

Sports

Major League Baseball

American League				National League					
East				East					
Milwaukee	29	21	.580	—	Montreal	28	22	.560	—
Detroit	28	21	.571	1/2	St. Louis	27	22	.551	1/2
Boston	27	22	.551	1 1/2	Philadelphia	23	26	.469	4 1/2
Baltimore	26	22	.542	2	New York	23	26	.469	4 1/2
Cleveland	25	24	.510	3 1/2	Chicago	22	26	.458	5
New York	24	24	.500	4	Pittsburgh	20	31	.392	8 1/2
Toronto	20	25	.444	6 1/2					
West				West					
Kansas City	28	21	.571	—	Houston	32	18	.640	—
Oakland	25	21	.543	1 1/2	Cincinnati	30	19	.612	1 1/2
Texas	22	25	.468	5	San Francisco	28	21	.571	3 1/2
Minnesota	23	27	.460	5 1/2	Los Angeles	25	25	.500	7
Seattle	21	28	.429	7	Atlanta	23	26	.469	8 1/2
Chicago	21	29	.420	7 1/2	San Diego	16	35	.314	16 1/2
California	19	28	.404	8					

Thursday's Results		Friday's Games	
Baltimore 5, Detroit 4	California at Texas	Houston 5, Cincinnati 1	Houston at Los Angeles
Kansas City at Cleveland, ppd., rain	New York at Baltimore	San Francisco 6, Atlanta 2	Atlanta at Cincinnati
	Boston at Cleveland	San Diego 1, Los Angeles 0	San Diego at San Francisco
	Detroit at Milwaukee	St. Louis 3, Philadelphia 2	St. Louis at Pittsburgh
	Minnesota at Chicago	Montreal 5, Pittsburgh 2	Chicago at Philadelphia
	Oakland at Kansas City	Chicago 2, New York 2, called, rain	Montreal at New York
	Toronto at Seattle		

Astros, Ryan walk to 8-1 win

United Press International CINCINNATI — Houston's magic number is two, but the Astros are figuring on more hard work — not a magic gift — to win the National League West second-half title.

Any combination of Houston wins and Cincinnati losses totaling two this weekend gives the title to the Astros. Houston plays three at Los Angeles, while the Reds entertain Atlanta for three.

"But I don't figure Cincinnati will be beaten here," said Houston manager Bill Virdon. "So, I figure we've got to win two out of three from Los Angeles."

But not any prouder than the Astros were of Ryan, who certainly wasn't in no-hit form, but still was superb in a key game. Ryan had pitched a record-setting fifth no-hitter in his previous start.

"A no-hitter was the farthest thing from my mind tonight," said Ryan. "With the pennant race, I was just hoping for a shutout, trying to get the win. I enjoy these (big game) situations."

The only run the Reds managed off Ryan came when Joe Nolan scored on a wild pitch in the seventh.

Ryan calmly put down Cincy's biggest threat in the fourth inning, when Ken Griffey and Dave Concepcion led off with singles and the Reds' power came to the plate.

But Ryan struck out George Foster on a high pitch, got Johnny Bench to pop up and retired Nolan on a bounce out.

"The biggest outs of the game were Foster and Bench," said Ryan. "Those guys are capable of busting a game open."

Bench testified to Ryan's masterful pitching.

"The first time up, we saw the ball," said Bench. "But the next two times, whooo. He did the job. We were up for this one, we knew how important it was. Now we just have to hope for the best."

"It hurts," Reds' third baseman Ray Knight said of the loss. He could say the same about his upper lip. He caught a cleat just above his lip early in the game that drew a lot of blood, but he stayed in the game.

"We played hard," said Knight. "We were pumped up. We had chances to win, but we just couldn't get the big hit off Ryan."

If the Astros make the playoffs,

Ryan is expected to start the opening playoff game Tuesday against the Dodgers.

But first, the Astros need to beat Los Angeles this weekend to guarantee making post-season play.

