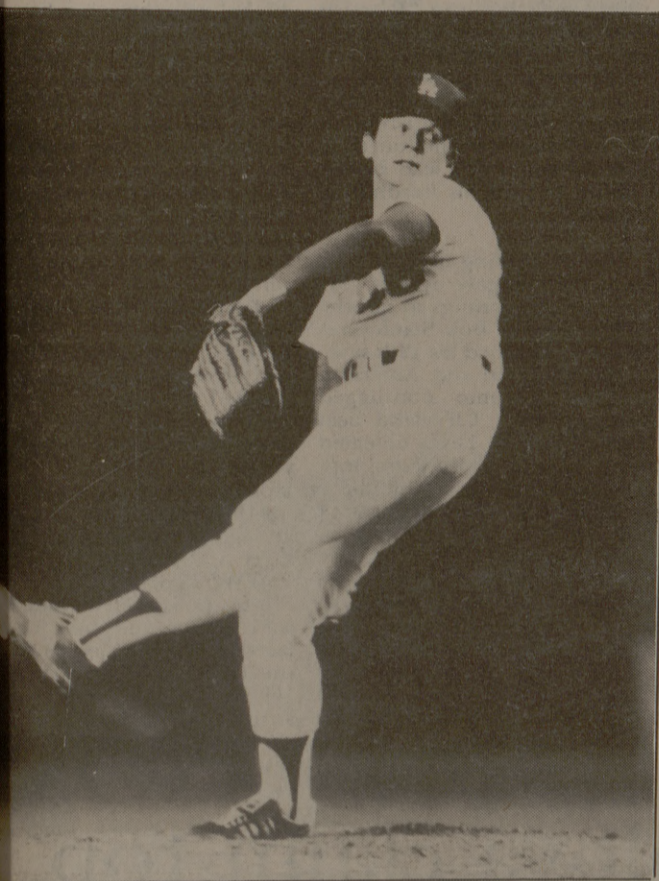


The Battalion Sports

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Clutch hit

Hendrick's single to right gives Cardinals a 5-4 victory



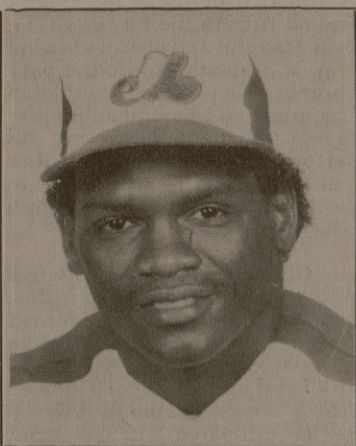
Burt Hooten

United Press International
It's not that Phillies manager Pat Corrales didn't know what he was doing, it was simply a matter of the proverbial wrong place at the wrong time. The wrong place was St. Louis, the wrong time was Tuesday night and George Hendrick was coming to bat.

With the winning run on second, one out and the game tied at 4-4 in the ninth inning, Corrales ordered Porfi Altamirano to walk Keith Hernandez. An inning-ending double-play would have been Corrales' reward, but Hendrick spoiled the Philadelphia skipper's strategy. The St. Louis outfielder lined a single to right that plated Tom Herr, giving the Cards a 5-4.

"I don't second guess what he did," said Hernandez, who had put the Cardinals ahead 4-3 in the seventh with a two-out, two-run triple into the right field corner.

"He has to decide if he wants to face both the No. 3 and 4 hitters, or if he should walk me and set up the double play," added Hernandez. "George is just such a good clutch hitter. He got the hit. That's what he's done all year."



Tim Raines

Hendrick is batting .333 with 48 RBI — both are second highest totals in the National League. St. Louis manager Whitey Herzog understood Corrales' strategy.

"He (Corrales) has to do that," Herzog said. "He has to take a shot at one. If he gets a ground ball, he has a chance at a double play. If he pitches to both, then he's giving us three chances."

Philadelphia tied the game at 4-4 in the top of the ninth. With two out, Joe Morgan doubled to

knock out Cardinals' starter Joaquin Andujar. Pinch-hitter Bo

Diaz greeted reliever Bruce Sutter with a single to left that scored Morgan.

Tom Herr led off the St. Louis ninth with a single to right and was sacrificed to second by Floyd Rayford, who made his pinch-hitting debut for the Cards in the seventh. After the intentional walk to Hernandez, Hendrick followed with his decisive single and collected his team-high seventh game-winning hit.

The Cards battled back from a 3-0 deficit but only had one hit in the first five innings.

"Wins haven't been coming very easily for us lately," said Hernandez, noting the Cardinals

had lost eight of 11 games. "I kind of thought Monday night we were flat, but tonight I just thought we were down."

"We were playing as badly as we can play. Sooner or later, things will fall into place. Hopefully this will be a tonic for us."

Elsewhere in the NL, Cincinnati downed San Diego 4-3, Montreal beat Pittsburgh 7-3, New York downed Chicago 4-3, Los Angeles nipped Atlanta 4-3,

and Houston topped San Francisco 3-2.

