

Texas A&M
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Breaking tradition

Cubs continue record streak with 2-1 defeat of NY Mets

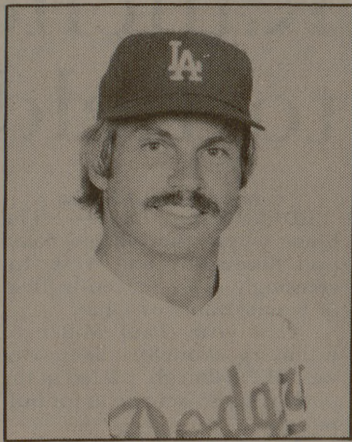
United Press International
 The Chicago Cubs, who haven't won the National League pennant since 1945, at least partly due to their punishing schedule of summer day home games, are on their best streak in more than five years.

Keith Moreland singled in Leon Durham with two out in the bottom of the ninth inning Wednesday to cap a two-run rally and lift the Cubs to their seventh straight victory, a 2-1 decision over the New York Mets.

The win gave the Cubs their longest winning streak since late May 1978, when they won eight straight.

"When you're winning, that's how things go," said Chicago Manager Lee Elia, whose club is unbeaten June. "We used all 27 outs they gave us. That's how it goes when you've got momentum."

Durham walked with two out



New Cub Ron Cey

and took second on a wild pitch by loser Mike Torrez, 2-7. Ron Cey then was walked intentionally before Moreland lined a shot to right-center.

"I was fortunate. We're winning so the momentum is with us," Moreland said. "Give credit to Torrez. He pitched a whale of a game."

Torrez was on the verge of his first shutout in three years, but Ryne Sandberg hit his fourth home run of the season with one out in the ninth to tie the game 1-1.

Moreland's hit one out later gave Chicago the victory.

"You give it the best you have," said Torrez, who also helped himself out with some good fielding plays in the game. "I pitched well, we lost. What else can you say?"

EXPOS 5, PIRATES 4 — At Montreal, Al Oliver singled home runs in the first and third innings to help hand Pittsburgh its seventh loss in its last eight games.

PADRES 5, REDS 3 — At Cincinnati, Dave Dravecky became the NL's first nine-game winner and Kevin McReynolds, Terry Kennedy and Sixto Lezcano homered for San Diego. The Reds lost their fourth straight.

PHILLIES 7, CARDINALS 4 — At Philadelphia, Tony Perez hit a three-run homer — his fourth of the year — with two out in the ninth for the Phillies.

In the American League, it was: Toronto 5, Oakland 2; Detroit 6, Boston 3; Baltimore 7, Milwaukee 3; New York 6, Cleveland 5; Kansas City 9, Minnesota 2; California 7, Chicago 4; and Texas 1, Seattle 0.

ON TAP — National League games scheduled for today include New York at Chicago, Pittsburgh at Montreal, St. Louis at Philadelphia, San Diego at Cincinnati and Los Angeles at Atlanta.

Friday, it's St. Louis at Chicago, San Francisco at Atlanta, Montreal at New York, Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, Los Angeles at Cincinnati and San Diego at Houston.

In AL games today, it's Detroit at Boston, Milwaukee at Baltimore, Minnesota at Kansas City, Chicago at California, Toronto at Oakland and Texas at Seattle.

Friday's AL games are Kansas City at Seattle, Chicago at Oakland, Toronto at California, Texas at Minnesota, New York at Milwaukee, Cleveland at Detroit and Baltimore at Boston.

Pros preparing for U.S. Open in Westchester

United Press International
 HARRISON, N.Y. — With professional golf's U.S. Open only one week away, there are conflicting views on how best to prepare for the national championship.

Tom Watson, who will be defending the Open crown he won at Pebble Beach, and Jack Nicklaus, a four-time Open champion, are taking this week off so they can get in extra practice rounds at Oakmont, the site of next week's extravaganza.

Virtually all the other top players, however, are taking part in the \$450,000 Westchester Classic, starting today. About the only other exceptions of note were Hal Sutton, who is second on this year's earnings list, and Calvin Peete, who is seventh.

One of the advantages of playing this week is that the 6,687-yard, par-71 Westchester Country Club can serve as an excellent preparation for the Open. With its tight fairways, deep rough and numerous doglegs, the Westchester layout places a premium on accuracy, always a necessity in the Open.

The tournament is known as the Manufacturers Hanover Westchester Classic.

"I know every U.S. Open course will have narrow fairways, high rough and fast greens," said Seve Ballesteros, twice the winner of the British Open and the current Masters champion. "It's like the golf course here and I feel it will be good preparation for the Open."

Following his appearance in Wednesday's Pro-Am, Craig Stadler remarked at the condition of the rough.

"I've never seen it this high," he said. "This definitely will help us get used to playing in the rough."

However much this week's work will help him at Oakmont, Stadler said he wasn't looking ahead to the Open "because if I do that I'd see no reason to play this week. I want to worry about this tournament this week."

No one appreciated the return to Westchester as much as Bob Gilder, who fashioned a memorable double eagle on the final hole of the third round last year. Gilder went on to post an incredible 19-under-par score of 261, the lowest PGA total in seven years.

"I know there's going to be a little more pressure on me to play well, but it's a special feeling to come back to a place where you did so well and were received so well."

Following the fiasco of last Sunday at the Kemper Open, when the final threesome was more than three holes behind the group in front of it, PGA Commissioner Deane Beman said he was concerned about slow play and was considering several recommendations to solve the problem.

"We have to come up with a better solution," Beman said. "We cannot live with what we have now. It's a very complicated issue and we're looking at a lot of different options."

United Press International
HOUSTON — Phil Garner drilled reliever Gary Lavelle's first pitch into left to score Omar Moreno with two out in the bottom of the 11th inning to give the Houston Astros a 1-0 victory over the San Francisco Giants.

With one out Wednesday, Moreno blooped a single to short center. Terry Puhl sacrificed him to second and Dickie Thon was walked intentionally. Garner then singled to send Moreno home.

Garner said he has been unhappy with his hitting of late. "I haven't been swinging the

bat well lately and consequently I haven't hit the ball well lately," he said.

Reliever Bill Dawley pitched the final inning for his fourth win in five decisions. Lavelle, 3-1, was the loser.

"I was in the right place at the right time," Dawley said. "I'm thankful the Astros gave me the ball in the late innings. The key in that situation is to throw strikes."

Through the sixth inning both starters were in command. Houston's Joe Niekro gave up

six hits but allowed only one runner to reach third. San Francisco's Andy McGaffigan allowed only two hits and pitched to only 19 batters.

Both pitchers escaped jams in the seventh. Niekro allowed a lead-off double to Tom O'Malley but worked out of trouble. McGaffigan struck out Ray Knight with runners at second and third to end the seventh.

McGaffigan pitched nine innings and allowed four hits.

Niekro pitched 10 innings for Houston, allowing 10 hits, walking one and striking out seven.

"The key to my performance tonight was that I threw strikes," Niekro said. "I got fastballs, sliders and knuckle balls over the plate."

Giant first baseman Darrell Evans said his team made too many goofs.

"We made too many base running mistakes tonight," he said. "You can't afford to make mis-

takes when you're having trouble scoring runs like we are. You can't win tough games like this."

The Astros raised their record to 26-30 with the victory over the Giants. Houston is in fifth place in the National League West, ahead of Cincinnati and 11 1/2 games behind the league-leading Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Giants will face the Astros again tonight in the Astrodome. Game time is 8:35.

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