Texas A&M
The Battalion Sports
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On a roll

NL takes 11-game win streak into tonight's All-Star game

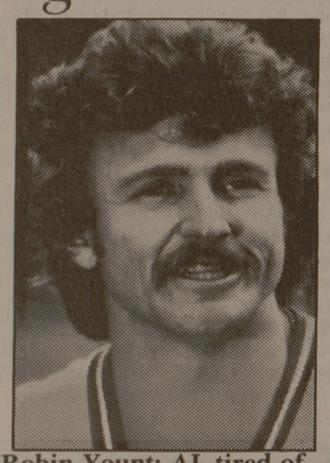
United Press International

CHICAGO — Can the American League avoid being red-faced on a golden anniverary?

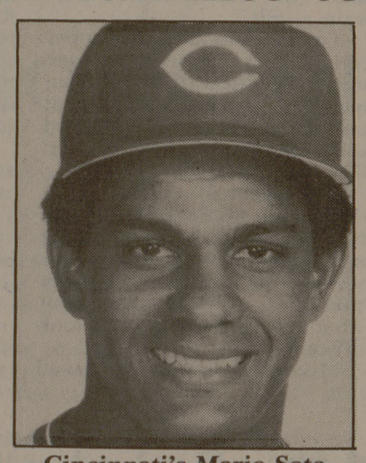
The answer will be provided tonight when the AL seeks to break an 11-game losing streak against the National League in major league baseball's 50th anniversary All-Star Game at Comiskey Park.

Under the watchful eyes of former stars, including 41 Hall of Famers, the AL will send Dave Stieb of the Toronto Blue Jays to the mound against Mario Soto of the Cincinnati Reds in an effort to end what has become one of the most embarrassing slumps in sports' history.

Clear skies with temperatures in the middle to upper 50s are forecast for the game, which is scheduled to begin at 7:40 p.m. CDT.



Robin Yount: AL tired of losing the All-Star contest



Cincinnati's Mario Soto the NL's starting pitcher

"We want to win this game. The American League is tired of losing the All-Star game year after year," said shortstop Robin Yount of the Milwaukee Brewers.

The AL's repeated failure in this mid-summer showcase event has become a great source of irritation to AL President Lee MacPhail, but like everyone else, he's at a loss to explain it.

The AL seems to have more carefully selected its roster this year than in recent years. For example, with the exception of Boston's Carl Yastrzemski, who was a sentimental addition to the roster, there are no designated hitters listed on this year's AL squad. This year MacPhail and manager Harvey Kuenn selected more wisely in rounding out the squad.

Although the AL has lost 19 of the last 20 and 23 of the last 26 All-Star Games, it has had surprisingly good luck over the years in the games played at Chicago. The AL has won three of the previous four All-Star Games played in Chicago, including the initial contest in 1933 and two others at Wrigley Field in 1947 and 1962. The NL holds an overall edge of 34-18.

The AL is counting heavily on Stieb to get it off to a good start in the game. Under All-Star rules, a starting pitcher can work no longer than three innings but Stieb has performed very well in the early innings of most of his starts this season.

In Soto, the NL is countering with one of the hardest throwers in baseball. He gave a strong demonstration of power pitching in last year's game when he struck out four AL batters in the last two innings.

Russians sweeping gold at Universiade

United Press International

EDMONTON, Alberta — You don't need Russian swimming ace Vladimir Salnikov to tell you the 1983 World University Games are very important to his country. The results say it all. The Soviets reaped another crop of medals Tuesday, as their swimmers took four golds, one silver and two bronze and gymnast Natalia Yurchenko grabbed three more gold.

The Russians have 28 gold, nine silver and eight bronze at the Universiade for a total of 45 medals. The Americans are a distant second (one gold, 10 bronze and seven silver) and Canada is third (2-1-12). Romania and China are second in terms of gold medals with three each.

If the Universiade is any indication of how the Russians will do in L.A., the rest of the globe better watch out. On Monday night, the swimmers won five gold in five events plus one silver.