In American League games Toronto topped Oakland 13-7, Cleveland beat New York 9-6, Boston downed Detroit 6-2, Minnesota topped Kansas City 8-1, Texas beat Seattle 7-1. The California at Chicago and Baltimore at Milwaukee games were rained out.

DODGERS 4, BRAVES 3 — At Los Angeles, Mike Marshall's two-run homer in the second inning paced Burt Hooton, 5-2, to his fourth straight win. Dusty Baker doubled in the third to score Hooton and Steve Sax, each of whom singled. Dave Stewart notched his eighth home run.

REDS 4, PADRES 3 — At San Diego, rookie Dann Bilardello lined a single to center with one out in the ninth inning, driving in Gary Redus with the tie-breaking run to power Keith Cato's second major league win. Bill Scherrer earned his fourth save. Gary Lucas took the loss.

MONTREAL 7, PIRATES 3 — At Pittsburgh, Tim Wallach hit a two-run homer and Tim Raines and Andre Dawson each added solo shots to lead the Expos. Steve Rogers, 8-3, scattered nine hits over seven innings and Jeff Reardon got his eighth save. Pittsburgh's Jason Thompson hit his seventh homer of the year. Larry McWilliams, 7-4, absorbed the loss.

METS 4, CHICAGO 3 — At New York, Rusty Staub's fourth successive pinch hit, a single with two out in the 10th inning, scored Bob Bailor from second base with the winning run. Dave Kingman clubbed his 12th homer of the year and Danny Heep added his second pinch-hit homer of the season to help winner Doug Sisk, 2-1. Lee Smith, 1-4, took the loss.

Cubs, Ernie Banks finally part their ways

United Press International

The way things are turning out for Ernie Banks, it's not such a great day to play two.

For the past 31 years, he has embodied the Chicago Cubs more than any other man who has ever worn their uniform. More so even than Gabby Hartnett, Charlie Grimm, Billy Herman and Phil Cavarretta. Now Banks and the Cubs have split. First as a player and then as a coach will ambassador employed them in a promotional capacity. Banks has been an integral part of the Cubs for more than three decades. He was certainly the best known and most identifiable member of their "family." Last Saturday he was told his services were no longer required.

One of the reasons for the break was economic. Perhaps more important was the fact Banks had missed several scheduled appearances in the past few years, and that led to his

being labeled "unreliable," something he never was called during the 19 years he played for the Cubs.

Maybe it won't be much consolation to the generally happy-go-lucky, personable 52-year-old Hall of Famer, but he's not alone in what has happened to him. He merely happens to be the latest victim.

Banks' circumstance isn't that much unlike Willie Mays' following Mays' retirement as an active player with the Mts at the end of 1973. He had signed a 10-year contract with them when they got him from the Giants in 1972. The question then became what he could do to earn the money the Mets would pay him for the next eight years after he was enough playing.

A job in the front office was out because Mays didn't have the inclination or patience for that. It was extremely difficult for him, and still is, to sit in the press box and watch a game be-

cause the instinctive desire to play is still so strong.

"I know I can still go out there for a few innings or even play a whole game," he said to me not long ago, "but what about the next day?"

Mays was given the designation of part-time coach for the Mets and his duties were loosely defined. The Mets have to be blamed for that. Willie wasn't crazy about going to some of the places in the country they suggested he go because nobody's really that eager to go back to the bushes, even to work with young players, once he's gotten accustomed to star status in the majors.

When it came to appearances, Mays was no different than Banks. He got tired of making appearances but since the club was paying him for it, he was expected to go.

Mays and Banks aren't the only ones to have gotten themselves caught in such a box. I

never saw a top star who was all that eager to make an appearance even when he was getting well paid for showing up. Curiously or not, the more "mediocre" a player is regarded, the more reliable he generally is about appearances. That's because he hasn't become jaded or weary yet from making that many appearances.

Practically every ballclub has been faced with the problem of what to do with some of its top

players after they obviously are all through. The clubs can't just throw an Ernie Banks, a Willie Mays or a Stan Musial out on the street. Occasionally, when there is no place else, some clubs have found a place for a few of their special retired players in the radio or TV booth, but only so many of those jobs are available.

There haven't been as many men as popular as Ernie Banks in baseball history. Some of the other players occasionally kidded him about all those wonder-

ful things he'd say about the Cubs or about how he always insisted it was "a great day to play two," but everybody loved Ernie. It was hard not to. So the club comes out the villain for letting him go. I don't think that's right, either. Neither Banks nor anyone else had a right to expect any club to keep a player on its payroll for the rest of his life.

Ralph Kiner, the former home run king who does the Mets' games on TV and radio

now, has a viewpoint I agree with in respect to what any club owes one of its stars after he's through playing.

"To my way of thinking," he says, "if the player is contributing to the organization after he quits playing, then he's entitled to fair remuneration just like any other employee. But when it comes to the point, in the eyes of the ballclub, that he isn't contributing, then the club has a right to get rid of him."

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