"If we can't win two out of three in LA, then we don't deserve to make the playoffs," said Houston's Art Howe. "And, if we're going to play the Dodgers in the playoffs, we might as well start beating them right now."

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Temple has sights on win over No. 2 Nittany Lions

United Press International After a pair of convincing victories and a steady climb toward the No. 1 spot, the Nittany Lions of Penn State look virtually unbeatable.

So why do the Temple Owls only feel so confident about facing the second-ranked team in the nation on Saturday?

The reason is Penn State quarterback Todd Blackledge, who remains the only question mark on an otherwise potent offense.

Blackledge has completed a mere 33 percent of his passes this season and the Nittany Lions have relied almost exclusively on the running of Curt Warner.

Temple takes to the Beaver Stadium turf Saturday and the Owls may just stack up the line of scrimmage and dare Blackledge to crank it up. The quarterback was 4-for-13 against Nebraska last week, although one of the completions was a perfectly thrown 33-yard touchdown pass to Kenny Jackson.

"Todd hit two or three right on the money when we needed them against Nebraska," said Penn State coach Joe Paterno.

The Nittany Lions are expected to come out and unleash Warner behind their massive offensive line led by the guard tandem of Sean Farrell and Mike Tunchak. The speedy junior tailback is averaging eight yards per carry.

"They're not only really good, they're excellent in all departments," said Owls coach Wayne Hardin. "They played a nice foot-

ball game at Nebraska. They're a fine team and they're class all the way."

While Paterno may appreciate the praise, he hopes it doesn't affect his players. Temple, 2-1, would appear to be a easy win on a schedule loaded with nationally ranked teams.

Allen is the nation's leading rusher with a 230.7-yard average and 692 yards gained. He ranks second among major college scorers with 48 points, second to the 90 of North Carolina's Kelvin Bryant.

Overshadowed by Bryant's sensational start has been Tar Heels quarterback Rod Elkins's performance of 28 completions in 50 passes for 424 yards and four touchdowns.

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TCU hopes to 'Stamp' out Razorbacks

United Press International It would seem that sooner or later the law of averages would catch up with Arkansas and TCU.

It almost did two years ago when the Horned Frogs seemingly had the game won only to collapse in the final minutes. And a few years before that, TCU jumped out to a lead only to fall victim to an Arkansas comeback.

So it has gone, and gone and gone — for 22 straight years.

Arkansas' stretch of wins over TCU represents the longest winning streak by a Southwest Conference school over another in the 67-year history of the league. And those two schools meet once again Saturday night in Fort Worth.

Arkansas, unbeaten in three games, is ranked 16th in the country. TCU has more talent and potential than it has had in recent years, but the Frogs are still only 2-2 and a decided underdog once more.

"We have to fight for our lives every time we go to Fort Worth," said Arkansas coach Lou Holtz. "I certainly remember that game two years ago (in which the Razorbacks won on the final play of the contest with a field goal). TCU is much better than it was then."

Arkansas will open its conference season, as will Texas A&M

and Houston in other league games.

Texas A&M, 2-1, will travel to Texas Tech, 1-2, for an evening game, while Houston, 2-1, will host Baylor, 3-1, in a regionally televised game that will start shortly before noon.

Houston will embark on the SWC race with a quarterback who has started only one previous game. Lionel Wilson, forced into the lineup because of a series of injuries that have befallen the Cougars at quarterback, rushed and threw for more than 100 yards each against Utah State last week.

"Lionel Wilson looked like he was a four-year starter," said Baylor coach Grant Teaff. "It is hard to believe that he was in his first college game. He shows a great deal of poise. Things looked very natural for him in his first start."

The only other game involving a SWC club has winless Rice, 0-3, at home against Tulane.

The TCU-Arkansas game will feature the nation's leading passer in the Horned Frogs' Steve Stamp.

He has completed 50 of 78 passes and in the system used by the NCAA has a rating of 165.5.

"Steve Stamp is a good quarterback, but we can't really worry

about just one player," said Arkansas middle guard Richard Richardson. "When we played TCU two years ago and they almost beat us we weren't prepared for them."

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