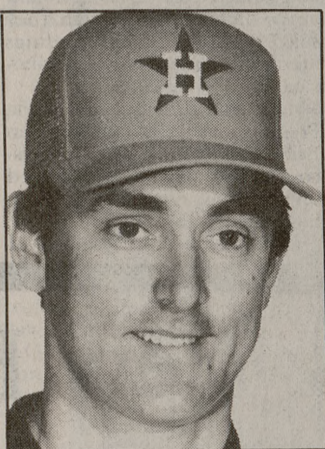


Rain-delayed victory

Astros recover to bump Braves, 6-2

United Press International
ATLANTA — Ray Knight saw the storm clouds rolling in while the Houston Astros were scoring two runs in the first inning against Atlanta and thought, "Here we go again."



Nolan Ryan

It's been that kind of year for the Astros, tied with Cincinnati for the National League West cellar.

But Monday night, things were different. The umpires surprised everyone by deciding to continue the game after a two-hour, seven-minute rain delay in the middle of the first inning with the Astros on top 20.

Houston went on to a 6-2 victory behind the combined four-hit pitching of Nolan Ryan and Bert Roberge.

"There's no way I thought we were going to play," said Knight, a Georgia native playing before his home folks. "I had 28 passes to the game and I sent all of them home. It seems like everything has gone wrong for us this year and it seemed like it was

and Rufino Linares that accounted for all of Atlanta's runs.

Ryan, 7-8, struck out 10 and had perfect control until the eighth, when he walked the bases full but got Bob Horner to look at a called third strike to end the Atlanta threat.

It was the fourth time this year that Ryan has struck out 10 or more and the 139th time in his career, a major-league record.

"Anytime I strike out in double figures I have a good breaking ball to go with my fastball and I'm throwing it for strikes," said Ryan.

Although pleased with the win, Ryan noted it was just one victory.

"We're at the point we need to put several wins together," he said. "We have to play consistently good ball all the way out and hope we get some breaks and hope that the teams that are

in the lead don't play as well and help us get back in the race."

Despite the loss, the Braves remained 2½ games ahead of San Diego in the National League West as the Padres bowed to Los Angeles 6-4, enabling the third-place Dodgers to pull within 4½ games of the lead.

Mahler, 7-6, walked the first two men in the second inning and three runs scored as Knight, Jose Cruz and Alan Ashby followed with consecutive RBI singles.

"That's the most guys I've walked all year and I did it in two innings," said Mahler, who walked four and gave up all six Astros' runs in 5½ innings.

"You can't give a guy like Ryan five runs and really expect to come back," he continued. "I never thought the game would continue but I was glad even though we were two runs back. I just didn't pitch well. There's no excuse for walking guys like I did. That's just not my game."

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



BF Goodrich

T/A HIGH TECH RADIALS

BRAZOS TIRE SERVICE

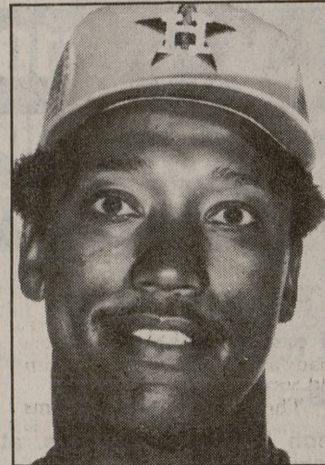
AN AGGIE OWNED BUSINESS SINCE 1952
J. N. HOLMGREEN CLASS OF '44 R. J. HOLMGREEN CLASS OF '47
MIKE A. HOLMGREEN-MANAGER-CLASS OF '77

2707 TEXAS AVE.
823-0551

BRYAN
822-1425

Rosen lauds J.R.'s job in Class A starting role

United Press International
DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Former Houston Astros star pitcher J.R. Richard survived a rocky first inning on the comeback trail from a 1980 stroke Monday night and won the plaudits of Astros General Manager Al Rosen.



J.R. Richard

"J.R. will be back in the big leagues," Rosen predicted after Richard pitched the first four innings, as planned, in a Class A Florida State League game.

Richard's appearance on the mound for the Daytona Beach Astros against the FSL's division-leading St. Petersburg Cardinals was his first competitive showing before a paid audience since the stroke two years ago that paralyzed his left side.

The 6-foot-8 right-hander admitted he had "butterflies" in the first inning during which the Cardinals scored three runs against him, one of them unearned.

