

SPORTS

Strike nears; Talks cease; What's next?

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The baseball players' union formally rejected the owners' latest contract proposal Wednesday and charged management with being "deceitful" and "so lacking in integrity as to be unbelievable."

With an Aug. 6 strike date looming, no new talks were scheduled between major league players and their club owners, who have been meeting since last November to replace a contract that expired Dec. 31. The two sides said they would speak on Thursday to determine when and if talks would be resumed.

Don Fehr, acting executive director of the Major League Players Association, said that "in essence we told them what we believe to be true, that is that this proposal was made with the knowledge that it very probably would drive the parties further apart."

In a rare appearance at the post-talks briefing, former union chief Marvin Miller, now an adviser to the union, accused the owners of bargaining deceitfully on the issue of player pensions, a key item in these talks.

Miller said that five years ago, when the current pension plan was negotiated, the two sides agreed that whatever was negotiated in 1985 would be retroactive in 1984. He said he now found that to be untrue.

Miller said that Lee MacPhail, the owners' chief bargainer, then withdrew the proposal. MacPhail, however, later said that was untrue and that the owners were willing to make their pension proposal retroactive to 1984.

The owners made their pension proposal Tuesday, tying it to a hedge against inflation of player salaries. The players have been asking an annual pension contribution of \$60 million, or about one-third of baseball's annual income from a network TV contract that went into effect in 1984. The owners' 1984 contribution was \$15.5 million, and they have offered an increase of about \$10 million to \$25 million.

At the same time, however, owners said that their primary concern was to make the game financially stable. Owners project that salaries may increase no more than a total of \$13 million annually through 1988 to break even. So, owners asked that for every \$1 million over \$13 million that salaries increase each year, \$1 million would be subtracted from the pension contribution.

The owners themselves predict annual salary increases of \$34 million, but they also have a salary arbitration proposal on the table that might decrease that figure. Under the plan, if salaries did increase by \$34 million, the owners would reduce their pension contribution by \$21 million to \$4 million. If players salaries increased by as much as \$38 million in a year, the owners' pension contribution would go down to nothing.

Martial arts expert warns of warm-ups

By ED CASSAVOY
Sports Writer

Dr. Michael Trulson, a neurobiology professor at Texas A&M and a third-degree black belt holder in the martial arts, says some sports warm-up exercises might do more harm than good to someone.

"I go around the country and see many workouts," Trulson says. "I see types of exercise that have been done for years and years, that can cause damage (to the body)."

Trulson says exercises such as leg lifts, used to strengthen the calf and thigh muscles, could also cause serious damage to the lower back.

"We've learned recently there's a muscle attached to the lumbar segments (lower back)," Trulson says, "and then goes down the leg and connects with the upper leg bone (femur)."

"Keeping the knees straight and then lifting squeezes together the lumbar segments. Do this repeatedly and it can lead to damage to the discs in the vertebrae. You could end up with damage to the lower back."

Trulson says backward sit ups can cause the same type of back damage.

"Number one, it doesn't do much good," Trulson says. "Do these exercises every day and you'll get a lot of problems."

"Plus, you waste time (doing the exercise), while doing permanent damage to your back."

Trulson says the problem receives little attention because it takes years for the information covered in recent sports textbooks to trickle down to the huge number of schools and instructors.

"Unfortunately, a lot of schools still do it," Trulson says, "and will continue to do it."



A&M martial arts instructor Dr. Michael Trulson (above) says warm-up exercises can be hazardous — "I go around the coun-

try and see many workouts. I see types of exercise that have been done for years and years, that can cause damage (to the body)."

Photo by GREG BAILEY

Cowboys Camp

Dallas' No. 1 draft pick becoming No. 1 disappointment

Associated Press

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Kevin Brooks, the Dallas Cowboys' first-round draft pick, isn't winning many friends in the early part of training camp, but three other rookies are making the coaches happy.

Brooks, a defensive tackle, has been fined for being late to a meeting and has greeted interview requests with less than bubbling enthusiasm. He's missed several practices with various ailments. His latest complaint was a groin pull.

Also, he's miffed some of his rookie teammates including roommate Tony Champion, who moved out.

While Brooks has yet to perform on the field commensurate with his \$1.4 million contract, three other rookies have done well.

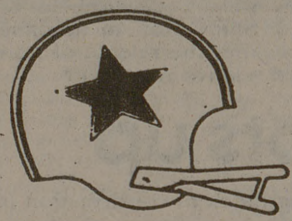
Leon "Speedy" Gonzalez, an eighth-round draft pick at wide receiver from Bethune Cookman, has

been sensational.

"He just keeps getting better," said Cowboy Head Coach Tom Landry. "We've got to find out if he can do it against competition, but he's looked great in practice."

Guard Crawford "Crawdaddy" Kerr of Florida, the 290-pound third-round draft pick, has shoved defensive players and has offensive

"While (Dallas rookie defensive tackle Kevin) Brooks has yet to perform on the field commensurate with his \$1.4 million contract, three other rookies have done well."



line coach Jim Myers beaming.

"Crawford has been what we hoped he would be — dominating," Myers said. "He's been tough for the defensive linemen to handle."

Linebacker Jesse Penn, the second-round draft choice, has leveled off somewhat recently, but linebacker coach Jerry Tubbs said,

"We've been pleased with what we've seen."

Tubbs said Penn's performance dropped a little "because it's easy to get confused when you have so many things thrown at you so fast."

World-class sprinter Mel Lattany has had his moments at wide receiver, but still has trouble adjusting to the ball.

"That's to be expected," Landry said. "He's been out of football since he was a senior in high school. He's done pretty well when you consider that. I can tell you one thing, you'd better cover him deep because he can fly."

Other rookies who have had their moments include fullback Gary Wilkins and running back Robert Lavette, an All-Southeastern Conference performer at Georgia Tech.

Wilkins started off fast but his production dropped dramatically once the veterans arrived.

Landry joins IRS quest for Dorsett's money by imposing fine

Associated Press

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Dallas Cowboys Head Coach Tom Landry said Wednesday he has decided to start fining missing tailback Tony Dorsett \$1,000 per day for not

reporting to the National Football League team's training camp.

Landry said the fines against Dorsett, who was due to report to camp last week, were effective as of Tuesday night. Dorsett still had not re-

ported as of Wednesday evening and was not expected.

Dorsett owes the Internal Revenue Service \$414,000 in back taxes, penalties and interest and has yet to

show for camp while he tries to negotiate a better contract. His deadline for reporting to camp was last Thursday night, but team officials at the time granted him an extension to help him iron out his affairs.

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