the Astro-

dome July 30, 1980, from a severe stroke and since he underwent two major operations — one to save his life and the other to save his baseball career.

"It's a miracle just being alive," Richard said. "A lot of people don't realize the power of God. He's the reason I'm alive."

About 300 fans showed up at Monday night's workout and many of them were there to watch Richard pitch 15 minutes of batting practice. His performance was neither vintage Richard nor the determining factor in his gaining a place in Friday's game since a two-inning stint for the 6-8 Richard had been approved prior to the workout.

Richard said he was pleased with his pitching.

"I felt pretty good. I'll have to wait until Friday to really see how I'm pitching. I may feel lousy that night but tonight I felt good," he said. "I didn't feel awkward or nothing. Everything felt in place."

However, he did not throw many sliders, was not in the 100 mph range and showed only marginal control.

"I'm not going to put any time element on

it. I'm not going to tell anyone when I'm ready. You'll know when I'm ready when the batters start walking back to the dugout," he said.

Rosen and neurosurgeon Dr. William S. Fields approved the workout.

"Physically, I think he's ready," Fields said. "Whether he's ready in every respect, I don't know. But he was all pumped up to pitch tonight and he wants to pitch Friday."

Fields said the only physical drawback remaining from the stroke was a "very slight weakness on his left side. The thing to watch is if he's shortening his stride. When he's doing that he's getting tired."

Team officials made it clear Richard would not be playing in a regular season game at this time, but Rosen said he would rule out the possibility of activating Richard before the end of the season.

The stroke was the result of a blood clot in an artery leading to the right side of his brain. As a result, Richard suffered partial paralysis to the left side of his face, his left arm and left leg.

Richard began working with his teammates in May before games and worked out by himself after the players' strike began June 12.

Coaches disagree with statement concerning university cheating

United Press International
KINGS ISLAND, Ohio — "Very stupid," said Baylor University football Coach Grant Teaff. "Irresponsible," complained Georgia football Coach Vince Dooley.

Teaff and Dooley, along with North Carolina's Dick Crum and Stanford's Paul Wiggins, were

complaining about a judge's recent contention that most universities break athletic regulations.

The four coaches, in an appearance Monday at the College Football Hall of Fame to promote the upcoming season, vehemently disagreed with New Mexico Judge Phillip Baiamonte's indictment of college athletics last month.

Baiamonte, in giving former University of New Mexico basketball Coach Norm Ellenberger a light sentence after a jury had convicted him of 21 counts of fraud and making false public vouchers, cited the "high pressure-cooker atmosphere" of college athletics. "Naturally, rules and laws were broken," the judge said. "Is any-

one really surprised?

"This is a problem that probably exists at every major college and university in the country," added the judge. "The real hypocrisy is with the colleges and universities across the country that maintain and establish professional ballclubs while purporting to operate under amateur rules."

Teaff led Monday's assault on that accusation by declaring, "Anyone with any common sense could see that was a very stupid statement. It really struck deep inside me and I totally disagree."

"I'm in the profession and I happen to know that's not true. He is taking a broad shot with a shotgun to shoot a lot of innocent people and I do not appreciate that at all."

Said Dooley, "It seems to be very irresponsible to make such a general, sweeping charge, particularly by one, as I understand, who went to one basketball game. I resent that statement."

Crum figured the accusation "is the same thing as saying every businessman is cheating. Certainly you're going to have some (college) people in violation, but probably in the same proportion as in the business world."

Added Wiggins, "I just can't believe it's true. I honestly believe, and I'm convinced, it doesn't take place on a wholesale basis. I'm not saying we're lily white, but I think the effort is being made to do things right."

