

# Teenager on Dodger farm team: another Valenzuela?

**United Press International**  
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — When the boss goes around talking about you, telling everyone you're the greatest looking young pitcher he's seen since Bob Feller, just like the song says, "Oh Lord, it's hard to be humble."  
Sid Fernandez is trying.  
At 19, it's tough keeping both feet on the ground and not allowing all the raves to turn your head into a balloon, especially when the parent Los Angeles Dodgers jump you all the way up from A ball to Triple A right in the middle of the season the way they did with the left-handed fastballing Fernandez two weeks ago.  
What else were the Dodgers going to do with their pudgy prodigy from Hawaii who was still going to high school last year and may turn out to be another Fernando Valenzuela for the world champs?  
Fernandez just was too much for the hitters in the Florida State League. After pitching two no-hitters for Vero Beach, setting a league record by striking out 21 batters in a game with Lakeland, fanning another 16 in a contest with Miami and striking out 16 more in a 1-0 victory over Fort Lauderdale, Fernandez was instructed to report to the Dodgers' Pacific

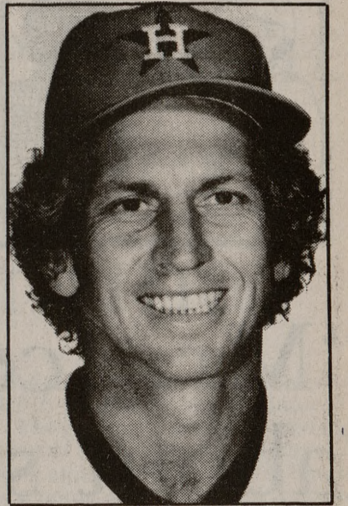
Coast League club in Albuquerque.  
In his two starts with the Dukes, he has struck out 13 batters against Phoenix, working only six innings because he had thrown enough pitches, and then added 10 more strikeouts in his second start against Tucson.  
Even though he has been with Albuquerque only two weeks, Fernandez is beginning to attract the same kind of attention Valenzuela did when he first showed up with the Dodgers two years ago. He isn't letting all the fuss get to him, though.  
"I'm trying not to get a swelled head," says the rookie, sitting in front of his locker in the modern big league-like clubhouse the Dukes have. "I never was a cocky person. Basically, I'm quiet and try to mind my own business."  
Pat McKernan, president and general manager of the Dukes, oversees one of the best minor-league clubs in baseball, a club that has been extraordinarily successful artistically as well as financially. The Dukes won the first half of their division title by 10 games Monday night and they've played 231 games since they were last shut out.  
The Dodgers have some of their finest

young talent playing with the Dukes, players like first baseman Greg Brock and outfielders Mike Marshall and Candy Maldonado. Brock hit one a couple of miles over the center field fence Monday night against the Tucson Toros for his 24th homer. He's hitting .342 and has 79 RBI.  
Marshall, who was minor-league player of the year with Albuquerque last year, with his .373 average, is doing even better now with .390 and Maldonado, who hit .335 here a year ago, is sailing along nicely at .321.  
Del Crandall, the manager of the Dukes, handled pitchers like Warren Spahn and Lew Burdette when he caught for the Milwaukee Braves. He knows what makes a good pitcher and says the 6-foot-1, 220-pound Fernandez is on the way to becoming one.  
"He has a unique delivery," Crandall says. "The ball doesn't come up at the hitters the way it does with most pitchers. The ball comes up at you and then has a tendency to tail off a little."  
"You know who comes to my mind looking at him? Robin Roberts. Fernandez gets under the ball when he delivers and has good extension."

# Padres apply knockout punch; rally past Astros

**United Press International**  
HOUSTON — Few teams look forward to making long road trips. Of course, winning 2-of-4 in the first series makes it a lot easier.  
"It really is nice to win 2 out of 4 here," said San Diego catcher Terry Kennedy, who drove in the winning run in the Padres' 7-4 victory over the Houston Astros Monday night. "Hey, this is the way we have been playing all year. We have a bunch of young guys who love to win and don't know when to quit. This is a great way to start a long road trip."  
Kennedy cracked a two-run double to highlight a six-run eighth inning.  
San Diego manager Dick Williams agreed the good start was important.  
"Anytime you can win 2-out-of-4 on the road, you have to be happy," said Williams. "Our young pitchers did a good job tonight, holding them down until we could catch up. Don Sutton is doing a good job for Hous-

ton. He pitched well enough tonight, but we just didn't give up."  
Houston manager Bill Virdon said it was a bitter loss.  
"Sure this is a tough way to lose a game," he said. "Sutton pitched very well for seven innings tonight. Unfortunately, the bullpen couldn't hold them and you saw the results. It is still a long season and there are a lot of games to play."  
Sutton took a 4-1 lead into the eighth inning before Tim Flannery and Garry Templeton singled. George Cappuzzello relieved Sutton and walked Ruppert Jones to load the bases. Flannery then scored from third on a passed ball to cut the margin to 4-2 as the other runners moved up a base.  
Mike LaCoss came on for Cappuzzello and was greeted with a run-scoring infield single by Sixto Lezcano. Kennedy followed with his double down the left-field line to score Jones and Lezcano and give the Padres a



Don Sutton

5-4 lead. Luis Salazar then bunted and Kennedy raced home when LaCoss threw wildly past third for an error. Salazar wound up on third and scored on Broderick Perkins' single.

## Carew's streak hits 25 games

# Angels' big inning tops Texas

**United Press International**  
ANAHEIM, Calif. — The streak continued for Rod Carew, but it seemed much more important to the fans, his California teammates and the media covering the game than it did to the seven-time American League batting champion.  
Carew lined a Charlie Hough knuckleball to center for a single in the eighth inning Monday night in California's 10-2 rout of the Texas Rangers, extending his hitting streak to 25 games,


the longest in the major leagues this season.  
Pretty exciting, huh Rod?  
"No, not really," the soft-spoken first baseman said. "It's not nearly as big a thing as 1977, when I was pressing .400 near the end of the season. That was really exciting."  
Carew, who struck out against Hough's knucklers his second and third times at the plate, started the eighth with his single. Before the inning ended, the Angels had scored seven runs

and sent 13 batters to the plate.  
On Carew's second at-bat of the inning, and his last of the game, he was intentionally walked.  
Despite Carew's nonchalant appearance, he wants desperately to keep the streak alive. Doug DeCinces — who led the Angel attack with four RBI and two runs scored — said he saw the determination in the eighth inning.  
"I went up to him on the on-deck circle and talked to him to try to take his mind off it," DeCinces said. "I don't remember what we were talking about, but as soon as we were done and it was time for him to go up, you could just see the concentration on his face. I knew he was going to get a hit."  
Rangers' center fielder Terry Bogener, who came within about one foot of snaring the sink-

ing liner, said he wasn't even aware of Carew's streak.  
"It was a line drive and you don't have time to decide what you should do," said Bogener, who was called up by the Rangers June 12. "I knew Billy (Sample) was behind me, so I gave it a try."  
While the Angels were pounding Texas pitching, Steve Renko was shutting down the Rangers' bats. Renko, 37, won his seventh game and his fifth in a row since a loss to Seattle April 21. He struck out three and walked one while pitching his fourth complete game.



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