

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Bargaining session turns NFL hopes to pessimism

United Press International
NEW YORK — The NFL entered its 43rd day today as both sides trying to recover from a Monday bargaining session in which nearly nothing was agreed upon.

The tone of the talks turned pessimistic Monday after management's latest offer failed to impress the union. The disappointing day ended with players calling for Commission Pete Rozelle and league owners to attend bargaining sessions, the Management Council complaining of the players' disregard of the news blackout imposed by mediator Sam Kagel, and the union's awaited arrival of television entrepreneur Ed Turner, who apparently is interested in resuming a regular players' league.

The rift between the sides virtually guaranteed the cancellation of a seventh weekend of NFL games and an NFL spokesman said the league is making plans for an 11-game season.

Talks broke off after a 90-minute session Monday night and were scheduled to resume at 10 a.m. CST today.

The players stormed out of an afternoon bargaining session in disgust, just an hour after Kagel named the sides were "making a great effort to reach agreement." The union objected after reading the "fine print" of the proposal.

The players found fault with the owners' including signing bonuses, reporting bonuses and incentive bonuses in the minimums offered.

"It doesn't make sense to us and we're sitting here trying to figure out in which direction we're trying to move," New England Patriots' player representative Don Hasselbeck said.

"They've lumped everything in to get along. For example, if we're supposed to make \$100,000, that includes your signing and reporting bonus and everything. It's not just a minimum salary."

"It more or less eliminates any wage scale — it's a cap to just

hold everything down. It's really kind of ridiculous — I think it stinks."

A member of the Management Council, however, claimed that signing, reporting and incentive bonuses are presently included in the league's figures for players' average salaries.

"We just think it's a minor snag," management spokesman Jim Miller said.

In the evening session, management's economic expert, Steve Gutman, met with union President Gene Upshaw and Executive Director Ed Garvey. According to Garvey, "we didn't get much information from him."

The Council's proposal, tendered Sunday, offered the union \$1.28 billion over four years beginning in 1983. The players countered with a \$1.1 billion, three-year package, with 80 percent of the money controlled by

the NFLPA.

According to an NFLPA source, player representatives John Bunting of Philadelphia, Jeff Van Note of Atlanta and Tom Condon of Kansas City, along with former player Mike Kadish visited Rozelle in his New York office, demanding he enter the negotiations.

"Rozelle gave no indication he would enter the negotiations," the source said.

Turner failed to show for a scheduled Monday night meeting with player representatives, but Garvey expects him to arrive today.

Turner Broadcasting System televised two "all-star" games two weekends ago in which the striking players took part. Although the games were sparsely attended and the network lost money, Turner is apparently still interested in the project.

Panthers leap atop rankings

United Press International
NEW YORK — The University of Pittsburgh regained the No. 1 ranking in college football today following voting by UPI's Board of Coaches.

The Panthers, 7-0, reclaimed by a wide margin the position they held the first three weeks of the season.

They took over the top spot from Washington, which lost its first game of the year, 43-31, to Stanford Saturday. The Huskies, 7-1, held the No. 1 ranking the past four weeks before tumbling to No. 9 in this week's Top 20.

Pittsburgh, off a 63-14 rout of Louisville, collected 33 first-place votes and 612 points from the 42 coaches on the Board to easily outdistance No. 2 Georgia, 8-0. The Bulldogs moved up one position after receiving one first-place vote and 563 points.

Southern Methodist, 8-0, after walloping Texas A&M, 47-9, moved to No. 3 with five first-place votes and 557 points, followed by No. 4 Arkansas (two first-place votes), 7-0, and No. 5 Nebraska (one first-place vote), 7-1. Arkansas topped Rice, 24-6, and Nebraska routed Kansas, 52-0.

Penn State, 7-1, after crushing Boston College, 52-17, improved one spot to No. 6 while Alabama, 7-1, moved up two notches to No. 7 following a 20-12 victory over Mississippi State.

UCLA, 7-0-1, continued its steady climb, moving to No. 8 followed by Washington and No. 10 Louisiana State, 6-0-1. UCLA is at Washington Saturday while surprising LSU meets Alabama at Birmingham.

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