

Rangers, Astros victorious

United Press International
The Texas Rangers and the Houston Astros each picked up a victory Wednesday night — the Rangers defeating the Boston Red Sox and the Astros picking up a win in the Astrodome against Los Angeles.

Boston, extending the Red Sox' losing streak to six games. Danny Darwin, 1-0, scattered nine hits and struck out seven for the win. Dave Tobik worked the ninth inning for his first save. The Rangers chased Bob Ojeda, 0-2, with three runs in the fourth. Ojeda walked Buddy Bell, Larry Parrish singled and Dave Hosteter walked to load the bases. Yost then

punched a single into short left field, scoring Bell and Parrish to tie the score 3-3. Bob Stanley replaced Ojeda and yielded an RBI single to Curtis Wilkerson. Boston grabbed a 3-0 advantage in the second. Mike Easler, who earlier in the day signed an extension of his contract, led off with a single and raced to third on Tony Armas' single. Rich Gedman hit a soft grounder to first, scoring Easler and moving Armas to second, and Reid Nichols tripled down the right-field line. Glenn Hoffman's bloop single to right drove in Nichols. Billy Sample cut Boston's lead to 3-1 with a two-out home run off the left-field foul pole in the third. It was Sample's first homer of the year.

He retired 11 consecutive Dodgers at one point and didn't allow a runner as far as second base.

Knepper also benefited greatly from two sterling defensive plays by left fielder Jose Cruz on two line drives to left center by Mike Marshall. The Astros scored once in the first inning off Dodger starter and loser Bob Welch, 1-2, on a one-out triple to right-center field by Kevin Bass and a sacrifice fly by Cruz.

Houston added two runs in the sixth on four consecutive hits. Bass led off with an infield hit but was caught stealing. Cruz singled to left field, stole second and advanced to third on a single to center by Jerry Mumphrey. Knight followed with a double down the right-field line, scoring both runners. Craig Reynolds of the Astros doubled in the seventh inning to extend his hitting streak to eight games.

Dodgers 000 000 000—0
Houston 100 002 00x—3

Game-winning RBI—Cruz (1), DP—Los Angeles 1, LOB—Los Angeles 4, Houston 7, 2B—Cruz, Knight, Reynolds, 3B—Bass, SB—Cruz (3), SF—Cruz, T—2:19, A—13, 519.

Astros 3, Dodgers 0

In Houston, Bob Knepper pitched a four-hit shutout and Ray Knight hit a two-run double to lead the Astros to a 3-0 victory over the Dodgers. Knepper, 2-1, walked none and struck out five en route to his second complete game of

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Miller & Bill

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MILLER/THIRD 4-19

ARTIST'S CONCEPTION

THREAT OF EMINENT DOMAIN

USFL union aims for benefits

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The first executive director of the U.S. Football League players union said Wednesday he will try to bring some consistency to benefits among the 18 teams when the league and players begin contract talks.

Doug Allen, a former NFL player at Buffalo, was elected Tuesday as executive director of the USFL Players Association. Allen said he is finishing up some business in his previous post as assistant to the director

of the NFL Players Association, but will devote full time to his USFLPA job.

Allen said the players board wants to "get things underway quickly. They feel they have gone enough time without benefits and protections they need. The league has had a chance to get started and it's time to deal with players' concerns."

He said the league's 18 teams offer their players a "hodgepodge of benefits and rights. We would like some level of consistency throughout the league. So if a player is traded

or shifts teams, he would have some basic benefits."

Allen said his experience with the NFL "will be invaluable when we sit down at the bargaining table."

"The USFL management and players are both key figures in this," said Paul Marth (of the Professional Football Players Association) and Vince Lombardi Jr. (of the Michigan Panthers) on their negotiating team. "We were both key figures in the NFL. I have had a lot of experience with them at the bargaining table and I think that should be helpful when we start talking," he

Stamina key to Olympic hopes

United Press International

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Coach Bobby Knight said Wednesday the rigorous conditions at the U.S. Olympic basketball trials will help his players adapt to the format of the Summer Games.

Knight and his staff of 23 assistants have assembled 72 players from which 12 ultimately will be selected for the Olympics.