"I don't think the U.S. swimmers think this is as important for their time as the Pan American Games will be. So maybe that is why they have not done so well," said Salnikov, who set a Universiade record of 3:49.38 in winning a gold in the 400-meter freestyle.

Salnikov, who has broken the world record in the 400-meter freestyle five times since 1979, was eight body lengths ahead of runner-up Bruce Hayes of the U.S., who clocked 3:54.93. Svyatoslal Semenov, the heir apparent to Salnikov, took the bronze in 3:56.57.

The Russian men's relay team swam the fastest time this year in the 4x100-meterfreestyle. Fending off a strong challenge from the Americans, they set a Universiade record of 3:21.72.

Robertas Zhulpa also set a Universiade standard in the men's 200-meter breaststroke with a clocking of 2:15.93. Russian Larisa Belokon swam the fourth fastest time in the world this year to collect the gold with a Universiade record in the women's 100-meter breaststroke.

The Soviet string was broken in the women's 100-meter butterfly, where Australian Susie Woodhouse set a Games standard of 1:01.79 in collecting the gold.

In gymnastics, Yurchenko won three of four events at the women's finals.

Unheralded Liliana Balen of Romania won the floor exercises with a 9.90, the highest mark of the evening.

Astros pitching credited in streak against Dodgers

United Press International

HOUSTON — Houston Astros manager Bob Lillis said it was a combination one-two punching punch, not luck, that gave the drooping Astros a three-game win streak over their better West Coast rivals, the Los Angeles Dodgers.

"Our relief staff has done an amazing job," said Lillis. "Bill Dawley was selected the All Star team as a rookie and Frank DiPino and Mike Madden have strengthened us greatly.

Nolan Ryan and Joe Niekro gave us back-to-back games Saturday and Sunday," he said Monday. "That's the first time this year our starters have done that. But they pitched vastly improved baseball the last 30 or 40 games.

On Saturday the Astros topped the Dodgers 8-1 in a Niekro three-hitter, and Ryan powered a 3-1 win on Sunday. On Monday, the Astros again edged Los Angeles, 5-4.

Dodger left fielder Dusty Baker agreed that pitching was the key.

"He (Ryan) overpowered us," he said, "and the same with Niekro."

"Tonight (Monday)," he said, "both teams scored in the clutch. They just scored last."

The best clutch hitter turned out to be Astro Jose Cruz. He hit three-run homers Saturday and Sunday, and Monday led off the eighth with a home run that gave Houston the victory.

Astros' reliever Dave Smith, 2-1 picked up the win and DiPino pitched the ninth for his seventh save.

Houston has won three straight from the Dodgers after dropping its first seven decisions to Los Angeles this season.

Houston took a 1-0 lead in the first. Los Angeles starter Fernando Valenzuela issued a two-out walk to Dickie Thon and Phil Garner followed with a hit-and-run double to score Thon.

Los Angeles went ahead 2-1 in the sixth when Steve Yeager followed a Bill Russell single with a two-run homer.

The Astros took a 4-2 advantage in their half of the sixth. Terry Puhl drew a leadoff walk and went to third on Thon's single. One out later, Valenzuela uncorked his second wild pitch of the game, Puhl scoring and Thon advancing to second.

Cruz then walked and Dave Stewart replaced Valenzuela. Ray Knight singled in a run and Bill Doran's infield single loaded the bases. Luis Pujols then squeezed in Cruz.

The Dodgers tied the score 44 in the seventh. Ron Roenicke had a one-out single and Derrel Thomas walked, chasing starter Bob Knepper. Smith struck out pinch hitter Rick Monday, but balked, advancing the runners to second and third. Steve Sax followed with a two-run single.

Sports Briefs

United Press International

LONDON — American jockey Steve Cauthen has been suspended for 12 days after stewards found him guilty of "reckless riding" in a race at Newmarket Tuesday.

Cauthen, whose mount was disqualified from second place, will be out of action from July 14 to July 25. The jockey said he will appeal the suspension.

