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Sports

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USFL's Gamblers
 talking merger
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Life is a strike, spare or gutter

I guess I should have known that nothing in life is that simple. Not much of a revelation you might say, at least under ordinary circumstances.

ED CASSAVOY

Sports Editor

But no one told me about bowling. It all seemed innocent enough to me. Find a couple of hours, get a joint (aren't all bowling alleys joints?) that sells beer, find a friend who is lousier than I am and toss the ball down that alley.

Wrong. I should have seen the warning signs immediately after walking into one of those new computerized bowling supermarkets. My opponent was none other than Assistant Sports Editor Travis Tingle.

I was primed for a good time. We got ourselves on the lane list (only a 20 minute wait — I think the guy was lying) and proceeded to get liquid refreshments.

Wandering around the place, my mouth full of popcorn (compliments of the bar), I realized how little there is to do in a bowling alley unless you're actually bowling.

We stayed amused by playing video games.

Finally, we received our very own lane, No. 17. Travis set up the electronic score board — he's pretty good at those things.

I was up first. First is the ritual of picking the right ball and acting like it really makes a difference. The bsll I always use is the little 13 pounder, but the stupid holes are too small for my fingers to fit in.

I grab my choice and heave the thing down the alley. No problem.

Now Travis is a purist. He lines up just like the pros do, sights down the ball and has a nice

smooth follow through — poetry in motion.

But conflict is never far from competitive sports. Even bowling. Problem one: One of the employees comes over and politely asks us to remove our beers from the control console. He didn't want us to short circuit everything. Talk about unreasonable. There was no way we would ever spill anything.

The man insisted. Moving the pitcher of beer to a safer place, Travis dumped half of the pitcher on the floor.

Problem two: The gang of four playing their hearts out in the adjacent lane appeared irritated by us. I decide it is because we spilled the beer. Travis says it's because we weren't wearing socks with our funky blue and red bowling shoes.

So I chuck another ball down the lane. Gutter ball.

As I turn to sit down, Joe Bowler beside me snaps that I was being very rude. I give him a blank look. I didn't know what he is talking about.

Travis informs me that it is traditional courtesy to let the bowler next to you to go before you.

News to me. I was too busy concentrating on my lane to worry about what other people were doing.

Through that ordeal, I discovered that justice exists everywhere — even in the bowling world.

But that jerk next to us had a worse score than me. Maybe he needs to learn how to bowl.

Robinson doubtful for Longhorns

Hogs gearing for Middies

United Press International

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Senior quarterback Brad Taylor returned to drills in a noncontact capacity Wednesday, allowing Arkansas coaches looking to Saturday's nationally televised game with Navy to breathe a little easier.

Head coach Ken Hatfield said he expected Taylor to be at full steam for Thursday's workout.

Taylor, rated sixth in the nation in passing efficiency, suffered a bruised left leg and a hyperextended knee in an 18-9 victory over Tulsa last Saturday and missed two days of practice.

"We really didn't think Brad would be back today, so it was a plus just having him out there," Hatfield said. "He should be able to go with no problem tomorrow."

"Overall, we had an excellent practice today. Both the offense and defense showed a lot of enthusiasm. I think some of that may have been

due to the coolness in the air," he said.

"The defense has been really intense and is picking up the 'I' formation well. Navy always gave us problems at Air Force. They will be tough and ready to play."

Nevertheless, the sports information office said later that Taylor was withheld from contact work Wednesday, but quoted Hatfield as saying he was expected to be at full steam by Thursday.

If Taylor is sidelined for the game, Hatfield said, senior Danny Nutt, who mopped up in the Tulsa game, would start, with freshman Greg Thomas also seeing action.

Hatfield, in his first season at Arkansas after moving over from Air Force, is 1-0-1 after the victory over Tulsa and a 14-14 tie with Ole Miss.

The ESPN cable television network this week said Saturday night's game between Navy and Arkansas

will be replayed four times following the live telecast.

ESPN will carry the game with stereo sound beginning at 6:30 p.m. CST from War Memorial Stadium in Little Rock.

Jim Thacker and Paul Maguire will be the commentators for Saturday's game.

Texas

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas tailback Ronnie Robinson remained sidelined with a sprained toe during Wednesday's game with No. 2 Longhorns continued preparations for their game with No. 6 Penn State.

Texas plays Penn State Saturday in East Rutherford, N.J.

