

Cedeno in "old" form, impresses Cincinnati

United Press International
TAMPA, Fla. — Cesar Cedeno has at least another four, five years in front of him. But when he's all done they'll remember all the things he could do — hit, run and field — and how he never really did them as well as everybody said he would and how he led the league in labels.

They had labeled him the "new" Willie Mays shortly after he came up with Houston 12 years ago and some felt maybe Cedeno could be the "new" Roberto Clemente.

The Cincinnati Reds aren't overly concerned about that.

They got Cedeno from the Astros in the winter for third baseman Ray Knight and they're not out looking for any new Willie Mays or new Roberto Clemente. They'll be more than happy to settle for the "old" Cesar Cedeno — like the one who hit .320 two years in a row 10 years ago and averaged 75

RBI for those two seasons.

Cedeno, who is going back to the outfield full-time this year with the Reds and will be their regular center fielder, is just getting over the flu. But, before it got him down, Cedeno, with his stratospheric .435 batting figure, was challenging Kansas City's George Brett and Boston's Jim Rice for the Grapefruit Circuit hitting title.

"To me, Cesar is a blue-chip player," says Reds' Manager Johnny McNamara. "He gives us our first bonafide center fielder since Cesar Geronimo, and he really showed me something when he came in early with the pitchers and catchers this spring."

Before the 1978 season, the Astros signed Cedeno to what they called "a lifetime contract." It was for something like \$3.5 million and covered 10 years.

That June, he tore ligaments

in his left knee sliding into second base in a game with the Cubs and in the 1980 playoffs with the Phillies, he suffered extreme ligament damage to his right ankle trying to beat out a ground ball at first base. He hit .309 for the Astros that season. Alternating between first base and the outfield for them last season, he tailed off to .271.

The Astros felt a sense of disappointment in the right-handed hitting 31-year-old Cedeno despite the fact he ranks in the top three in every major offensive category in their history. The Astros felt he could've done more.

The Reds, on the other hand, are looking at him in a different light. Ted Kluszewski, the Reds' batting coach, worked with Cedeno this spring, changed his swing somewhat and quite obviously did a whole lot of good.

"With those knee and ankle injuries he had, I think he forgot

how to swing," says Klu. "Sometimes, when you get injuries like that, you try to favor them unconsciously, sort of defend yourself against them, and you mess up your swing. I think we've got him back to where he was a couple of years ago. He's kind of an impatient man. That's understandable. He was a pretty good ballplayer."

For their part, the Astros are delighted with the spiritedly aggressive Knight, who made a special point of seeking out club President and General Manager Al Rosen after the deal was made.

"They told me a lotta stories about how tough you were when you were playing and I just wanted to meet you and see for myself," Knight said to Rosen.

"Look, I don't wanna fight you," Rosen laughed, throwing up his hands. "At my age, I just wanna be your friend."

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Rangers trade Oliver to Montreal for Parrish

United Press International
For the second straight day, a major trade dominated baseball news.

The Texas Rangers sent Al Oliver, a .303 lifetime hitter, to Montreal Wednesday in a deal that should improve the Expos' chances of winning their first National League pennant.

Oliver was obtained by the Expos for third baseman Larry Parrish and minor league infielder Dave Hostetler about 36 hours before the

inter-league trading deadline will go into effect.

"The key to the deal is Oliver wanted to be traded," said Rangers' Manager Don Zimmer. "And we got the best deal we could for him in that way. I am pleased with the deal."

In exhibition games Wednesday: Ray Burris allowed two singles in six innings and pushed his record to 5-0 for the Expos in a 3-0 victory over the Rangers.

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TOP DRAWER

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Aggie tennis

UT defeats women; men to host No. 8 TCU

by Denise S. Sechelski
Battalion Staff
Sonja Hutcherson managed the only singles victory for the Texas A&M women's tennis team Wednesday as the Aggies eason after losing to the University of Texas

Vickie Ellis-Tenley Stewart 6-3, 5-7, 6-3.

Here are the remaining results against the Longhorns:

- Vickie Ellis (UT) def. Lili Fernandez 6-2, 6-2.
- Gen Greiwe (UT) def. Amy Closs 6-3, 4-6, 6-3.
- Beth Ruman (UT) def. Pam Hill 6-3, 2-6, 6-4.
- Tenley Stewart (UT) def. Teresa Landry 6-3, 6-3.
- Cindy Sampson (UT) def. Laura Hanna 4-6, 7-5, 7-5.
- Harrison-Griewe def. Hanna-Fernandez 6-2, 6-3.

The 19th-ranked men's tennis team will host eighth-ranked Texas Christian University Thursday and the Horned Frogs bring nationally ranked singles and doubles players to face Texas A&M.

1982 NCAA indoor singles champion David Pate will play Aggie junior Brian Joelson in the No. 1 singles match. Pate is ranked No. 2 in the country in singles by the Intercollegiate Tennis Coaches Association.

Pate and teammate Karl Rich-

ter are the defending NCAA doubles champions and will play Joelson and Tom Judson in the No. 1 doubles match.

Coach David Kent is confident of the Aggies' chances to win.

"They've got a great team," he said, "but so do we, and we always play TCU tough."

Team captain Judson said: "I think we're going to win. We only lost 5-4 last year in Fort Worth and this year we've got a better team."

Texas Triathlon drawing near; application deadline Saturday

Texas Triathlon director Tom Weis of Texas A&M University says that those interested in participating in the April 10 event must submit their entry forms as soon as possible. He says that since the 500-person limit may be reached before the deadline Saturday, all applications should be turned in quickly.

with swimming at Texas A&M's Wofford Cain Olympic Pool, from which the participants will run to the Brazos Center.

From there, all those in the event will bike along a route on the Highway 6 bypass on the east side of Bryan and College Station.

Activities begin at 8 a.m. April 10. The swimming event will have several starting times, with participants being assigned one in accordance with their estimates for completion.

"Once they start, however, the clock keeps running until they complete all three events," Weis said. "In essence, participants are competing against the clock — and themselves — rather than necessarily against other individuals."

Trophies will be awarded to the top four finishers in 10 different age groups, with separate categories for men and women. T-shirts will be given to all participants and commemorative plaques or paper weights will be

awarded to those who finish the event.

Weis said that each person must be accompanied by someone to count laps at the swimming pool and transport the participant's bike to the start of the cycling event.

To obtain registration forms or more information about the event, those interested should contact the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce, Information and Hospitality Center of Brazos Valley at 693-6552.

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