The players, who went through second day of practice Wednesday, take part in morning and afternoon drills as well as evening scrimmages.

"There will be something like eight games in 11 days at the Olympics," Knight said at an afternoon news conference. "They'll be playing at odd times and it's important for them to

get into the next game. If some players look good in the morning but not by evening then some others will come into the picture."

Knight emphasized that this is not a time for instruction. "What we simply try to do is not just evaluate how they play but how they fit in," he said.

The coach, who has stressed defense, unselfishness and conditioning, commended the performance of the players thus far.

"They've worked very hard," he said. "They've come in and very simply there are a lot of players that want to make the team. They've paid attention and we've given them some guidelines. We try to get them to see what's going on, to be unselfish and to help out. From a coaching standpoint I like the

things they're doing."

The workouts have been held in the Indiana University Fieldhouse, a chilly airplane hanger of a building next to modern Assembly Hall, the basketball home of the Hoosiers.

"They don't even have heaters in here," joked UCLA forward Kenny Fields, who began play Wednesday with a sweat-soaked jersey.

Fields is one of four players to receive late invitations to the trials. The others were: Blair Rasmussen of Oregon, Tim McCormick of Michigan and Antoine Carr, who spent last season in an amateur Italian league after finishing his college career at Wichita State.

Wayman Tisdale, Oklahoma's All-America forward, did not practice Wednesday because of an Achilles heel injury.

Patrick Ewing, the All-American center of NCAA's Georgetown, worked out but was sidelined Tuesday because of sore knees.

Knight said he might have an injured player if he and staff agreed on his value.

On Wednesday night, there were four scrimmages and players broken up into teams of nine players each.

Knight's assistants run workouts on adjoining courts. On Wednesday morning, guards, forwards and centers practiced in their respective groups. Players waiting for next practice session warmed up on six surrounding basketball courts.

Like a general surveying troops, Knight at times is stationed on scaffolding between the two main courts.

Arkansas, Texas battle for shot star

United Press International

AUSTIN — Arnold Campbell, the owner of the second-best all-time high school shot put mark, signed a letter of intent with Texas Wednesday, amid cries from Arkansas officials that he had already signed with the Razorbacks.

Campbell, from Airline High School in Boosier City, La., captured his second-straight Texas Relays high school trophy this season with a put of 70-5. He has a career best of 74-10 1/2 and has thrown the heavier college shot 61-4 1/2.

Texas officials said the document Campbell signed with Arkansas was not a national letter of intent but a financial aid request. Texas officials said the Arkansas document was not binding because Campbell's parents had not signed it.

"When I first signed with Arkansas, I thought it was a letter of intent," Campbell said. "But I later found out it was a letter of financial aid, meaning that Arkansas was holding a scholarship for me. I'm proud to become a future Longhorn."

Arkansas Coach John McDonnell, however, contends Campbell is a future Razorback.

"He cannot sign with Texas," McDonnell declared. "If he signs with Texas he's through. When you sign a Southwest

Conference letter, the way to understand it, you can't sign any other conference letter."

He did sign an SWC letter, as far as I'm concerned, signed with us and we're going to release him to sign with Texas."

A spokesman for Texas said that Campbell was still committed to a college, until Tuesday.

"The word here today is signed a financial aid agreement with Arkansas, and his parents did not sign anything," Texas Sports Information Director Bill Little said.

"Tim Hamilton (Texas assistant coach) signed him to a national letter yesterday. If he signed with Arkansas and everything had been shipped, he couldn't have signed here."

The Southwest Conference said it will investigate the signings.

"There's one letter I believe that's presently recognized that's the national letter," Harold Lahar, assistant commissioner. "There's another letter. In our conference it's the only national letter binding."

"A lot of questions are going to have to be evaluated before a final decision is made. We have to see the papers."

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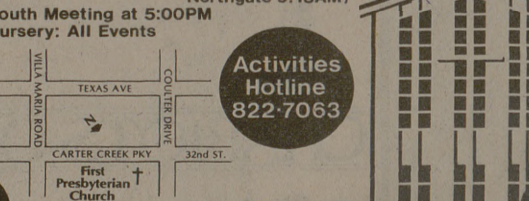
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