The over-capacity crowd of 4,719 gave him a standing ovation when he walked to the mound, cheered every strike he threw and booed the umpire's

call of every ball.

St. Petersburg won the game, 8-4, but Richard wasn't upset with the loss because his Astro teammates managed to tie the score at 3-3 in the sixth after Richard had left the mound at the end of four with the Cardinals leading, 3-1.

In four innings, Richard hurled 63 pitches to 18 batters, 37 of them strikes. He gave up five hits, three runs, walked two and struck out one.

In the first inning, Richard twice failed to cover first base in time when the ball was hit to the right side and the blows were recorded as infield hits.

One opposing hitter rapped a sharply hit ball right at him that hit the back of Richard's glove. Richard didn't flinch, reached down, retrieved the ball and threw the batter out at first.

Rosen had said before the game he would be watching how Richard reacted to fielding situations.

"I felt very good about J.R.," Rosen said. "I was, overall, very delighted with the way he pitched and fielded his position," Rosen said later. "You have to remember he was on the operat-

ing table for 18 hours. He almost had a fatal stroke."

The 32-year-old pitcher said the "butterflies" forced him to make the errors in the first inning and felt he could have thrown another two to three innings.

"I felt fine," he added. "I didn't worry about my velocity. It will come. I wasn't worried — there wasn't anything to worry about."

Still, Richard said he faces a lot of work before he finally makes it back to Houston.

"It took a lot to get here, and it will take a lot of work to get back (to the major leagues). I'm used to hard work," he said. "I'm learning how to pitch again. I'm starting all over again."

Rosen said Richard would go straight to the Class AAA Tucson, Ariz. Astros whenever the pitcher decides he's ready. He will bypass the Class AA Astros team in Columbus, Ohio.

Local team officials indicated that Richard will be scheduled to pitch every fourth night, make a total of four starts at Daytona Beach and then move up to Tucson barring any unforeseen setback.

Cards sign two; six choices left

United Press International
ST. LOUIS — The St. Louis Cardinals have signed two more draft choices but still have six selections — including their top two picks — unsigned.

round selection Eddie McGill of Western Carolina.

The Cardinals also announced they have signed two other players — Sam Bowers, a tight end claimed on waivers from the New York Jets, and Alan Mitchell, a wide receiver from Michigan signed as a free agent.

Agreeing to terms Monday were fifth-round pick Vance Bedford of Texas and 10th-

NBA to send 30-player team to China in July

United Press International
PEKING — The NBA will launch its own sports diplomacy in July with a series of games in China, the league's Players Association said Monday.

each NBA team, are to arrive July 10 in Peking to play an intrasquad exhibition match and a game against the Chinese national team.

Other exhibitions and games will be played in Shanghai, China's largest city, and Hangzhou, a former national capital known for its love of sports.

Former NBA greats John Havlicek and Oscar Robertson will coach the American team.

The games will be the first appearance of American professional basketball players in China and will be televised in the United States, the association said.

Thirty players, one from

Monograms
And More...

Initially Yours

Coming
In July To
Post Oak Mall

SHRIMPARAMA

MONDAY AND TUESDAY NIGHT

\$5.95
FRIED SHRIMP

OUR REGULAR \$7.95
Platter with all the trimmings



HILL
SEAFOOD
RESTAURANT
4301 Carter Creek

patagonia software

Women's Oolong Short

Made of 100% cotton in blue, tan, berry or green. Wide cut legs, pleated front and two roomy side pockets. These heavy weight cotton shorts get softer with every washing.

Stand-up Shorts for Men & Women

Originally designed for climbers, Stand-ups are made of sturdy 100% cotton canvas. The legs are cut short and wide for comfort and ease of movement. All stress points are reinforced with heavy-duty thread. These shorts have a double seat and two roomy side pockets. Women's Stand-ups have all the same features of men's but are cut just for women.

Also from Patagonia: 100% cotton Fiji shorts for men and women in sea blue and soft redwood... and the quick-drying Baggie swimsuit in red, yellow, navy and royal.

Whole Earth Provision Co.

105 Boyett 846-8794

AGGIES!

AM Douglas Jewelry

10% AGGIE DISCOUNT

ON ALL MERCHANDISE WITH STUDENT ID (Cash Only Please)

We reserve the right to limit use of this privilege.

Downtown Bryan (212 N. Main) and Culpepper Plaza