

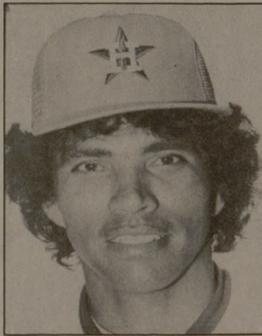
Texas A&M

The Battalion Sports

Thursday, July 14, 1983/The Battalion/Page 9

New face, old arm boost hot Astros past Montreal, 9-4

United Press International
HOUSTON — George Bjorkman said he was satisfied just to be catching for Astros pitcher Nolan Ryan and his first major league home run was a bonus.
 Bjorkman — who drove in five runs with a three-run homer, a single and a squeeze bunt — was playing in just his third major-league game in Houston's 9-4 triumph over the Montreal Expos Wednesday night.
 "I am so grateful to Bob Lillis and the Houston Astros for giving me a chance to play in the big leagues," he said. "By far this game is the biggest thrill of my baseball career."
 "Just getting to catch Nolan Ryan was enough, but hit my first major league home run just made it a great night," said Bjorkman, a new arrival from the Tucson, Ariz., Pacific Coast League club.
 Ryan, 9-1, has not lost since April 22 and the 8-game winning streak is a personal record for the veteran right-hander. In eight innings, Ryan yielded five hits, walked three and struck out five. Bill Dawley pitched the ninth.
 Ryan felt he could have done better.
 "I didn't feel I had my real good stuff tonight, but the club scored a lot of runs for me and I was able to stay around for eight innings," he said.
 Montreal pitcher Gary Carter remained optimistic.
 "I feel we are a much better team than what we have shown so far," he said. "Fortunately not many other teams in our division have had a real hot streak. We have 79



Houston's Jose Cruz got a two-run triple in the third

games left, almost half a season to improve and show everybody we are the team to beat.

The Astros sent nine men to the plate in the third, scoring five runs and chasing Montreal starter Charlie Lea, 6-6. The big hit in the inning was a two-run triple by Jose Cruz. Bjorkman produced his first RBI of the game with a perfect squeeze and Ray Knight also drove in a run with a single. The fifth run came on Phil Garner's fielder's choice grounder.

The Expos had taken a 1-0 lead in the third when Chris Speier lined a triple and scored on Lea's single. Montreal added runs in the fifth and sixth on solo home runs by Tim Wallach and Andre Dawson. Speier added an RBI single in the ninth.

Houston iced the game in the seventh.

Major leagues

American League division races sticky after 3 big sweeps

United Press International
 Despite impressive series sweeps by three American League teams, the division races look as cluttered as ever.

At Chicago, Harold Baines snapped a 1-1 tie with an RBI double in the seventh inning and Lamarr Hoyt scattered seven hits Wednesday night to help the White Sox complete a three-game series sweep with a 5-1 triumph over the Cleveland Indians.

At Baltimore, Cal Ripken hit his second career grand slam to power the Orioles to a 6-2 victory over the Oakland A's and a sweep of their three-game set.

At Detroit, John Grubb's RBI single ignited a six-run sixth that

broke open a tight pitching duel and helped the Tigers complete a three-game thrashing of California with a 7-1 victory over the Angels.

The sweeps left the White Sox in second place in the AL West, a half-game behind first-place Texas, while Baltimore and Detroit are tied for second in the East, two games behind Toronto.

The Tigers outburst came at the expense of Bruce Kison, 8-3, who entered the sixth inning with a four-hitter. Detroit's Dan Petry, 8-6, captured his first victory at Tiger Stadium in nearly eight weeks.

In other AL games, Seattle downed Boston 6-4, Milwaukee

topped Texas 6-2, Minnesota tripped New York 6-1 and Kansas City edged Toronto 5-4.

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

BREWERS 6, RANGERS 2 — At Arlington, Texas, Bob McClure notched his fifth straight victory and Ted Simmons drove in two runs with a double and a single to pace Milwaukee. The Rangers have lost six of their last seven.

MARINERS 6, RED SOX 4 — At Boston, Rick Nelson homered and drove in a pair of runs and Spike Owen slammed

his first major-league home run to lead Seattle. Jim Beattie, 8-5, picked up the victory while Bill Caudill registered the final two outs for his 17th save.

TWINS 6, YANKEES 1 — At Minneapolis, Tom Brunansky went 4-for-4 and Ken Schrom pitched 8 2-3 strong innings to lead the Twins and spoil the return of Ron Guidry. Guidry, 10-5, was making his first appearance since June 22, when he was sidelined with back spasms.

ROYALS 5, BLUE JAYS 4 — At Kansas City, Mo., George Brett collected three hits, including one to ignite a three-run inning, helping the Royals snap Toronto's five-game winning streak.



Jim Sundberg and Texas drop sixth of last seven.

Territorial rule said helpful

USFL's top 2 boast locals

United Press International
DENVER — Give the Michigan Panthers and Philadelphia Stars credit for knowing the territory — especially their own territory.

One of the bylaws that sets the United States Football League apart from the established National Football League is the territorial assignment of schools.

Before a football had ever been snapped in the USFL's inaugural season, the Stars were awarded Penn State, North Carolina, Temple and Delaware as their territorial schools while the Panthers were assigned Michigan, Michigan State, Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan and Western Michigan.

The USFL gave each of its 12

teams 26 selections from its territorial schools and also the rights to all players from those schools who had been drafted by the NFL in the previous 13 years.

Michigan and Philadelphia, the two participants in the USFL's inaugural championship game Sunday, were obviously two of the teams that best capitalized on their territories. The Panthers have 10 players on their roster from their territorial schools, including five starters, while the Stars have 13 such players, including seven starters.

But in addition to quantity from the territorial schools, the two USFL finalists boast quality.

Former Penn State quarterback Chuck Fusina and former

North Carolina running back Kelvin Bryant combined for better than 80 percent of the Philadelphia offense this season. Fusina finished as the No. 5 passer in the league with 2,718 yards while Bryant finished as the No. 2 rusher with 1,442 yards.

"The territorials have been a very, very good thing for our league," Philadelphia General Manager Carl Peterson said. "Of course, I'm very biased. But we needed player identification in this league and that's a quick way to do it."

"Everyone in Philadelphia knows the Penn State players. Take Chuck Fusina, for instance. Public relations-wise, it

was a great move for us. Fusina finished as the runnerup for the Heisman Trophy (1978) while he was at Penn State."

Philadelphia's other starters as a result of their territorial assignments are wide receiver Scott Fitzkee, defensive end Frank Case and defensive tackle Dave Opfar of Penn State; linebacker John Bunting of North Carolina and guard Rich Garza of Temple.

Michigan's territorial talent includes its leading receiver (tight end Mike Cobb of Michigan State), its leading tackler (linebacker Ray Bentley of Central Michigan), its leading scorer (place-kicker Novo Bojovic of Central Michigan) and its most

exciting player (flanker Anthony Carter, an All-America at Michigan).

"If we didn't have his rights, I think Anthony Carter may have gone to the NFL," Michigan General Manager Jim Spavital said. "And if he went to San Diego, for instance, he'd have been only one of 45 players to the average fan out there. But he's No. 1 here in Michigan. People followed him during his brilliant career at Michigan and they follow him now. He puts a lot of fans in seats for us."

Michigan's other territorial starters are offensive tackle Chris Godfrey of Michigan and cornerback Clarence Chapman of Eastern Michigan.

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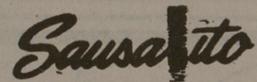
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