

**TANK McNAMARA**

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



# Major leagues

## Astros nip Reds 4-3 in tenth inning

United Press International  
Seattle Mariners' Manager Rene Lachemann has decided he wants all his young pitchers from now on to subscribe to the Non-Thinking Man's Guide to Baseball — if indeed there is one.

Lachemann thinks his young pitchers have been doing too much thinking on the mound and as a result getting fewer batters out.

His idea was reinforced by Matt Young, one of four young pitchers in the Mariners' starting rotation, who allowed only a first-inning single by John Castino and a one-out single in the ninth by Darrell Brown Thursday night, before being replaced by Bill Caudill, who got the final two outs.

"I thought I could pitch to the end," said Young, who entered the game with a 7.47 ERA. "I've been having control problems but that has been from thinking too much about a walk."

Twins' Manager Billy Gardner was impressed with Young. "It was the first time we've seen him," said Gardner. "He pitched well. But my guy (Bryan Oelkers) pitched well, too."

"A lot of times, the first time you see a guy pitch you can't

touch him and the next time you get him. We'll wait until next time."

Elsewhere in the American League, Baltimore nipped Texas, 3-2, in 14 innings and California swept a doubleheader from Oakland, 6-2 and 6-5.

In National League action, Montreal edged St. Louis, 6-5, and Houston nipped Cincinnati, 4-3, in 10 innings.

**ASTROS 4, REDS 3** — At Houston, Phil Garner's bases-loaded double with none out in the 10th inning gave the Astros their victory. He also drove in the Astros' other two runs with a homer in the fourth and a single in the sixth.

**ORIOLES 3, RANGERS 2** — At Baltimore, John Shelby raced home from third base with the winning run as shortstop Bucky Dent bobbled a potential double-play grounder with one out in the 14th inning. Benny Ayala homered for Baltimore.

**ANGELS 6-6, A'S 2-5** — Doug DeCinces and Fred Lynn supported the five-hit pitching of Geoff Zahn and led the Angels to victory in the opener. Lynn also homered in the nightcap to trigger a six run sixth

inning that helped California complete a sweep.

**EXPOS 6, CARDINALS 4** — At Montreal, rookie Bryan Little and Terry Francona drove in two runs each to help the Expos snap the Cardinals' six-game winning streak. Scott Sanderson, 3-0, picked up the victory while Joaquin Andujar, 2-1, was charged with his first loss after 12 straight victories dating back to Aug. 6, 1982.

# Phillies, Rose targeted for Ryan's 3,509th career 'K'

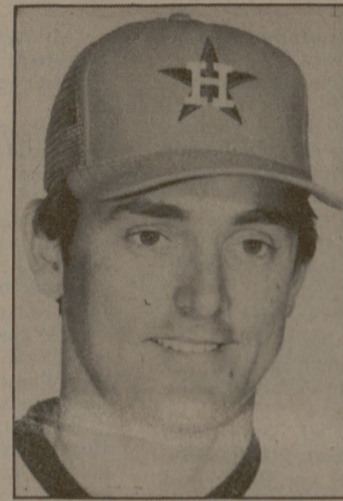
United Press International  
HOUSTON — Houston Astros pitcher Nolan Ryan goes after Walter Johnson's major league career strikeout record tonight.

With eight strikeouts against the Philadelphia Phillies, the consummate fastballer will end a chase that many pitchers have joined in the 55 years since "Big Train" Johnson of the Washington Senators fanned his 3,508th batter.

Many people said, as with Babe Ruth's career home runs, Ty Cobb's consecutive games played and Joe DiMaggio's game hitting streak, Johnson's strikeout mark would never fall.

Ryan said on Thursday he is undeterred that he may hold the record only briefly. One step behind him and gaining is Phillies' lefty Steve Carlton, who should outlast the Astros' righthander.

"I believe that this career strike out record, or even being near it, is especially meaningful because it shows endurance and consistency over a career," Ryan said. "I'm



Nolan Ryan

proud to be the one that breaks it, but even if (Gaylord) Perry or Carlton or somebody else outlasts me and ends up with it, I'm still just as proud."

Ryan, 36, has 3,501 strikeouts in stints with the New York Mets, California Angels and Astros. Carlton, 38, has

3,476 and the Seattle Mariners' Perry 3,462.

Ryan anticipated getting the record tonight and relished doing it against a batting hitter like Phillies leadoff man Pete Rose.

"If I had to pick somebody, I guess I'd pick Pete Rose. He's a future Hall of Famer, a battler, a hard hitter to strike out," Ryan said.

Ryan is making only his second start of the season due to an infection that sidelined him 21 days. He lasted six innings in a 6-3 win over the Montreal Expos Sunday and in that game struck out seven.

"My arm feels good and I'm ready to go. The doctors told me everything is looking well to continue pitching. I don't feel it (prostatitis) is affecting my pitching at all," Ryan said.

He said because he has not pitched much, he will not throw more than 125 pitches Friday.

"If I struggle early and throw a lot of pitches, I'm sure he'll pull me," he said, referring to manager Bob Lillis. "Of course the Phillies will

have something to do with that. If I go nine innings, I'm confident I will get eight strikeouts."

Ryan, whose five no-hitters are unmatched in baseball, said he feels no pressure from chasing the record.

"If I don't get it Friday, I get it in my next start or one after that," he said.

Because Ryan depends heavily on his fastball, he said when his arm weakens he will quit the game. Carlton is expected to last longer.

Ryan said the competition doesn't affect him.

"I don't worry about who the all-time strike out leader is going to be," he said. "He's most likely be the pitcher who pitches the longest."

The late Walter Johnson, fastballer like Ryan, was one of the original five Hall of Fame inductees after pitching 21 years for the Senators, the last pitched in 1927.

Ryan said he has admired Johnson through reading about him.

He added, "I don't believe I'll make it to 21."

## Ailing track team at Baylor meet

With most of its members nursing injuries, the Texas A&M track team finds itself struggling into the homestretch of its season.

The Aggies will take a skeleton team to the Baylor Invitational this weekend in a tune-up for the Southwest Conference meet.

The Aggies — normally one of the favorites to win the conference tournament — will have to make up for lost points if they want to once again challenge for the top spot.

Sprinter/long-jumper James Washington went down with a broken ankle, high-jumper Don Jones tore a knee up in football spring training and middle-distance runner Tony Tolson is out with a knotted hamstring. Tolson should be ready for the conference meet, but Washington and Jones are definitely out.

In other weekend sports action:

The Texas A&M Rugby team is playing host to the Western National Collegiate Rugby Championships at the main drill field beginning Saturday.

The Aggies start the action with a game against Kansas State Saturday at 10 a.m. Texas A&M

is expected to do well in the tournament after capturing the consolation championship last weekend at the Austin Tournament.

Should the Aggies win, they will represent their region at the National Finals May 7, in Athens, Ga.

Another team coming off a good outing in Austin is the Texas A&M water ski team. The Aggies took third place at the University of Texas Round-up last weekend.

Texas A&M will travel to Louisiana to take part in the Northeast Louisiana tournament Sunday. Other teams entered include Louisiana State, Arkansas, Baylor and Oklahoma, but Northeast Louisiana and Southwest Texas State are expected to battle it out for the title.

The tournament will be divided into three categories — jump, tricks and slalom. Jim Lord will be the Aggies' No. 1 slalom participant while Chip Miles and Bryan Vanderpool are hoping to do well in the trick and jump portion of the tournament. For the women, Melanie Jarrell will be leading the Aggies in all three events.



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