

# Anderson still 'sparks' for fired Dick Wagner

by Milton Richman  
UPI Sports Editor

Normally, Sparky Anderson isn't what you'd call a vindictive person. Nonetheless, he still kept waiting patiently for The Day.

It finally arrived Monday. That was the day the principal owners of the Cincinnati Reds, the Williams' brothers, James R. and William J., fired their President and Chief Executive Officer, Dick Wagner, the man who had gotten an entire city down on him by firing Anderson as manager of the Reds and letting go Pete Rose five years ago.

Anderson manages Detroit and Rose plays for the Phillies now.

Before being signed by the Tigers, Anderson was far and away the most successful manager the Reds ever had. He led them to two world championships, four National League pennants and five division titles from 1970 through 1978, the year Wagner fired him.

Some people call Wagner a "hatchet man" because of the completely professional, businesslike manner with which he operates. Before coming to the Reds, he worked for the Cardinals and the late Branch Rick-

ey once said of him, "Dick Wagner will be a good baseball executive some day because he doesn't let emotion carry him away."

Sparky Anderson must have been harboring some hard feelings about Wagner — since the day he was fired. The Tigers' customarily upbeat manager is anything but a robot, so when the day came that the Reds fired Wagner Monday, the situation had more than a little impact on Anderson.

"I thought when the day would come I'd have some satisfaction, but I didn't feel that way at all," he said from Detroit

Tuesday. "When I heard what happened, I knew exactly how he felt, and believe me, that ain't a nice feeling. I wasn't the least bit happy over the firing. Something's wrong with you if you're glad to see someone fired. I cared about what was happening to 'Wags,' and I'll tell you something else. I'm glad I cared."

Anderson cared enough to call Wagner and tell him how he felt. It wasn't easy, either.

"I kept calling and calling and all I kept getting was busy, busy, busy," revealed the Tigers' manager, who was trying to get Wagner from the ballpark before

Monday night's game between the Tigers and Angels. "I could understand his phone being so busy because that's how it was with my phone when I got fired."

Finally, Anderson did get through, but only with the help of Jim Campbell, the Tigers' President and General Manager. Campbell also had been trying to get Wagner, and knowing Anderson also wished to speak with him, he had the call switched after he was finished.

"Wags," Anderson greeted Wagner, as he always does, "remember this: no matter what

else, you stood up and weren't afraid to be counted. At the time you have to make a decision, nobody really cares whether it turns out right or wrong. All everybody wants you to do is make it no matter how it turns out. And you made it. You didn't back away or sit on the fence and say 'what should we do?' You did what you had to do. I respect you for that."

When I spoke with Anderson Tuesday, he talked about the decisions Wagner had made.

"He took a stand on free agency," said the Tigers' pilot.

"He wasn't going to get into a bidding war with free agents, Wags' decision for the fans. This wouldn't go broke out of the ballpark. I was there in Cincinnati, I mean, I could go to any waterloo bathroom or other place stadium, and all we'd whistle. Riverfront Stadium as the cleanest ball park in the league. You mean Dick Wagner didn't do that. Nobody else."

# Bannister leads White Sox past Indians

United Press International

Chicago left-hander Floyd Bannister, who says he is finally feeling comfortable again, is starting to lull opposing hitters to sleep.

Bannister, a highly-paid free agent from Seattle, came in the off-season, and pitched his first

shutout in a Year Tuesday night to pace the White Sox to an 8-0 rout of the Cleveland Indians.

"If there are any problems, they have been overcome," said Bannister, who raised his record to 4-9 and lowered his ERA to 4.37.

Bannister, whose teammates

have scored only 14 runs in his nine losses, walked three and struck out eight in picking up his 11th career shutout. He limited Cleveland to just five hits.

"I mixed just enough fastballs to keep them off balance. I have to admit that earlier in the season the thought of trying to produce because of my big contract was getting the best of me."

Carlton Fisk also continued his slugging surge with two home runs. He hit his 12th of the year with one out in the first off Lary Sorensen, 4-8, and smashed a two-run shot in the seventh against reliever Jerry Reed. Fisk has eight home runs and 16 RBIs in his last 17 games.

The Indians loaded the bases with two out in the fifth inning for their only scoring threat, but Bannister induced Manny Trillo to pop out.

In other AL games, Seattle nipped Boston 3-2, Baltimore

shaded Oakland 3-1, New York edged Minnesota 4-3, Milwaukee throttled Texas 9-2 and Toronto beat Kansas City 9-6 and Detroit nipped California 5-4 in 14 innings.