Robinson, who injured the toe in Texas' season opening victory over Auburn two weeks ago, is scheduled to travel with the team to New Jersey and Texas Coach Fred Akers said he hoped his tailback would be ready by

game time.

If Robinson is unable to play, Akers said, seniors Rob Moerschell and Terry Orr and freshman Kevin Nelson would be the likely replacements.

Fullback Jerome Johnson, who broke a bone in his left wrist in the Auburn game, missed Wednesday's practice but is listed as a definite starter for Saturday. Akers said Johnson, who led all Longhorn ball carrier with 56 yards and two touchdowns against Auburn, will wear a fiberglass cast in the game.

Akers said Penn State will have at least one advantage in the game Saturday.

"This will be their fourth game and our second," the coach said. "A year ago that wouldn't have concerned me as much because we were a very experienced team. But we're so young this year. The open week enabled us to do a lot of things and we got a lot of people healthy."

Angels still alive in AL West race

United Press International

AL Roundup

Brian Downing and Doug DeCinces slapped run-scoring singles in the sixth inning Wednesday night to help the California Angels stave off elimination in the American League West with a 2-0 victory over the Kansas City Royals.

Ron Romanick pitched a seven-hitter to pull the Angels 3 1/2 games back of the Royals with four days left in the season. The Royals remained 1 1/2 games ahead of second-place Minnesota which lost to Chicago 9-3.

California and Minnesota each have four games remaining and Kansas City three, with the survivor of the race advancing to the AL playoffs against the Detroit Tigers.

At Chicago, Greg Walker's three-run homer highlighted a five-run

third inning to pace the White Sox. Richard Dotson, 14-15, went the distance for the 14th time in 32 starts. Ken Schrom, 5-10, was the loser.

In other games, Cleveland downed Seattle 1-0, New York defeated Baltimore 3-1 and Oakland topped Texas 7-5 and Toronto clipped Boston 8-4.

At Cleveland, Bert Blyleven pitched a seven-hitter and Jerry Willard drove in the game's only run with a fourth-inning sacrifice fly, leading the Indians.

At Baltimore, Ken Griffey's RBI single, Mike Pagliarulo's sacrifice fly and Don Baylor's home run backed the combined three-hit pitching of John Montefusco, 5-3, and Dave Righetti to lift the Yankees.

At Arlington, Texas, Dwayne Murphy's three-run homer capped a

seven-run second inning and Mike Davis had three hits and drove in two runs to lead the A's to a sweep of the three-game series and their eighth straight victory over Texas.

At Boston, Ernie Whitt and George Bell hit home runs and Rance Mulliniks had three hits and drove in three runs to lead the Blue Jays.

NL Roundup

John Christensen, Rafael Santana and Mookie Wilson each drove in two runs Wednesday to lift the New York Mets to their sixth straight victory, a 7-1 triumph over the Philadelphia Phillies.

Elsewhere, San Diego blanked San Francisco 4-0, St. Louis beat Montreal 5-0, Chicago defeated Pittsburgh 5-2 and Cincinnati stopped Atlanta 6-3.

At San Francisco, Eric Show limited San Francisco to three hits and chipped in a two-run double to lift the NL West champions.

At Montreal, David Green smacked a three-run homer and rookie Kurt Kepshire tossed a seven-hitter to pace the Cardinals. It was the Expos' seventh loss in their last eight games.

At Pittsburgh, Steve Lake smashed a three-run homer and five pitchers combined on an eight-hitter to lift the Cubs.

At Cincinnati, Dave Concepcion drove in three runs and Mario Soto won his 17th game to lead the Reds. Soto, 17-7, struck out six and walked three, singled twice and knocked in a run before being relieved in the eighth by Ted Power, who picked up his 11th save.

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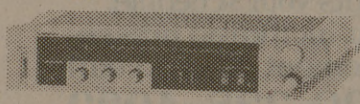
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PLS-70	DIRECT DRIVE, FULLY AUTOMATIC TURNTABLE	169.95

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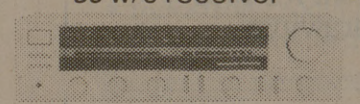


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KENWOOD HOME STEREO

KR-930	65 w/c RECEIVER	349.95
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KX-42	CASSETTE DECK, DOLBY B&C	189.95
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KAC-8200	75 w/c AMP	249.95
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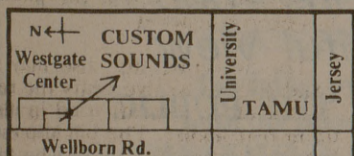
KRC-3100

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