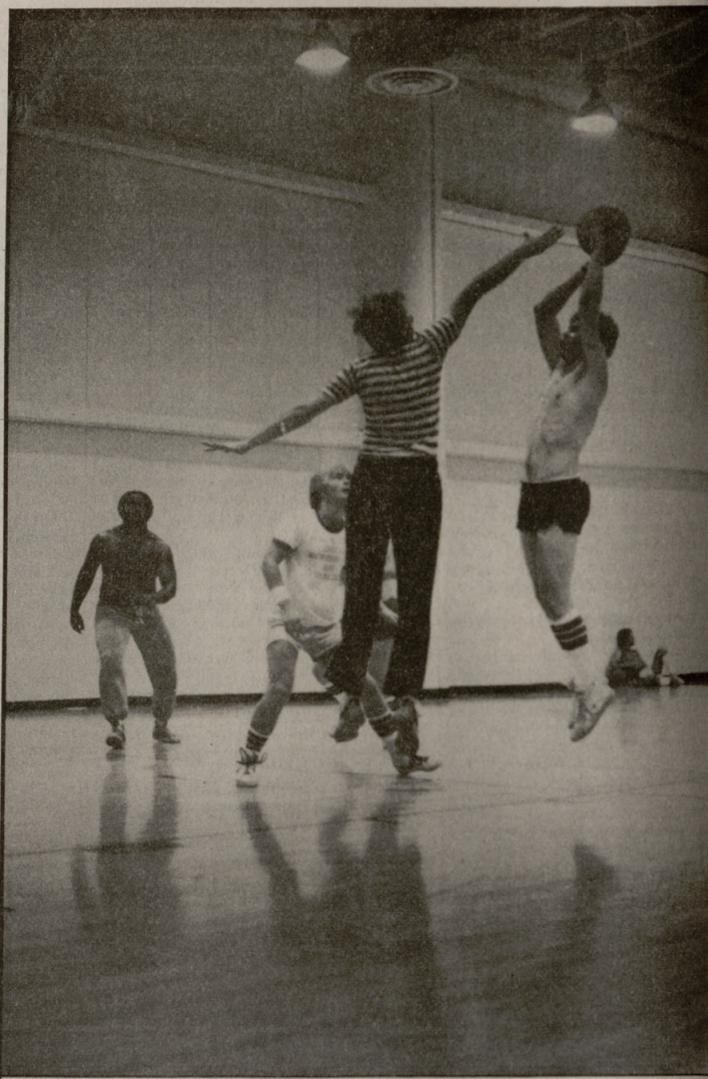


Photo by Michael...

Going for two?

J.F. Carter of the Boomers goes up for two points as teammate Bobby Stroger gets set for a possible rebound in a recent intramural basketball playoff game. Carter and the

Boomers lost the game and were eliminated from competition. Intramural playoffs drawing to a close as the second summer session begins to wind down.

Pokes asking for flying rights in case strike should continue

United Press International
THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — The Dallas Cowboys are hopeful the Federal Aviation Administration will grant a special dispensa-

tion to NFL teams to fly their games in the event of a prolonged air traffic controllers strike.

Charter flights are among the lowest on the priority list set by th

FAA for the duration of the but with the exhibition season beginning this week, a Cow- cial says the NFL will seek pen-

Dallas is scheduled to home from its Thousand training camp to play Green Texas Stadium in an annu- ity game Saturday night. Cowboys are then sched- return to Thousand on Sunday.

"The people we have feel this thing won't last (until the weekend)," said boys administrative assist- Werner. "It's kind of like about something that might happen. But you need to be prepared."

The first full round of University holi- hibition games is sched- this week, beginning Wednesday night's San Fran- Seattle contest in the King- and a continuation of the c- lers' walkout could threaten contests.

"We charter with Ameri- lines during the present- they are looking into what regulations and what they to accommodate us," said W- "Secondly, the league to look into all of these spor- ters and determine if the possibility to waive restrict- charters for sports teams."

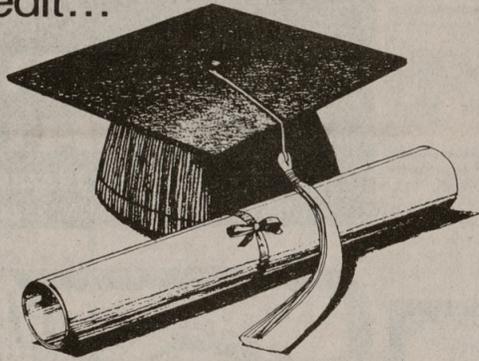
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