In the National League, it was Philadelphia 4, Atlanta 1, 1st game; Philadelphia 7, Atlanta 6, 2nd game; Cincinnati 6, New York 2; Houston 7, Montreal 5; San Diego 5, Chicago 3; Los Angeles 3, St. Louis 1; Pittsburgh 6, San Francisco 2.

**MARINERS 3, RED SOX 2** — At Boston, John Moses had an RBI single and Spike Owen drove in a run in the fifth inning to rally the Mariners.

**ORIOLES 3, A'S 1** — At Baltimore, rookie Allen Ramirez and Tim Stoddard combined on a six-hitter and Eddie Murray cracked a two-run homer to lift the Orioles to their third straight triumph.

**YANKEES 4, TWINS 3** — At

Minneapolis, Jerry Mumphy drilled a two-run single with two out in the eighth inning to cap a three-run outburst and rally the Yankees.

**BREWERS 9, RANGERS 2** — At Arlington, rookie Chuck Porter hurled a seven-hitter to record his first major league victory and Cecil Cooper drove in three runs with a double and a single to highlight an 18-hit attack and lead Milwaukee.

**BLUE JAYS 9, ROYALS 6** — At Kansas City, Mo., pinch hitter Willie Upshaw hit a ground ball through a drawn-in infield, allowing two runs to score and sparking Toronto.

**TIGERS 5, ANGELS 4** — At Detroit, Wayne Krenchicki slammed a two-out double against the wall in right-center field to score Chet Lemon in the bottom of the 14th inning and propel the Tigers.

# Braves' errors help Phillies win, 7-6, Dodgers close game

United Press International

If errors could be equated to earthquakes, Glenn Hubbard's miscue in the ninth inning Tuesday night in Philadelphia would have registered a 10 on the Richter scale.

When Hubbard, the Atlanta Braves' second baseman, fired a relay throw wildly past first with the bases loaded and two out, the surface damage was that two runs scored and the Phillies posted a 7-6 victory.

The aftershocks then followed. The win completed a sweep of the Braves in a twin-night double-header, as Philadelphia had won the first game 4-1. Since Montreal lost, it meant the Phillies took over first place in the Eastern Division for the first time since May 23. And when the Dodgers won later on, it sliced the Braves' lead in the West to a half-game.

"It looked as if it was going to be a tough play," said Virgil, who scored the winning run. "I rounded the bag hard and when I saw (first baseman Chris) Chambliss lunge for the ball, I kept going. I'm glad he threw it away."

Gross, who executed a masterful takeover slide at second to put pressure on Hubbard, added, "When the ball was hit, Ramirez sort of hesitated a half-second. He looked like he wanted to take it himself. That gave me one more step. I know Larry can run, and I wanted to get there fast enough to give him a chance."

"If we can keep playing like that and doing some things, we're going to open some eyes," said Phillies Manager Pat Corrales.

In other games, Houston beat Montreal 7-5, Los Angeles defeated St. Louis 3-1, Cincinnati topped the New York Mets 6-2, San Diego downed the Chicago Cubs 5-3, and Pittsburgh upended San Francisco 6-2.

In the American League, it was Seattle 3, Boston 2; Baltimore 3, Oakland 1; the Chicago White Sox 8, Cleveland 0; the New York Yankees 4, Minnesota 3; Milwaukee 9, Texas 2; Toronto 9, Kansas



Dusty Baker's home gives Dodgers 3-1

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**PIRATES 6, GIANTS 4** — At San Francisco, Jim Thompson had three runs and Tony Pena drove in while Lee Tunnell and Cuatrecasas combined on a six-hitter, leading Pittsburgh to a 6-2 victory over the Giants.

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**U.S. Pro tourney continues**

United Press International

BROOKLINE, Mass. — The top eight seeds, headed by Guillermo Vilas and Jose-Luis Clerc, get into the act today in the \$200,000 U.S. Pro tennis championships.

Vilas, the defending champion, and Clerc, who won this Longwood Cricket Club event in 1981, and the other top seeds were given first-round byes. Vilas extended his brief vacation by pulling out of a scheduled doubles match Tuesday.

Most of the low seeds survived their first round tests though veteran Harold Solomon did knock off 15th-seeded Frenchman Thierry Tulasne in what graded out as a minor upset.

Solomon ran off six straight games, loss three straight, then rallied to win the last three for a 6-0, 6-4 victory that ruined Tulasne's 20th birthday celebration.

The 30-year-old Solomon said he planned to continue his comeback.

"I have a goal to get back where I was. I still like to play this game and I still make an awful lot of money," said Solomon. "I don't know of any other

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