GRANTS PASS, Ore. — The recently completed horse racing season at Grants Pass Downs in the Josephine County Fairgrounds yielded a record betting handle of more than $160,000, officials said Tuesday.

Bettors throughout the season placed $1.8 million in bets on the horses.

RENO, Nev. — Time is running out for the Reno Bighorns of the Continental Basketball Association.

CBA commissioner Jim Drucker said Tuesday the association's executive committee will meet Friday to discuss the financially troubled team. He also said the CBA is prepared to draft a schedule for next season that does not include Reno.

Bighorns president Ken Broberg said he expects the team to play next year and is asking for an extension until August to get the club's finances in shape. But Drucker said there will not be one.

NEW YORK — Benson Huggard, one of the world's top marathon swimmers, will make a second attempt to become the first person to swim around Manhattan Island twice when he competes in the Manhattan Swimathon July 10.

The race will begin at the East River's 89th St. bulkhead at 10:30 a.m.

For Your Tokyo Lunch
Enjoy Chinese dishes such as Moo-Goo-Gai-Pan and Pepper Steak starting at $3.25 and Happy Hour specials are always served during your lunch.

Evening Dining in Tokyo
Select one of our Chinese dishes or steaks from our regular menu or dine in our Steak Room where one of our chefs prepares your meals right before you.

Aloha Room
Assorted exotic drinks are featured each night with Happy Hour from 4:30 - 7:00. Live piano music each Friday and Saturday night.

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411 Texas Ave. College Station
Across from Ramada Inn
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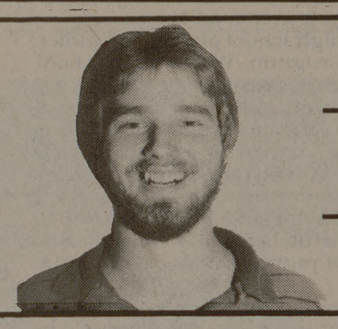

john wagner

College baseball's 'juco connection'

"When I was a pitcher in college," the would-be-hero told his companion, "I helped Texas beat A&M three years in a row."

"Is that so?," his friend asked. "I didn't know you were an Aggie."

College baseball is a relatively simple game. To win, you need good pitching.

It's hard to believe trying to toss a ball past a guy with a club could be so difficult. But at the college level, where good hitters outnumber good pitchers by a bunch, throwing the ball well is a much-appreciated art form.

Unfortunately for baseball coach Tom Chandler, Aggie pitchers have been getting bad reviews.

Three straight disappointing Southwest Conference campaigns — the result of inconsistent pitching — sent Chandler looking for somebody he could call a stopper.

The Aggie coach went west — to the states of California and Arizona — to find what he needed, and he came back with five junior college transfers, three of them pitchers.

The juco connection?

You bet, says Chandler.

"The junior college boys can be of immediate help," Chandler said Tuesday. "The fact is, this year we desperately needed to sign some experienced pitchers. And that's why we went with the juco players."

Baseball coaches have a demon to contend with — the voice of professional baseball, whispering big bucks into players' ears and wallets.

College baseball is unique in that aspect. Most college football and basketball coaches are perfectly happy signing a player out of high school and molding him to fit their system, rather than succumbing to the quick-fix temptation of junior college transfers.

But baseball coaches have a demon to contend with — the voice of professional baseball, whispering big bucks into players' ears and wallets. Except in isolated cases, like the hardship clause in college basketball and the signing of Herschel Walker, the majority of the college coaching profession is immune to this problem.

Eight players off the University of Texas national championship baseball team signed pro contracts once the season ended, and five of those draftees were juniors. For them, being a Longhorn was only a stepping-stone to the big leagues.

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A new name for old friends.

We're changing our name to better communicate the nature of our business.

We're still a savings place. But we're also a place for checking, for loans, and a complete range of financial services.

Brazos Savings is now BrazosBanc Savings Association of Texas.

We're continuing to branch out in Texas.

Our goal is unchanged, however. We want to provide your family and your business with every financial service.

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Offices throughout Central Texas and more to come